

having represented unto us that the said benefices being contiguous to each other and of which the aggregate population does not exceed six hundred persons and the aggregate yearly value does not exceed four hundred pounds might with advantage to the interests of religion be united into one benefice we enquired into the circumstances of the case.

"That on such inquiry it appeared to us that such union might be usefully made and would not be of inconvenient extent and that the Right Honourable Catherine Countess Beauchamp and the Honourable Maria Otway Cave both of Stamford Hall in the county of Northampton being the patrons or persons entitled to present to both the said benefices of Stamford and Swinford both being now vacant have signified their consent in writing to the union of the said benefices into one benefice with cure of souls for ecclesiastical purposes.

"That six weeks and upwards before certifying such inquiry and consent to your Majesty in Council we caused a copy in writing of the aforesaid representation of the said Lord Bishop to be affixed on the principal outer door of the parish church of each of the said benefices with notice to any person or persons interested that he she or they might within such six weeks show cause in writing under his her or their hand or hands to us the said Archbishop against such union and no such cause has been shown.

"The representation of the said Lord Bishop of Peterborough our inquiry into the circumstances of the case the statement of the circumstances in reply thereto the consent in writing of the patrons and the copies of the representation and notice before mentioned are hereunto annexed.

"And we do hereby certify the inquiry and consent aforesaid to your Majesty in Council to the intent that your Majesty in Council may in case your Majesty in Council shall think fit so to do make and issue an Order for uniting the said benefices into one benefice with cure of souls for ecclesiastical purposes only.

"As witness our hand this fifteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six.

"A. C. Cantuar."

Now therefore Her Majesty in Council by and with the advice of Her said Council is pleased to order, and doth hereby order, that the said vicarage of Stamford in the county of Northampton and the vicarage of Swinford in the county of Leicester and diocese of Peterborough shall be united into one benefice with cure of souls for ecclesiastical purposes.

C. L. Peel.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 24th day of *March*, 1876.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the first session of Parliament holden in the first and second years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to abridge the holding of benefices in plurality, and to make better provision for the residence of the clergy," it is, amongst other things, enacted, "That whenever it shall appear to the Archbishop of the Province, with respect to his own diocese, and whenever it shall be represented to him by the bishop of any diocese, or by the bishops of any

"two dioceses, that two or more benefices, or that one or more benefice or benefices, and one or more spiritual sinecure rectory or rectories, vicarage or vicarages, in his or their diocese or dioceses, being either in the same parish or contiguous to each other, and of which the aggregate population shall not exceed one thousand five hundred persons, and the aggregate yearly value shall not exceed five hundred pounds, may, with advantage to the interests of religion, be united into one benefice, the said Archbishop of the Province shall inquire into the circumstances of the case; and if on such enquiry it shall appear to him that such union may be usefully made, and will not be of inconvenient extent, and that the patron or patrons of the said benefices, sinecure rectory or rectories, vicarage or vicarages respectively, is or are consenting thereto, such consent being signified in writing under the hands of such patron or patrons, the said Archbishop shall, six weeks before certifying such inquiry and consent to Her Majesty, as herein after directed, cause, with respect to his own diocese, a statement in writing of the facts, and in other cases a copy in writing of the aforesaid representation, to be affixed on or near the principal outer door of the church, or in some public and conspicuous place in each of such benefices, sinecure rectories or vicarages, with notice to any person or persons interested, that he, she, or they, may, within such six weeks, show cause in writing under his, her, or their hand or hands, to the said Archbishop, against such union; and if no sufficient cause be shown within such time, the said Archbishop shall certify the inquiry and consent aforesaid to Her Majesty in Council, and thereupon it shall be lawful for Her Majesty in Council to make and issue an Order or Orders for uniting such benefices, sinecure rectory or rectories, vicarage or vicarages, into one benefice, with cure of souls, for ecclesiastical purposes only; and it shall be lawful for Her Majesty in Council to give directions for regulating the course and succession in which the patrons, if there be more than one patron, shall present or nominate to such united benefice, from time to time, as the same shall become vacant."

And whereas by the Statute thirteen and fourteen Victoria, chapter ninety-eight, it is provided that the aforesaid recited provisions of the said recited Act should apply notwithstanding the yearly value of such rectories or vicarages should exceed five hundred pounds.

And whereas the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury pursuant to the provisions of the said Act, hath duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a certificate in writing, bearing date the second day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, in the words following, that is to say:—

"To the QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

"WE the undersigned Archibald Campbell Lord Archbishop of the Province of Canterbury Primate of all England and Metropolitan do hereby certify to your Majesty in Council.

"That the Right Reverend Frederick Lord Bishop of Exeter as Bishop of the diocese within which are situate the rectory of Northlew in the county of Devon and the rectory of Ashbury in the same county having represented unto us that the said benefices being contiguous to each other and of which the aggregate population does not exceed nine hundred and fifty persons might with advantage to the interests of religion be united