

“to carry into effect, with certain modifications, “the fourth report of the Commissioners of Ecclesiastical Duties and Revenues;” and of another Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the fourth and fifth years of your Majesty’s reign, intituled “An Act to explain and amend two “several Acts relating to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England;” have prepared, and now humbly lay before your Majesty in Council, the following scheme for enabling the Dean and Chapter of Chester to substitute a gross money payment for certain fee farm rents payable to them out of estates in the county of Chester.

“Whereas it is by the first-recited Act enacted, that for the purpose of carrying into effect any of the provisions thereof, any arrangement may from time to time be made, with the consent in writing under the corporate seal of any chapter, and with the consent of the visitor thereof, for the sale, transfer, or exchange of any lands, tithes, or other hereditaments belonging to such chapter, or for the purchase of other lands, tithes, or other hereditaments in lieu thereof, or for substituting in any case any lands, tithes, or other hereditaments for any money payment; and it is by the secondly recited Act enacted, that the provisions aforesaid do and shall extend to authorize the substitution of any money payment for any lands, tithes, or other hereditaments:

“And whereas the several fee farm rents, described in the schedule hereto annexed, were granted to the said Dean and Chapter of Chester by Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth, under Her royal charter, and the same have ever since been holden and received by them:

“And whereas it is by the said recited Acts enacted, that the incomes of the deans and canons of the said cathedral church of Chester shall be raised to the average annual amounts therein specified; and it is therefore one of the purposes of the said Acts to improve the revenues of the said dean and chapter:

“And whereas the said fee farm rents are reserved in unequal and, in many instances, trifling sums, and are therefore collected with considerable difficulty, and at an expense disproportionate to their amount:

“And whereas it has been represented to us, that by reason of the estates on which the same are charged being thereby rendered less marketable, the owners of such estates are desirous of purchasing the said fee farm rents upon such terms as would, on the whole, effect an improvement in the revenues of the said dean and chapter:

“We, therefore, humbly recommend and propose, with the consent in writing of the said dean and chapter, testified under their common seal, and with the consent of the Right Reverend John Bird, Bishop of Chester, as visitor of the said dean and chapter, that they, the said dean and chapter of Chester, shall have full power and authority, from time to time, with our consent, to sell and duly to release and convey to any person or persons, for the best price that can be procured

for the same respectively, any and every of the several rent charges in the said schedule described.

“And we further recommend and propose, that the purchase moneys to be received on all such sales shall be paid to us in trust for the said dean and chapter, and shall be from time to time invested for the permanent benefit of the said dean and chapter, in such real or Government securities as may be agreed upon between us and the said dean and chapter.

“And we further recommend and propose, that nothing herein contained shall prevent us from recommending and proposing any other measures relating to the matters aforesaid, in conformity with the provisions of the said recited Acts.

“ SCHEDULE.

“£71 3s. 9d. annual rent issuing from the manors of Huntinton, Cheveley, the rectories of Great and Little Neston, and Willaston, and lands in Crue.

“£168 19s. 10d. issuing from the manors of Sutton and Ince, and the rectories of Sutton, Brumbro, and lands granted out in Elton, Cattenhall, Manley, Edencot, Hellesby-bridge, Trafford, and Plimstow.

“£31 13s. 4d. issuing from the manor of Irreby, and lands in Irreby, Greaseby, Knoctorum, Woodchurch, Frankby, and Wallesey.

“£51 12s. 6d. issuing from the manor of Saughton, with lands in Saughton, Church on Heath, Coddington, and Huxley.

“£54 10s. issuing from the manor of Barnshaw, and lands in Barnshaw, Asthull, Chelford, Goostre, Lees, Cranage, Northwich, Hulse, Wynington, Nether Tabley, and Plumbley.

“£5 13s. 4d. issuing from the manor of Tilston, Fernhall, and lands therein.

“£113 11s. 4d. issuing from the manor and rectory of Prestbury and premises belonging to that manor.

“£24 issuing from the manor of Estham and the appurtenances thereof.

“£33 3s. issuing from the ferry, the ferry house, and the wood of Eastham.

“£5 5s. 11d. from lands, &c. in Plimyard.

“4s. 5d. from the long medowe in Backford parish.

“In Upton, £12 9s. 10d. fee farm rent, issuing from the Burland tithes, held by Elizabeth Browne, widow; £13 3s. 1d. from the lands held by Robert Brock; £1 9s. 9d. from William Smyth’s lands; £1 9s. from the lands of William Heley; and 7s. 7d. from the lands of Richard Spencer.

“In Boughton, £2 6s. 3d. from the lands of Ralph Payne; £2 9s. 3d. Thomas Foxe; £3 6s. 8d. Ralph Davenport; £2 Robert Hanley; £1 14s. 7d. Thomas Ball; £1 14s. 6d. Christopher Taylor; £3 7s. 4d. Thomas Richardson; £2 11s. 5d. William Cooke; £3 8s. 2d. Thomas Browne; £1 2s. 8d. Hamlet Mores; £2 6s. 6d. Roger Whatton; £2 4s. 4d. John Hamond; £2 8s. 4d. John Ley; £3 12s. 8d. Thomas Dodd; £1 3s. 10d. Richard Ball; 7s. 10d. Richard Cotton; 9s. John Carter.