

Now, therefore, His Majesty, having taken the said Scheme of the said Commissioner into consideration, doth hereby, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, approve thereof, and order that the same be published in the London Gazette accordingly.

Almeric FitzRoy.

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 30th day of *April*, 1921.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have, in pursuance of the Union of Benefices Act, 1919, duly prepared, and laid before His Majesty in Council, a Scheme, bearing date the 16th day of December, 1920, in the words and figures following, that is to say:—

“ We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, acting in pursuance of the Union of Benefices Act, 1919, have prepared and now humbly lay before Your Majesty in Council, the following Scheme for effecting the union of two neighbouring Benefices, that is to say the Benefice (being a Rectory) of Lower Hardres and the Benefice (being a Vicarage) of Nackington, both of which Benefices are situate in the County of Kent and in the Diocese of Canterbury:

“ Whereas Commissioners appointed at our request by The Right Honourable and Most Reverend Randall Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury, pursuant to the provisions of the said Union of Benefices Act, 1919, to inquire into and report upon the union of the said two Benefices of Lower Hardres and Nackington duly made their report to the said Archbishop of Canterbury and therein recommended the union of the said two Benefices and the terms for effecting the union, and the said Archbishop of Canterbury signified in writing his approval of the said Report:

“ And whereas we, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, have prepared this Scheme for the union of the said two Benefices based upon the terms recommended in the said Report, but with the consent of the said Archbishop of Canterbury embodying certain modifications thereof:

“ And whereas both of the said Benefices of Lower Hardres and Nackington are now full the Reverend Robert Dudley Middleton being the present Incumbent thereof:

“ And whereas the said Robert Dudley Middleton has consented to become the first Incumbent of the united Benefice, if and when the union which is hereinafter recommended and proposed shall take effect:

“ Now, therefore, we, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, with the consent of the said Randall Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury (in testimony whereof he has hereunto set his hand), do humbly recommend and propose to Your Majesty as follows, that is to say:—

“ 1. That the said Benefice of Lower Hardres and the said Benefice of Nackington shall be permanently united together and form one Benefice with cure of souls under the style of ‘ The United Benefice of Lower Hardres with Nackington ’ and that the Parishes of the

said Benefices shall also be united into one Parish for ecclesiastical purposes, and for such other purposes as in the said Act provided.

“ 2. That the Church of the Parish of Lower Hardres shall be the Parish Church of the United Parish and that the Table of Fees for the said Parish of Lower Hardres shall (until revised or altered by proper authority) be the Table of Fees for the United Parish.

“ 3. That upon the day when any Order of Your Majesty in Council ratifying this Scheme shall be published in the London Gazette the union shall forthwith take effect, and the said Robert Dudley Middleton, if he is then Incumbent of the said Benefices of Lower Hardres and Nackington shall be the first Incumbent of the United Benefice.

“ 4. That upon the said union taking effect the Parsonage House at present belonging to the said Benefice of Nackington shall become and be the house of residence for the Incumbent of the United Benefice.

“ 5. That after the said union has taken effect the course and succession in which the respective Patrons shall present and nominate to the United Benefice from time to time as the same shall become vacant shall be as follows, that is to say:—that in each series of three successive turns of presentation for ever thereafter the Patrons of the said Benefice of Lower Hardres shall have the first and third turns and the Patron of the said Benefice of Nackington shall have the second turn.

“ Provided always that nothing herein contained shall prevent us from recommending and proposing any other measures relating to the matters aforesaid, or any of them in accordance with the provisions of the said Act, or of any other Act of Parliament.”

And whereas drafts of the said Scheme have been published locally in the manner prescribed in the Statutory Rules made under the said Act and also transmitted in the manner so prescribed to the Patrons affected together with a Notice in each case requiring any objections to such draft Scheme to be stated or transmitted in writing to the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners within the time prescribed in the same Rules:

And whereas the prescribed time has elapsed and no such objections have been so stated or transmitted to the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners:

And whereas the said Scheme has been laid before both Houses of Parliament for the space of two calendar months:

And whereas the said Scheme has been approved by His Majesty in Council:

Now, therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice of His said Council, is pleased hereby to affirm the said Scheme and to order that the two Benefices therein recommended to be united shall be united to the extent and for the purposes recommended in the said Scheme and further to order and direct that the said Scheme and every part thereof shall be effectual in law immediately from and after the time when this Order shall have been duly published in the London Gazette pursuant to the said Act.

And His Majesty, by and with the like advice, is pleased hereby to direct that this Order be forthwith registered by the Registrar of the said Diocese of Canterbury.

Almeric FitzRoy.