

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 5th day of *September*, 1939.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have, in pursuance of the Union of Benefices Measures, 1923 to 1936, duly prepared, and laid before His Majesty in Council, a Scheme bearing date the 11th day of May, 1939, in the words and figures following, that is to say:—

“ We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, acting in pursuance of the Union of Benefices Measures, 1923 to 1936, have prepared, and now humbly lay before Your Majesty in Council, the following Scheme for effecting the union of the Benefice (being a Rectory) of Woolwich (Saint Mary) and the Benefice (being a Vicarage) of Woolwich, Saint John, both of which Benefices are situate in the County of Kent and in the Diocese of Southwark:

“ Whereas Commissioners appointed at our request by the Right Reverend Richard, Bishop of Southwark, pursuant to the provisions of the said Measures to inquire into and report upon the union of the said two Benefices of Woolwich (Saint Mary) and Woolwich, Saint John, duly made their Report to the said Bishop of Southwark and therein recommended the union of the said two Benefices and the terms for effecting the union, and the said Bishop of Southwark 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 which Scheme is based upon the terms recommended in the said Report but with the assent of the said Bishop embodies certain modifications thereof:

“ And whereas the said Benefice of Woolwich (Saint Mary) is now full the Reverend Walter Ferguson Leadbitter being the present Incumbent thereof and the said Benefice of Woolwich, Saint John, is at present vacant:

“ And whereas the advowson or perpetual right of patronage of and presentation to each of the said two Benefices of Woolwich (Saint Mary) and Woolwich, Saint John, now belongs to one and the same Patron:

“ Now, therefore, we, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, with the consent of the said Richard, Bishop of Southwark, and with the consent also of the said Walter Ferguson Leadbitter (testified by their signing this Scheme), do humbly recommend and propose to Your Majesty as follows, that is to say:—

“ 1. That the said Benefice of Woolwich (Saint Mary) and the said Benefice of Woolwich, Saint John, shall be permanently united together and form one Benefice with Cure of Souls under the style of ‘ The United Benefice of Woolwich ’ 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 Measures provided.

“ 2. That upon the day when any Order of Your Majesty in Council ratifying any Scheme shall be published in the London Gazette the union of the said two Benefices shall forthwith

take effect and the said Walter Ferguson Leadbitter, if he is then Incumbent of the said Benefice of Woolwich (Saint Mary) shall be the first Incumbent of the United Benefice.

“ 3. That the Church of the Parish of Woolwich (Saint Mary) shall be the Parish Church of the United Parish and that the Table of Fees for the said Parish of Woolwich (Saint Mary) shall (until revised or altered by proper authority) be the Table of Fees for the United Parish.

“ 4. That upon the union taking effect the register books of baptisms, marriages and burials and other the records and muniments deposited in the Church of Saint John, Woolwich, shall be transferred to the Parish Church of the United Benefice but the marriage registers in duplicate current at the Church of Saint John, Woolwich, shall first be sent by the Incumbent of the United Benefice to the Registrar General to be closed officially.

“ 5.—(a) That so soon as conveniently may be after the union has taken effect the Church of Saint John, Woolwich, shall be taken down and the materials and site thereof, together with any ground annexed thereto and necessary for the use and enjoyment thereof shall be sold and disposed of by us, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners, at such time or times and in such manner in all respects as to us shall seem expedient subject to the conditions and restrictions imposed by the said Measures.

(b) That the net proceeds to arise from such sale or sales after payment of the expenses attendant upon the sale or sales, the taking down of the Church, the removal of monuments (if any) and all other expenses incidental to these matters, shall be applied by us, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners, as follows, that is to say, (1) in payment of the compensation or compensations hereinafter mentioned or in repayment of any advance made for the purpose of such compensation or compensations; and (2) the residue of such net proceeds shall be paid into and form part of the Expenses Fund established pursuant to the 32nd Section of the Union of Benefices Measure 1923:

(c) That the font, communion table, and plate used for the purpose of the Holy Communion in the said Church of Saint John, Woolwich, shall not be sold but shall in accordance with the provisions of the said Measures and as the Bishop of the Diocese may direct be transferred to some other Church or Churches within the said Diocese of Southwark and the bells, organ and other furniture and fittings of the said Church of Saint John, Woolwich, shall also be removed to any other Church or Chapel or Churches or Chapels within the Diocese of Southwark which the Bishop may select or shall be sold and in such case the proceeds shall be added to the fund arising from the sale of the site and materials of the said Church of Saint John, Woolwich, as aforesaid.

(d) That in the event of the services of any Church officers and servants of the said Church of Saint John, Woolwich, being dispensed with by reason of the union taking effect, such Church officers and servants shall out of any moneys to be received by us, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners, under the provisions