

Right Honourable Sir George Grey, Bart. one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State; the Right Honourable Thomas Babington Macaulay, Paymaster General of Her Majesty's Forces; and the Right Honourable Charles Wood, Chancellor and Under Treasurer of Her Majesty's Exchequer, to be a Committee to superintend the application of any sums voted by Parliament for the purpose of promoting public education.

AT the Court at *Buckingham-Palace*, the 6th day of *July* 1846,

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have, in pursuance of an Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the sixth and seventh years of the reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled "An Act for carrying into effect the reports of the Commissioners appointed to consider the state of the Established Church in England and Wales, with reference to ecclesiastical duties and revenues, so far as they relate to episcopal dioceses, revenues, and patronage;" and of another Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the fifth and sixth years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to alter and amend the law relating to ecclesiastical houses of residence," duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a scheme, bearing date the first day of July, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, in the words following, that is to say :

"We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, in pursuance of an Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the sixth and seventh years of the reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled "An Act for carrying into effect the reports of the Commissioners appointed to consider the state of the Established Church in England and Wales, with reference to ecclesiastical duties and revenues, so far as they relate to episcopal dioceses, revenues, and patronage;" and of another Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the fifth and sixth

years of your Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to alter and amend the law relating to ecclesiastical houses of residence," have prepared, and now humbly lay before your Majesty in Council, the following scheme, for adding to, altering, and improving the episcopal house of residence of the see of Bath and Wells.

"Whereas it is by the first-recited Act enacted, that, for the purpose of providing the bishop of any diocese with a more suitable residence than that which at the time of the passing of the same Act belonged to his see, sanction be given where it may be necessary for the borrowing by any bishop of a sum not exceeding two years income of his see, upon such terms as shall appear to be proper; and that the Governors of the Bounty of Queen Anne be empowered to lend money upon mortgage to such bishop :

"And whereas it is by the said secondly-recited Act enacted, that whenever it shall appear to be expedient to add to, alter, or improve any episcopal house of residence, it shall be lawful, by the authority provided in the first recited Act, with the consent under the hand and episcopal seal of the bishop, to make such arrangements as may by such authority be deemed most expedient for adding to, altering, or improving any episcopal house of residence, and that so much of the said first recited Act, as relates to the providing of any bishop with a more suitable and convenient residence, shall be extended so as to include and apply to the purposes of the said secondly recited Act; and that in case such a deficiency would be created in the average annual income of any bishop appointed after the passing of the said first recited Act, by the effecting of any mortgage or other arrangement under either of the said recited Acts, so as to reduce such income below the average annual income of such bishop named in the said first recited Act, it shall be lawful by the authority aforesaid, out of any monies from time to time standing to our credit and account, being part of payments from the larger sees, respectively, towards the augmentation of the incomes of the bishops of the smaller sees, if it shall be deemed fit, and if such monies, after duly considering all the claims thereon, shall appear sufficient for such purpose, to make any arrangement for supplying such deficiency, or any part thereof, which by the like authority shall be deemed expedient;