

request by the Right Reverend Arthur, Bishop of Bradford, 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 Saint Peter, Stainforth, and Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, duly made their Report to the said Bishop of Bradford and therein recommended the union of the said two Benefices and the terms for effecting the union, and the said Bishop of Bradford 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:

"And whereas both of the said Benefices of Saint Peter, Stainforth, and Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, are now full, the Reverend John Gaskell Exton, being the present Incumbent of the said Benefice of Saint Peter, Stainforth, and the Reverend Frederick William Bardsley, being the present Incumbent of the said Benefice of Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe:

"Now, therefore, we, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, with the consent of the said Arthur, Bishop of Bradford (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 Saint Peter, Stainforth, and the said Benefice of Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, shall be permanently united together and form one Benefice with cure of souls under the style of 'The United Benefice of Langcliffe with Stainforth' but that the Parishes of the said Benefices shall continue distinct for all purposes.

"2. That if upon the day when any Order of Your Majesty in Council ratifying this Scheme shall be published in the London Gazette both of the said two Benefices shall be vacant the union of the same two Benefices shall take effect forthwith; and if the said Benefice of Saint Peter, Stainforth, only shall be then vacant the said union shall also take effect forthwith provided that the Incumbent of the other of the said two Benefices shall consent to become the first Incumbent of the United Benefice, but if he shall not so consent, then the said union shall take effect upon the then next avoidance of the said Benefice of Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, and the then Incumbent of Saint Peter, Stainforth, shall be the first Incumbent of the United Benefice and if the said Benefice of Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, only shall be then vacant the said union shall take effect upon the next avoidance of the said Benefice of Saint Peter, Stainforth; and if neither of the said two Benefices be then vacant, then the said union shall take effect on the next avoidance of the said Benefice of Saint Peter, Stainforth, if the Incumbent at that time of the said Benefice of Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, shall have been instituted to Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, subsequently to the date of the publication in the London Gazette of any Order of Your Majesty in Council ratifying this Scheme or if instituted before that date shall consent to become the Incumbent of the United Benefice; but if he shall have been instituted to Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, before that

date and shall not so consent, then the said union shall take effect immediately upon the next vacancy of the Benefice of Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, following such avoidance of the Benefice of Saint Peter, Stainforth, and the then Incumbent of Saint Peter, Stainforth, shall become the first Incumbent of the United Benefice.

"3. That after the said union has taken effect the course and succession in which the respective Patrons shall present or nominate to the United Benefice from time to time as the same shall become vacant shall be as follows, that is to say, the right of presentation shall be exercised by the Patrons of the said two Benefices alternately, the Patron of the said Benefice of Saint John the Evangelist, Langcliffe, having the right of presentation upon the first presentation to the United Benefice to be made after the union and every alternate right of presentation and the Patron of the said Benefice of Saint Peter, Stainforth, having the right of presentation upon the second presentation to the United Benefice to be made after the union and every alternate turn thereafter.

"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 certain objections have been so stated or transmitted to the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners within the time prescribed in the same Rules:

And whereas the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners after giving full consideration to such objections have deemed right to make no alterations in such draft Scheme:

And whereas public notice of the certification to His Majesty in Council of the said Scheme and the consent thereto in writing of the Bishop of Bradford has been duly given in the manner and within the time prescribed in the Statutory Rules aforesaid:

And whereas an appeal against the said Scheme was made to His Majesty in Council by Thomas Foster Knowles, Esquire, and others, the parishioners of the said Benefice of Saint Peter, Stainforth, and such appeal was referred to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council by Order of His Majesty in Council of the 29th day of January, 1923:

And whereas the Lords of the Committee having taken the said appeal into consideration, reported to His Majesty in Council as their opinion that the appeal ought to be dismissed and the said Scheme affirmed:

And whereas His Majesty was pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, by Order of the 19th day of December, 1923, to approve the said Report:

And whereas neither of the two Benefices affected by the said Scheme is situate in a City or Municipal Borough: