

“ An Act to carry into effect, with certain modifications, the fourth report of the Commissioners of Ecclesiastical Duties and Revenues ;” 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 improving the precincts of the cathedral church of Gloucester.

“ Whereas it is by the first recited Act, amongst other things, enacted, that by the authority therein provided, and for the purpose of carrying into effect any of the provisions thereof, any sum of money which shall have been invested in the public funds, or in other security or securities, in trust for any ecclesiastical body corporate, aggregate or sole, may, upon an application in writing to us, under the hand and seal of such body corporate, and, in the case of any chapter, with the consent of the visitor thereof, be directed to be sold, and the same shall be sold accordingly, and the produce of such sale shall be applied to such purpose and in such manner as shall appear most conducive to the permanent benefit of such body corporate :

“ And whereas it is by the secondly recited Act enacted, that it shall be lawful for the dean and chapter of any cathedral church, under the like authority, to purchase any house or site, being contiguous or near to such cathedral church, or any part of such house or site, and to add to, alter or improve any such house or to take down the same, and to build another house or more houses than one upon the site thereof, or to apply the site of any such house, or any part thereof, by and with the like authority, to the improvement of the cathedral or the precincts thereof :

“ And whereas it is by the same Act declared and enacted, that the provisions of the first hereinbefore recited Act, relating to the sale and application of any sum of money invested in trust for any ecclesiastical body corporate, do and shall include and apply to all monies and securities for money, and to all stock in the government funds or elsewhere standing in the name of the Ac-

countant General of the Court of Chancery for or to the credit or for the benefit of or in trust for any dean and chapter, dean or cannon, whether for the purpose of being laid out in land or otherwise ; and that the same provisions shall extend and may be applied to any of the purposes of the now reciting Act :

“ And whereas there is now standing in the name of the Accountant General of the Court of Chancery, and to the credit of the said Dean and Chapter of Gloucester, in the books of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, a sum of two thousand and fifty-seven pounds, twelve shillings and five pence, Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities :

“ And whereas by a certain indenture of lease, bearing date the twenty-eighth day of November, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five, and made between the Dean and Chapter of the said cathedral church of Gloucester, of the one part, and Henry Hooper Wilton, of the city of Gloucester, Esq. of the other part, the messuages or dwelling-houses, garden, and premises, particularly described in the schedule hereunto annexed, were demised to the said Henry Hooper Wilton for the term of forty years from the Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel next before the making thereof, and the residue of such term is now vested in the said Henry Hooper Wilton :

“ And whereas the said Dean and Chapter are entitled to the fee simple and inheritance in the same premises, subject to the said lease :

“ And whereas the said messuages or dwelling-houses, garden and premises are immediately adjoining to the eastern end of the said cathedral church of Gloucester, and are situate within the precincts of the same, and it has been made to appear to us that it would be for the permanent benefit of the said Dean and Chapter, and to the improvement of the said cathedral church and precincts, if the said Dean and Chapter were enabled forthwith to purchase all the estate of the present lessee therein :

“ And whereas an application has been made to us in writing, under the seal of the said Dean and Chapter, for the investment of an adequate portion of the said Consolidated Bank Annuities, in such purchase :