

to you, that the large reductions of taxes which have taken place of late years have not been attended with a proportionate diminution of the national income. The revenue of the past year has been fully adequate to the demands of the public service, while the reduction of taxation has tended greatly to the relief and comfort of my subjects.

I acknowledge, with thankfulness to Almighty God, that tranquillity, good order, and willing obedience to the laws, continue to prevail generally throughout the country.

It appears to me that this is a fitting time for calmly considering whether it may not be advisable to make such amendments in the Act of the late reign, relating to the representation of the Commons in Parliament, as may be deemed calculated to carry into more complete effect the principles upon which that law is founded.

I have the fullest confidence, that in any such consideration you will firmly adhere to the acknowledged principles of the constitution, by which the prerogatives of the crown, the authority of both Houses of Parliament, and the rights and liberties of the people, are equally secured.

AT the Court at *Buckingham-Palace*, the 2nd day of *February* 1852,

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 thirteenth and fourteenth years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to amend the Acts relating to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England," duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a scheme, bearing date the twenty-second day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, in the words and figures 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 thirteenth and fourteenth years of your Majesty's reign, intituled 'An Act to amend the Acts relating to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England,' have prepared and now humbly lay before your Majesty in Council the following scheme relating to the episcopal income of the Bishop of Salisbury.

"Whereas the Right Reverend Edward, Bishop of Salisbury, hath, with a view to the regulation of his episcopal income according to the provisions of the said Act, entered into an agreement with us in the words and figures following; that is to say:

"Agreement made this eighth day of January one thousand eight hundred and fifty-two, between the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, of the one part, and the Right Reverend Edward, Bishop of Salisbury, of the other part.

"Whereas by an Act, passed in the session of Parliament, held in the thirteenth and fourteenth years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to amend the Acts relating to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England," after reciting that Her Majesty had issued a Commission to certain persons therein named to inquire (amongst other things) whether any and what improvement could be made in the existing law and practice relating to the incomes of archbishops and bishops, so as to secure to them respectively fixed instead of fluctuating annual

incomes, and that it was expedient, that until the said Commissioners should have made their report, and Parliament should have determined upon some permanent mode of effecting the object last aforesaid, temporary arrangements should be made for that purpose, it was enacted, that notwithstanding the provisions of the therein first recited Act, and any Order or Orders of Her Majesty in Council founded thereon, relating to or providing for the payment to or by the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England of fixed annual sums, it should be lawful by the authority and in the manner by and in which the arrangements for carrying into effect the recommendations in the said Act recited might then be made (that is to say, by a scheme of the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, confirmed and ratified by an Order of Her Majesty in Council), so to regulate from time to time the amounts, times, modes, and conditions of payments to be made to or by the said Commissioners as the case might be, by or to any archbishop or bishop who should have succeeded to a see, upon any avoidance thereof happening after the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, or any other archbishop or bishop who might signify his willingness to accept such annual income as hereinafter mentioned in lieu of his present income as to secure to every such archbishop or bishop the annual income named for the archbishop or bishop of his see, in the same or any other Act then in force, or in any Order of Her Majesty in Council duly made and published, and no more; and whereas, under the provisions of the said Act in the said herein recited Act first recited, the amount of the annual income which would be suitable to the circumstances of the see of Salisbury has been fixed at five thousand pounds; and whereas the said Edward, Bishop of Salisbury, succeeded to his see on an avoidance which happened before the said first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, and hath signified his willingness in accordance with the provisions of the said herein recited Act to accept as from the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, the said annual income or yearly sum of five thousand pounds, and no more, in lieu of the present and future income arising from his said see, or any other ecclesiastical profits or emoluments of any kind or description whatsoever, received or enjoyed by him, and to enter into an agreement with the said Commissioners for regulating the income to be received by him, as from the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, in manner hereinafter mentioned; now it is hereby agreed by and between the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, and the said Edward, Bishop of Salisbury, as follows; that is to say:

"1. That the said bishop shall forthwith deliver to the said Commissioners, in such form as they shall direct, a correct account in writing, certified under his hand, of all monies actually received by him, whether consisting of arrears or otherwise, accrued due since the thirty-first day of December one thousand eight hundred and fifty, in respect of the revenues of his see or of such other ecclesiastical profits or emoluments as aforesaid, during the half year ending on the thirtieth day of June now last past, and also of all monies remaining unpaid in respect of the said see, or of any such other profits or emoluments as aforesaid, on account of such arrears as aforesaid, or otherwise at the date of such account. And that the said bishop shall henceforth, half yearly, on the twenty-fifth day of March, and the twenty-ninth