

AT the Court at *Brighton*, the 22d day of *December* 1836.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the last session of Parliament, intituled "An Act for carrying into effect the reports of the Commissioners appointed to consider the state of the Established Church in England and Wales, with reference to ecclesiastical duties and revenues, so far as they relate to episcopal dioceses, revenues, and patronage," reciting, amongst other things, that His Majesty was pleased, on the fourth day of February, and on the sixth day of June, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five, to issue two several commissions to certain persons therein respectively named, directing them to consider the state of the several dioceses in England and Wales, with reference to the amount of their revenues, and the more equal distribution of episcopal duties, and the prevention of the necessity of attaching, by commendam, to bishoprics, benefices with cure of souls; and to consider also the state of the several cathedral and collegiate churches in England and Wales, with a view to the suggestion of such measures as might render them conducive to the efficiency of the Established Church, and to devise the best mode of providing for the cure of souls, with special reference to the residence of the clergy on their respective benefices; and reciting, that the said Commissioners had, in pursuance of such directions, made four several reports to His Majesty, bearing date respectively the seventeenth day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five, and the fourth day of March, the twentieth day of May, and the twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six; and reciting, that the said Commissioners had in their said reports, amongst other things, recommended that commissioners should be appointed by Parliament for the purpose of preparing and laying before His Majesty in Council such schemes as should appear to them to be best adapted for carrying into effect, amongst other things, the following recommendations; and that His Majesty in Council should be empowered to make Orders ratifying such schemes, and having the full force of law; and that the diocese of York consist of the county of York, except such parts thereof as it was proposed to include in the new diocese of Ripon; and that the diocese of Durham be increased by that part of the county of Northumberland called Hexhamshire, which was then in the diocese of York; and that the diocese of Ripon consist of that part of the county of York which was then in the diocese of Chester, of the deanry of Craven, and of such parts of the deanries of the Ainsty and Pontefract, in the county and diocese of York, as lie to the westward of the following districts, viz. the liberty of the Ainsty, and the wapentakes of Barkston Ash, Osgoldcross, and Staincross; and that all parishes which are locally situate in one diocese, but under the jurisdiction of the bishop of another diocese, be made subject to the jurisdiction of the bishop of the diocese within which they are locally

situate; and that such variations be made in the proposed boundaries of the different dioceses as might appear advisable, after more precise information respecting the circumstances of particular parishes or districts; and that such alterations be made in the apportionment or exchange of ecclesiastical patronage among the several bishops as should be consistent with the relative magnitude and importance of their dioceses when newly arranged, and as should afford an adequate quantity of patronage to the bishops of the new sees; and that in order to provide for the augmentation of the incomes of the smaller bishoprics, such fixed annual sums be paid to the Commissioners out of the revenues of the larger sees respectively as should, upon due enquiry and consideration, be determined on, so as to leave, as an average annual income, to the Archbishop of Canterbury fifteen thousand pounds to the Archbishop of York ten thousand pounds, to the Bishop of London ten thousand pounds, to the Bishop of Durham eight thousand pounds, to the Bishop of Winchester seven thousand pounds, to the Bishop of Ely five thousand five hundred pounds, to the Bishop of Saint Asaph and Bangor five thousand two hundred pounds, and to the Bishops of Worcester, and Bath and Wells respectively five thousand pounds; and that out of the fund thus accruing, fixed annual payments be made by the Commissioners, in such instances and to such amounts as should be in like manner determined on, so that the average annual incomes of the other bishops respectively be not less than four thousand pounds, nor more than five thousand pounds; and that if in determining the mode of regulating the episcopal incomes, either in the first instance or on any future revision of them, it should be deemed expedient to make the alteration required in any case by the subtraction or addition of any real estates, such real estates be transferred accordingly; and that the bishops who should, on the then existing vacancies, succeed to the sees of Durham and Ely, be relieved from the excess beyond their due proportion payable for first fruits, and that the residue of the sums due be paid by the Commissioners out of the surplus funds arising from those sees; and that none of the proposed alterations affecting the boundaries or jurisdiction of any diocese, or the patronage of, benefices with cure of souls, or the revenues belonging to any see, the bishop of which was in possession on the fourth day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, should take effect until the next avoidance of the see, without the consent of such bishop; and that a fit residence be provided for the Bishop of Ripon:

It is enacted, amongst other things, that the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury for the time being, the Lord Archbishop of York, and the Lord Bishop of London for the time being, John Lord Bishop of Lincoln, James Henry Lord Bishop of Gloucester, the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, the Lord President of the Council, the Lord High Treasurer or the First Lord of the Treasury, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the time being, respectively, and such one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State as shall be for that purpose nominated by His Majesty, under His royal sign manual (such Lord Chancellor, Lord President, Lord High Treasurer or