

**Report to the General Board of Health on a further inquiry as to the boundaries which may be most advantageously adopted for the borough of Morpeth, in the county of Northumberland / by Robert Rawlinson, Superintending Inspector.**

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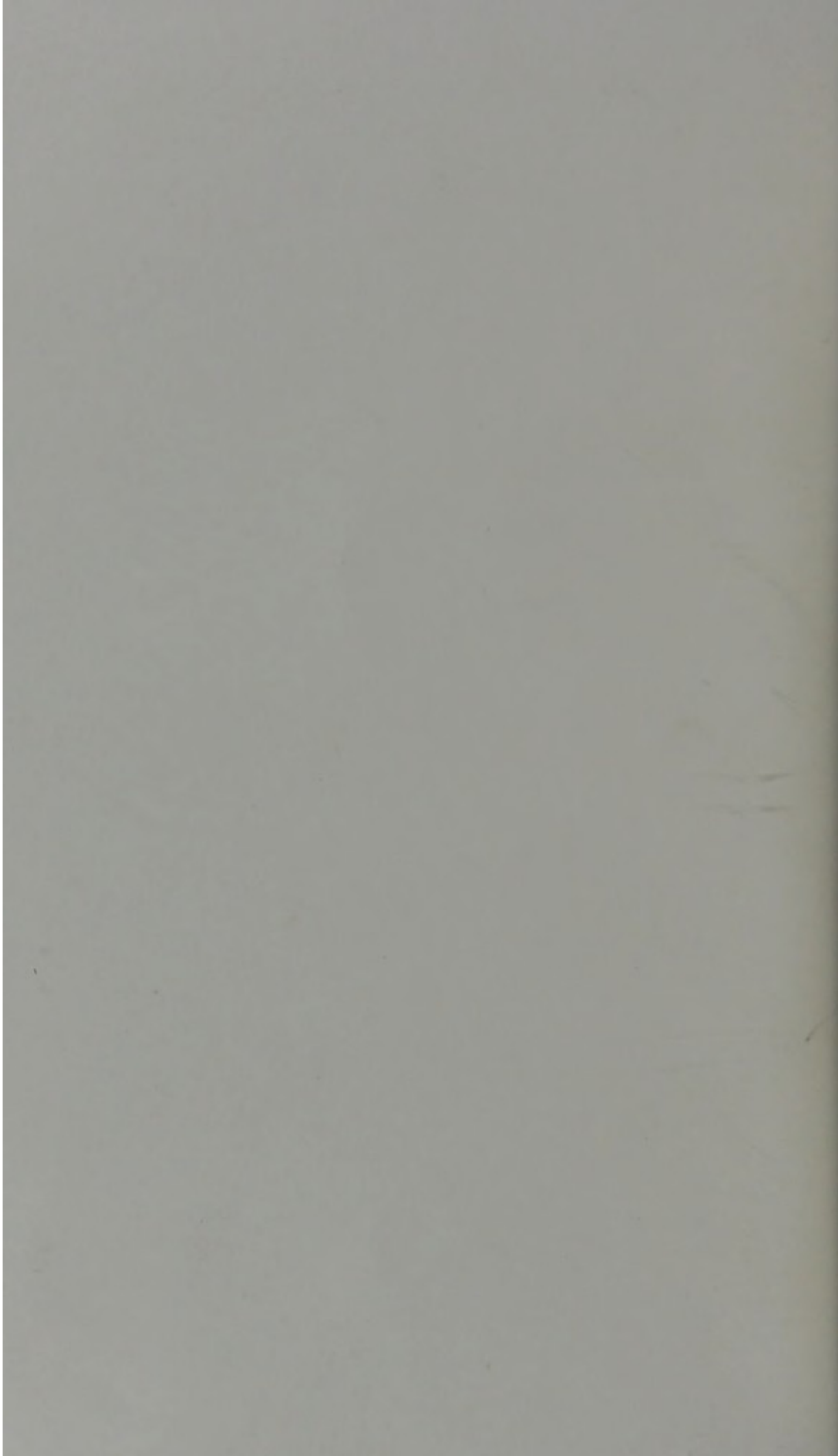
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# PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

(11 & 12 Vict., Cap. 63.)

*another copy  
in Vol. 15*

## REPORT

TO THE

## GENERAL BOARD OF HEALTH

ON A

## FURTHER INQUIRY

AS TO THE BOUNDARIES WHICH MAY BE MOST  
ADVANTAGEOUSLY ADOPTED FOR THE

BOROUGH OF

# MORPETH,

IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

By ROBERT RAWLINSON, Esq.,

SUPERINTENDING INSPECTOR.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY W. CLOWES & SONS, STAMFORD STREET,  
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1851.



## NOTIFICATION.

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THE General Board of Health hereby give notice, in terms of section 9th of the Public Health Act, that on or before the 25th of April next, being a period of not less than one month from the date of the publication and deposit hereof, written statements may be forwarded to the Board with respect to any matter contained in or omitted from the accompanying Report on the further Inquiry held in the Borough of MORPETH, in the County of Northumberland, in consequence of the proposed Alteration of Boundary for the purposes of the Public Health Act, 1848; or with respect to any amendment to be proposed therein.

By order of the Board,

HENRY AUSTIN, *Secretary.*

*Gwydyr House, Whitehall,  
15th March, 1851.*

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## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (11 & 12 Vict. cap. 63).

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*Report to the General Board of Health on a further Inquiry as to the Boundaries which may be most advantageously adopted for the purposes of the "Public Health Act, 1848," in the Borough of MORPETH, in the County of Northumberland. By ROBERT RAWLINSON, Esq., Superintending Inspector.*

*February, 1851.*

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

HAVING, during the year 1849, upon a petition from the municipal borough of Morpeth, made inquiry as to the Sewerage, Drainage, and Supply of Water, and the Sanitary condition of the Borough of Morpeth,—as to any local Acts of Parliament in force,—also as to the natural drainage areas, and the existing municipal, parochial, or other local boundaries, and the boundaries which may be most advantageously adopted for the purposes of the Act,—I reported in writing to your Honourable Board, and, in such Report, recommended that the Public Health Act should be applied to the entire area included within the boundaries of the parliamentary borough of Morpeth.

In confirmation of this recommendation, the necessary petitions from a majority of the owners and ratepayers of the non-corporate portions of the borough, as also the consent of the Council of Morpeth, under the common seal of the borough, having been forwarded to the Board, the following notice was issued, posted, and published as the Act requires:—

*"Notice.*—Whereas Robert Rawlinson, Esq., one of the Superintending Inspectors appointed for the purposes of the Public Health Act, 1848, and directed by the General Board of Health to make inquiry with a view to the application of the said Act to the municipal borough of Morpeth, in the county of Northumberland, has made his Report in writing to the General Board of Health upon the matters with respect to which he has been directed to inquire by the said Board; and it appearing to the said General Board of Health, from the statements contained in such Report, that, in case the said Act should be applied to the said municipal borough, the boundaries which may be most advantageously adopted for the purposes of the said Act are not the same as those of the said municipal borough, and that for such purposes it would be proper to include within the district to be formed for the purposes of the said Act the whole of the places comprised within the parliamentary borough of Morpeth, and which are more particularly referred to in the said Report, the said Board, in further



pursuance of the said Act, have directed the said Robert Rawlinson to visit the parts within the boundaries proposed by the said Report to be adopted for the purposes of the said Act, and to hear all persons desirous of being heard before him upon the subject of the said Report;—

Now, therefore, I, the said Robert Rawlinson, do hereby give notice that on the twenty-second day of Februry next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Town-hall, I shall be prepared to hear all persons desirous of being heard before me upon the subject of the said Report.

And I do hereby also give notice, that copies of the said Report may be inspected upon application to the town clerk, on any day (Sunday excepted) between the hours of 11 in the forenoon and 3 in the afternoon.

“Dated this thirtieth day of January, 1851.

“ROBERT RAWLINSON.”

*Notices properly affixed.*

The following certificate of publication was given to me at the inquiry:—

“I CERTIFY that on Monday, the third day of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, I published the within notice (the proper notice sent down from the General Board) by affixing a duplicate thereof on each of the undermentioned places, viz.—

“On Brown’s Cottage, Newminster Abbey, the blacksmith’s shop, Buller’s Green, the Town Hall, Roman Catholic chapel, Presbyterian chapel, Independent chapel, Methodist chapel, and the Town Clerk’s office in the town of Morpeth; the parish church of the parish of Morpeth; the railway station, Stobhill; the blacksmith’s shop, Hepscott; the parish church and the Presbyterian chapel in Bedlington.

“Dated this 3rd day of February, 1851.

(Signed)

“JOHN HIGHAM.

“The notice was also duly advertised in the Gateshead Observer and the Journal, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.”

The following gentlemen were present at the inquiry:—George Brumell, Esq., mayor of Morpeth; William Woodman, Esq., town clerk; the Rev. Francis R. Grey, rector of Morpeth; John Clayton, Esq., town clerk of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; John Moor, Esq.; A. R. Fenwick, Esq., J. P.; William Trotter, Esq., M.D.; Robert Hawdon, Esq., surgeon; Anthony Charlton, Esq., solicitor; Messrs. Jobling and Hood; with others.

Mr. Clayton stated that he appeared for William Ord, Esq., relative to the township of Newminster Abbey, and stated that Mr. Ord wished his property to be excluded from the proposed boundary. It appeared that this wish arose in consequence of some misunderstanding as to the rating clauses of the Act. I explained these to the best of my ability, showing that all works under the Act must be paid for by the parties benefited (sec. 86), and that land can only be rated upon one-fourth of its rental for establishment charges (sec. 87); and for this the services of the surveyor will be secured to repair and



maintain all the highways throughout the district; and the local Board will have full power to regulate common lodging-houses, vagrants, &c. Any landowner may also avail himself of the knowledge of the surveyor and the general powers of the local Board, for purposes of main outlets for land drainage; but that all works and regulations within the towns will be paid for by the owners of property benefited, and the ratepayers resident therein. A short abstract of the rating clauses is contained in my first Report, page 4.

With respect to the recommendation made in the first Report, as to the election of the local Board, should the Act be applied to the whole parliamentary borough, the following letter was laid before me, suggesting an alteration in the numbers to be elected by the ratepayers of Bedlington and the other districts:—

“DEAR SIR,

“*Newcastle, 15th Feb. 1851.*

“I have again read over Mr. Rawlinson’s Report on the sewerage, supplying water, &c., to Morpeth and Bedlington, and I am of opinion that, if an Act of Parliament can be procured for this purpose, based upon the regulations stated in Mr. Rawlinson’s Report, it will be beneficial both to the owners of property and the inhabitants in general.

“But I do think that the number of Commissioners is not equitably proportioned. Bedlington will pay upon a rental of 13,131*l.* with a population of 3155, and will only have three commissioners; whilst Morpeth will pay only upon 6141*l.* with a population of 3441, and will have six commissioners. And as it is probable that what is termed the Morpeth district, having other three commissioners, will generally be influenced by the Morpeth portion of the Board, it is evident that the interest of Bedlington will be entirely swamped.

“I think that a more equitable arrangement would be, Morpeth to have five commissioners, Morpeth district two, Bedlington five.

“It would be well to make the rate payable by the owners of the property and not the occupiers.

“If I am well enough I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you at Morpeth next Saturday.

“I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

“*W. Woodman, Esq.,  
Morpeth.*”

“NICH. LONGRIDGE.

With respect to the relative number of members to serve upon the local Board, the only desire is, that an efficient committee should be chosen to conduct the necessary business. As each district will have to pay by rate for the works done in that district, there will be no inducement for one section of the Board to swamp the interest of any district, although represented by a minority at the Board.

The following preambles of the consent by the council of Morpeth, and of the owners and ratepayers, with the certified analysis of each district as returned by the overseers, show that the requirements of the Act have been fully complied with, the



petitions bearing the signatures of more than a majority of the owners and ratepayers from the district to which it is proposed to apply the Act :—

*Consent of the Council of Morpeth.*

“WE, the Council of the borough of Morpeth, in the county of Northumberland, do hereby, under the common seal of the said borough, consent that the said corporate borough of Morpeth shall be included in a district under “The Public Health Act, 1848,” consisting of the said corporate borough, and of the whole or such part of the parliamentary borough of Morpeth which is not within the said corporate borough as the General Board of Health shall order.

“In testimony whereof we have caused the said common seal to be hereunto affixed this seventeenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

“Sealed with the corporate seal of the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of Morpeth.

(Signed) “GEORGE BRUMELL, Mayor.”

*Preamble of Petitions for the Application of the Act to the Parliamentary Borough.*

*“To the General Board of Health.*

“The humble petition of the undersigned owners of property and ratepayers of the parliamentary borough of Morpeth, in the county of Northumberland—

“Sheweth—That your petitioners are of opinion that the health of the inhabitants of the said borough would be much benefited, their comforts increased, and their morals improved, by proper sanitary regulations, which would be best effected by the application of the Public Health Act of 1848 to the said parliamentary borough.

“Your petitioners therefore respectfully pray that all those parts of the said parliamentary borough which are beyond the boundaries of the corporate borough of Morpeth may be included in a district comprising such corporate borough, for the application of the said Act.

(Signed)

“CARLISLE.

“FRANCIS R. GREY.

“A. R. FENWICK, J. P.”

And many other owners and ratepayers.

“The humble petition of the undersigned owners of property and ratepayers of the parliamentary borough of Morpeth—

“Sheweth—That the town of Bedlington is much crowded with inhabitants, in consequence of extensive iron-works and numerous collieries in its immediate neighbourhood, and has recently been visited with fever of a very severe and fatal character, and in the autumn of last year a great number of its inhabitants were carried off by Asiatic cholera; and that your petitioners believe the fatal consequences of these diseases would be very much diminished, if not entirely prevented, by proper sanitary regulations, which would be best effected by the Public Health Act of 1848 being applied to the entire parliamentary borough of Morpeth.

“Your petitioners therefore respectfully pray that the Act of Parliament may be applied to the entire parliamentary borough of Morpeth,



and that those parts thereof which are not within the boundaries of the corporate borough of Morpeth may be included in the district comprising such corporate borough.

(Signed)

"CARLISLE.

"E. C. OGLE, Vicar of Bedlington.

"NICH. LONGRIDGE, J. P.

"A. R. FENWICK, J. P."

And 391 other owners and ratepayers.

The following returns show the numbers of owners and ratepayers in the respective districts comprised within the parliamentary borough of Morpeth.

*Parliamentary Borough of Morpeth, County of Northumberland.*

Number of owners and ratepayers in the non-municipal part of the township of Morpeth . . . . .	12
Number of owners and ratepayers in the township of Bullar's Green . . . . .	41
"                    "                    Morpeth Castle, &c. . . . .	107
"                    "                    Tranwell and High Church . . . . .	7
"                    "                    Newminster Abbey . . . . .	27
"                    "                    Hepscott . . . . .	20
"                    "                    Bedlington . . . . .	532
<hr/>	
Total number of owners and occupiers in the non-municipal part of the borough of Morpeth . . . . .	746
<hr/>	

Number of the above owners and ratepayers who have signed a petition to the General Board of Health praying that the Public Health Act 1848 may be applied to the entire parliamentary borough of Morpeth, and that those parts thereof which are not within the boundaries of the corporate borough of Morpeth may be included in the district comprising such corporate borough . . . . . 548

W. WOODMAN, *Town Clerk.*

January 13, 1851.

*County of Northumberland.—Parliamentary Borough of Morpeth.*

PARISH OF BEDLINGTON.

Number of ratepayers therein . . . . .	488
Number of owners not ratepayers therein . . . . .	44
<hr/>	
	532

We, the undersigned, being the overseers of the poor of the said parish of Bedlington, do hereby certify that the above is a true analysis of the rate-book of the said parish.

Dated this 11th day of January, 1851.

JAMES ELSDON.

EDMUND THORNTON.



*County of Northumberland.—Parliamentary Borough of Morpeth.*

## TOWNSHIP OF HEPSCOTT.

Number of ratepayers therein . . . . .	20
Number of owners not ratepayers therein . . . . .	0
	<hr/>
	20

We, the undersigned, being the overseers of the poor of the township of Hepscott, do hereby certify that the above is a true analysis of the rate-book of the said township.

Dated this 13th day of January, 1851.

WILLIAM JOBLING.

WILLIAM COWAN.

*County of Northumberland.—Parliamentary Borough of Morpeth.*

## TOWNSHIP OF NEWMINSTER ABBEY.

Number of ratepayers therein . . . . .	23
Number of owners not ratepayers therein . . . . .	4
	<hr/>
	27

We, the undersigned, being the overseers of the poor of the said township of Newminster Abbey, do hereby certify that the above is a true analysis of the rate-book of the said township.

Dated this 11th day of January, 1851.

JOHN ATHEY.

JOHN APPLEBY.

*County of Northumberland.—Parliamentary Borough of Morpeth.*

## TOWNSHIP OF TRANWELL AND HIGH CHURCH.

Number of ratepayers therein . . . . .	5
Number of owners not ratepayers therein . . . . .	2
	<hr/>
	7

We, the undersigned, being the overseers of the poor of the said township of Tranwell and High Church, do hereby certify that the above is a true analysis of the rate-book of the said township.

Dated this 11th day of January, 1851.

ROBERT CLARK.

EDWARD LEIGHTLY.

*County of Northumberland.—Parliamentary Borough of Morpeth.*

## TOWNSHIP OF MORPETH CASTLE, CATCHBURN, STOBHILL, AND PARKHOUSE.

Number of ratepayers therein . . . . .	105
Number of owners not ratepayers therein . . . . .	2
	<hr/>
	107

We, the undersigned, being the overseers of the said township of Morpeth Castle, Catchburn, Stobhill, and Parkhouse, do hereby certify that the above is a true analysis of the rate-book of the said township.

Dated this 11th day of January, 1851.

WILLIAM RELPH.

JOHN PROCTER.



*County of Northumberland.—Parliamentary Borough of Morpeth.*

## TOWNSHIP OF BULLAR'S GREEN.

Number of ratepayers therein . . . . .	37
Number of owners not ratepayers therein . . . . .	4
	—
	41

We, the undersigned, being the overseers of the poor of the said township of Bullar's Green, do hereby certify that the above is a true analysis of the rate-book of the said township.

Dated this 10th day of January, 1851.

ROBERT JACKSON.

EDWARD CHALLONER.

*County of Northumberland.—Parliamentary Borough of Morpeth.*

Part of the Parliamentary Borough of MORPETH, not included in the  
*Corporate Borough.*

Number of ratepayers therein . . . . .	12
Number of owners not ratepayers therein . . . . .	0
	—
	12

We, the undersigned, being the overseers of the township of Morpeth, do hereby certify that the above is a true analysis of that portion of the rate-book of the said township which includes the portion of the parliamentary borough of Morpeth not in the corporate borough of Morpeth.

Dated this 10th day of January, 1851.

THOMAS DIXON BOWSER.

ADAM DRYDEN.

JAMES COUSINS.

JAMES RAILSTON.

## RECOMMENDATION.

The consent of the council of Morpeth having been forwarded to the Board, and petitions from more than a majority of the owners of property situate within the parliamentary borough, and from the ratepayers resident therein, praying that the "Public Health Act 1848" may be applied to the whole parliamentary borough of Morpeth, I beg respectfully to confirm my first recommendation, that the Act (excepting sec. 50 in the copies of that Act, as printed by her Majesty's printers) may be so applied.

That the election for Bedlington take place on the 10th of November, and for the remaining non-municipal district on the 11th of November, subject to the exceptions named in the Act.

That the qualification be the same as for the Morpeth town council, and that every person shall, at the time of his election as member of the said local Board, and so long as he shall continue in office by virtue of such election, be resident, as in



the said Public Health Act 1848 is required, and be seised and possessed of real or personal estate, or both, to the value or amount of not less than 500*l.*, or shall be so resident, and rated to the relief of the poor of the district upon an annual value of not less than 15*l.*

I am, my Lords and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

ROBERT RAWLINSON.

*To the General Board of Health,*

*&c. &c. &c.*



