

there required that the commissioners may divide the district into three or more sub-divisions. This is certainly a most equitable provision in principle, as the works necessary in different districts, and the expenses consequent upon them, will vary according to their local peculiarities; but I submit that the sub-division of the district ought to be made after due consideration of those peculiarities, and the natural advantages which they severally afford for drainage. These can only be ascertained by an accurate survey of the whole natural area for drainage, with a plan showing the relative heights of the ground, similar to the plan of Windsor at page 432, vol. ii. Report 1. The evils and excessively wasteful expenditure of money caused by the absence of any general plan for the drainage of towns in England, having been pointed out to the Health of Towns' Commissioners, induced them to recommend that a proper survey and plan should be procured and approved of by a Government officer before any general measure for drainage be commenced. I therefore suggest that the same course should be adopted, and that the plan and survey should be submitted for approval of the governor. If this latter condition were insisted on, it seems to me that Clause 4, requiring the commissioners to submit for approval of the governor in council every resolution of the Board, might in part be dispensed with.

I feel great hesitation in making any remark upon a provision of this kind, relating to the concerns of a country, so differently circumstanced from our own: but unless it is a usual and necessary provision, I should submit that the commissioners would be sufficiently fettered in their operations if they were required to work to a plan approved as above proposed, and that they should be freed from the necessity of frequent reference to the governor for his assent to resolutions frequently of the most trivial import. The reasons for not requiring this frequent consent of the governor seem to be strengthened on reference to the sixth clause, which very properly provides for an appeal to him against the resolutions of the commissioners. But it must be borne in mind, that such an appeal is less likely to be effectual after the Court appealed to has made itself a party to the case by previously giving its assent to the resolution.

The above suggestions for obtaining a proper survey and plan for drainage are made on the assumption, that there will be no difficulty in procuring an engineer officer fully competent to furnish it; it would greatly contribute to its success if his services were retained to carry it into execution under the direction of the commissioners. The same observation will apply to the supply of water, should it be deemed proper to vest the commissioners with the necessary powers.

