

"of such dioceses such benefice shall belong, and such Order or Orders shall be registered in the registry or registries of the diocese or respective dioceses to which such united benefice shall be determined to belong, and to which either or any of the united benefices sinecure rectories or vicarages shall have belonged when separate, which Order or Orders the registrar or registrars of such diocese or respective dioceses immediately on the receipt thereof are hereby required to register accordingly; and such Order or Orders shall thenceforth be binding on all parties whatsoever."

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 first day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred, in the words and figures following, that is to say:—

"We the undersigned Frederick Archbishop of the Province of Canterbury Primate of All England and Metropolitan do hereby certify to Your Majesty in Council.

"That the Right Reverend John James Stewart Lord Bishop of Worcester as Bishop of the diocese within which is situate the rectory of Shennington in the county of Oxford and the Right Reverend William Lord Bishop of Oxford as Bishop of the diocese within which is situate the rectory of Alkerton in the county of Oxford have represented unto Us that the said benefices being contiguous to each other and of which the aggregate population does not exceed one thousand five hundred persons may with advantage to the interests of religion be united into one benefice and that such united benefice should belong to the said diocese of Oxford under the provisions of 'The Pluralities Act 1838' and the Acts amending the same, We enquired into the circumstances of the case.

"That on such enquiry it appeared to Us that such union might be usefully made and is not of inconvenient extent and that the Right Honourable Victor Albert George Earl of Jersey being the patron or person entitled to present to the said rectories of Shennington and Alkerton consents to the proposed union.

"That six weeks and upwards before certifying such enquiry and consent to Your Majesty in Council We caused a copy in writing of the aforesaid joint representation of the said Lord Bishops 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 joint representation of the said Lord Bishop of Worcester and the said Lord Bishop of Oxford, Our enquiry into the circumstances of the case, the statement of circumstances in reply thereto, the consent in writing of the said patrons and the copies of the representation and notices before mentioned are hereunto annexed.

"And We do hereby certify the enquiry 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 and for determining that such united benefice shall belong to the diocese of Oxford."

Now therefore Her Majesty in Council by and with the advice of Her said Council is pleased to

order as it is hereby ordered that the rectory of Shennington in the county of Oxford and diocese of Worcester and the rectory of Alkerton in the county and diocese of Oxford shall be united into one benefice with cure of souls for ecclesiastical purposes only.

And Her Majesty in Council by and with the advice of Her said Council is further pleased to order and determine as it is hereby ordered and determined that the said united benefice shall belong to the diocese of Oxford.

A. W. Fitz Roy.

Privy Council Office, May 25, 1900.

MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1894.

NOTICE is hereby given that, after the expiration of forty days from the date hereof, it is proposed to submit to Her Majesty in Council, in pursuance of the above-mentioned Act, the draft of an Order in Council approving certain Pilotage Bye-laws made by the Cardiff Pilotage Board, in substitution for the Bye-laws hitherto in force.

And notice is hereby further given that, in accordance with the provisions of the Rules Publication Act, 1843, copies of the proposed draft Order in Council can be obtained by any public body, within forty days of the date of this notice, at the Privy Council Office, Whitehall.

*Chancery of the Royal Victorian Order,
St. James's Palace, May 24, 1900.*

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to make the following appointments to the Royal Victorian Order:—

To be a Knight Commander.

Victor Albert Francis Charles, Lord Churchill.

To be a Member of the Fourth Class.

Walter Matthew Gibson, Esq., Secretary to the Privy Purse.

Windsor Castle, May 15, 1900.

THE Queen was this day pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood on Mr. William Macpherson, Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William, in Bengal.

Foreign Office, April 6, 1900.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint William Edward Goschen, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of Denmark.

Foreign Office, April 10, 1900.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Sir George Francis Bonham, Bart., to be Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of Servia.

Downing Street, May 25, 1900.

THE Queen has been pleased to approve of the retention of the title of "Honourable" by Mr. John Fitzgerald Burns, who has served for more than three years as a Member of the Executive Council of the Colony of New South Wales.