

TOWN OF BRADING.

TO THE BURGESSES AND INHABITANTS OF THE BOROUGH OF BRADING.

The Bailiffs and Jurats wish to make known hereby, that, by the Municipal Corporation Act, 1883, the ancient Corporation of this Town, will be dissolved and cease to exist on March 25th, 1886. Also, that by Section 6 of this Act, the Privy Council have the power to continue any Court Leet (such as Brading) subject to such restriction and modification as they may deem necessary. If no such retention be made, then the property and affairs of the Town, will, by the above Act pass into the hands of the Charity Commissioners, and will be administered by them as they may think proper—subject only to an appeal to the Privy Council. It is thought by the present Corporation, that the Inhabitants should have an opportunity of considering these facts, and if they think proper, of petitioning for the continuance of the Ancient Court Leet, revised and modified by the Privy Council. They feel that a Local Body like themselves could certainly administer the funds of the Town better and cheaper, than an authority located in London. All that is paid at the present time for Officials is two guineas per annum to the Steward; and two pounds per annum to the deputy steward. The debt upon the Town Hall is now reduced to less than a £100, and when that is paid off, if a permanent authority be given to the present Court, there is no reason why the whole of the £70 income per annum, should not be used for the due improvement of the place. What is feared is, that if the contemplated transfer to the Charity Commissioners takes place, the expenses of Management will largely increase to the loss and detriment of the Town, and this would apply in an especial manner to the present Free Library. They have therefore desired the Steward to prepare a short petition, and a statement of facts in favour of the retention of the present Court Leet; and they wish hereby to ascertain the feelings of the inhabitants in the matter, and to be guided by the same. They ask all, who think it would be best to retain the affairs of the Town in our own hands, to sign their names to the Petition which will be brought round to them by MR. WILLIAM BRONWIN.

J. BARHAM }
J. JOHNSON } *Bailiffs.*

Brading, May 26th, 1884.

A. SHAW, *Deputy Steward.*