

AT the Court at, *Buckingham Palace*, the
18th day of *March* 1846,

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have, in pursuance of an Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the sixth and seventh years of the reign of His late Majesty, 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;" and of another Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the fifth and sixth years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to alter and amend the law relating to ecclesiastical houses of residence," duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a scheme, bearing date the fourth day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, in the words following, that is to say:

"We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, in pursuance of an Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the sixth and seventh years of the reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, 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;" and of another Act, passed in the session of Parliament held in the fifth and sixth years of your Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to alter and amend the law relating to ecclesiastical houses of residence," have prepared, and now humbly lay before your Majesty in Council, the following scheme, for adding to, altering, and improving the episcopal house of residence of the see of Oxford.

"Whereas it is by the first recited Act enacted, that, for the purpose of providing the bishop of any diocese with a more suitable residence than that which at the time of passing the same Act belonged to his see, sanction be given where it may be necessary for the borrowing by any

bishop of a sum not exceeding two years income of his see, upon such terms as shall appear to be proper:

"And whereas it is by the said secondly recited Act enacted, that whenever it shall appear to be expedient to add to, alter, or improve any episcopal house of residence, it shall be lawful, by the authority provided in the first recited Act, with the consent under the hand and episcopal seal of the bishop, to make such arrangements as may by such authority be deemed most expedient for adding to, altering, or improving any episcopal house of residence, and that so much of the said first recited Act, as relates to the providing of any bishop with a more suitable and convenient residence, shall be extended so as to include and apply to the purposes of the said secondly recited Act; and that in case such a deficiency would be created in the average annual income of any bishop appointed after the passing of the said first recited Act, by the effecting of any mortgage or other arrangement under either of the said recited Acts, so as to reduce such income below the average annual income of such bishop named in the said first recited Act, it shall be lawful by the authority aforesaid, out of any moneys from time to time standing to the credit and account of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, being part of payments from the larger sees, respectively, towards the augmentation of the incomes of the bishops of the smaller sees, if it shall be deemed fit, and if such moneys, after duly considering all the claims thereon, shall appear to be sufficient for such purpose to make any arrangement for preventing such deficiency which by the like authority shall be deemed expedient:

"And whereas it has been deemed expedient, with the consent of the Right Reverend Samuel Bishop of Oxford, in testimony whereof he has hereunto set his hand and episcopal seal, to effect certain additions, alterations, and improvements in the episcopal house of residence belonging to the see of Oxford, situate at Cuddesden, in the county of Oxford, according to certain plans and specifications which have been approved by us under our common seal, the expence of which additions, alterations, and improvements has been estimated at the sum of three thousand five hundred pounds:

"And whereas a deficiency would be created in the average annual income of the Bishop of Ox-