

*To the Churchwardens of the parish of Saint Saviour, in the borough of Southwark, in the county of Surrey; and to all other persons having the care and control of the Burial Ground hereinafter described.*

Whereas by the "Nuisances' Removal and Diseases' Prevention Act, 1848," it was enacted, that when any part of the United Kingdom should appear to be threatened by any formidable epidemic, endemic, or contagious disease, the Lords and others of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, or any three or more of them (the Lord President of the Council or one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State being one), might by Order or Orders to be by them made, direct that the provisions contained in the said Act, for the prevention of epidemic, endemic, and contagious diseases, be put in force in Great Britain, and that every such Order should be in force for six calendar months, or for such shorter period as in such Order should be expressed ;

And whereas by an Order of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council (the Right Honourable Viscount Palmerston, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, being one), bearing date the 28th day of September 1848, the said provisions of the said recited Act were directed to be put in force throughout the whole of Great Britain, for a period of six calendar months thence next ensuing; and whereas by another Order of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, the Most Honourable the Lord President of the said Council being one, bearing date the 27th day of March 1849, the said recited Order of the 28th day of September 1848 was renewed for a period of six calendar months from the date of the said last-mentioned Order; and whereas by another Order of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, the Most Honourable the Lord President of the said Council being one, bearing date the 25th day of September 1849 the said first-mentioned Order was renewed for a further period of six calendar months, from the said 25th day of September 1849, which said last-mentioned Order is now in force throughout the whole of Great Britain; and whereas by another Act of Parliament, passed in the thirteenth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to amend the Nuisances' Removal and Diseases' Prevention Act, 1848, it was enacted, that it should be lawful for the General Board of Health to cause inquiry to be made by a Superintending Inspector or by such other ways and means as the General Board of Health might deem fit to direct, into the state of the burial grounds in any part of England or Wales excepted from the powers of the Public Health Act, 1848, or in any populous city, town, or place, in England or Wales to which, for the time being, the said Act had not been applied, and if it appeared to the General Board of Health that any such burial ground was in such a state as to be dangerous to the health of the persons living in the neighbourhood thereof, it should be lawful for the said General Board of Health in England and Wales, under the Seal of the said Board, and under the hands of two or more members thereof, to issue such Orders as the said Board might think fit for the application of such disinfecting substances and for the adoption of such other measures of precaution in relation to the premises as might in the opinion of the said Board tend to lessen or remove the danger to health; and whereas after the issuing of the said above-recited Orders of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and whilst the same have continued in force, the

General Board of Health have caused inquiry to be made by Richard Dugard Grainger, Esq. a Superintending Inspector to the said Board, into the state of a certain burial ground of, or belonging to, the parish of Saint Saviour aforesaid, known as the Cross Bones burial ground, situate in Red Cross-street, in the aforesaid parish of Saint Saviour, being a part of England excepted from the powers of the Public Health Act, 1848; and whereas it now appears to us, the said General Board of Health, upon the report of the said Richard Dugard Grainger, upon and after the inquiry made by him as aforesaid, that the said burial ground is in such a state as to be dangerous to the health of the persons living in the neighbourhood thereof; now We, the said General Board of Health, being of opinion that the adoption of the measures of precaution hereinafter specified would tend to lessen the aforesaid danger to health, do hereby, in exercise of the power vested in us by the above-recited Acts, order and direct you, the Churchwardens of the said parish, and all other persons (if any there be), having the care and control of the said burial ground, to do and cause to be done the following works and matters in and in relation to the said burial ground, and the mode of interment therein; that is to say:

1. That the whole surface of the said burial ground (excepting such parts thereof as are now used as footpaths, or are now covered with flat stones) shall be forthwith covered with quicklime of an uniform thickness of three inches at the least.

2. That when any portion of the said lime shall be removed for the purpose of making or digging any grave in the said burial ground, or for any other purpose, such lime shall be replaced immediately after the filling up of the grave, or the completion of such purpose, and a sufficient quantity of quicklime shall be provided, and from time to time shall be applied so as to keep the whole of the said burying ground (except the parts above excepted) covered therewith to the thickness of three inches as aforesaid.

3. That every grave which shall be made or dug in the said burial ground shall be covered at the bottom thereof with quicklime of an uniform thickness of three inches at the least, upon which covering of lime the coffin containing the corpse, which shall be buried or deposited in such grave, shall be placed.

4. That not more than one corpse shall be buried or deposited in any grave, and every grave in which any corpse shall be buried or deposited shall be filled up to the level of the ordinary surface of the said burial ground immediately upon the corpse being buried or deposited therein, and no further burial shall take place in the same grave, nor shall any other corpse be deposited therein.

5. That no corpse shall be buried or deposited in any grave in the said burial ground at a less distance than two feet and six inches from any other grave, such distance to be computed from that part of the coffin containing such corpse which is nearest to such other grave.

6. That no corpse shall be buried or deposited in any grave in the said burial ground in which after the burial or deposit thereof there shall not be at least five feet of earth remaining between the ordinary surface of the said burial ground and the upper part of the coffin in which such corpse shall be contained.

7. Provided always, that the foregoing directions and regulations which are respectively numbered 3, 4, 5, and 6, shall not apply to burials in stone or brick graves, vaults, or catacombs.