

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 the Cure of Souls, for ecclesiastical purposes only.

“RANDALL, CANTUAR.”

Now, therefore, His Majesty in Council, by and with the advice of His said Council, is pleased to order, as it is hereby ordered, that the Rectory of Melton Constable, situate in the County of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich, and the Rectory of Swanton Novers, situate in the same County and Diocese, shall be united into one Benefice, with Cure of Souls, for ecclesiastical purposes only.

*Almeric FitzRoy.*

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 8th day of *November*, 1918.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by Section 16 of the Pluralities Act, 1838, as amended by the Pluralities Act, 1850, 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 1,500 persons, 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 Inquiry 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, 6 weeks before certifying such Inquiry and Consent to His Majesty as hereinafter 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 6 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 His Majesty in Council, and thereupon it shall be lawful for His 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 His 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 for determining, if such United Benefice shall be in two Dioceses, to which of such Dioceses such Benefice shall belong”.

And whereas the Right Honourable and Most Reverend Randall Thomas, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, pursuant to the provisions of the said Act, hath duly prepared, and laid before His Majesty in Council, a Certificate in writing, bearing date the 29th day of April, 1918, in the words following:—

“We, Randall Thomas, Archbishop of the Province of Canterbury, Primate of all England and Metropolitan, do hereby certify to Your Majesty in Council:—

“That the Right Reverend Huyshe, Lord Bishop of Worcester, as Bishop of the Diocese within which is situate the Rectory of Whitchurch, in the County of Warwick, and the Right Reverend Edgar Charles Sumner, Lord Bishop of Gloucester, as Bishop of the Diocese within which is situate the Vicarage of Preston-on-Stour, in the County of Gloucester, having jointly represented unto us that the said Benefices, being contiguous to each other, and of which the aggregate population does not exceed 1,500 persons, might, with advantage to the interests of religion, be united into one Benefice, we inquired 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 James Robert West being the Patron or person entitled to present to the Rectory of Whitchurch (if the same were now vacant), and also to the Vicarage of Preston-on-Stour (the same being now vacant), has consented to the proposed Union:

“That 6 weeks and upwards before certifying such Inquiry 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 to 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 Bishops of Worcester and Gloucester, our Inquiry into the circumstances of the case, the Statement of Circumstances in reply thereto, the Consent in writing of the said Patron, and the copies of the joint 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.

“RANDALL, CANTUAR.”

Now, therefore, His Majesty in Council, by and with the advice of His said Council, is pleased to order, as it is hereby ordered, that the Rectory of Whitchurch, situate in the County of Warwick, and Diocese of Worcester,