

Act of the session of Parliament holden in the seventeenth and eighteenth years of Her Majesty's reign, chapter eighty-four, duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a scheme, bearing date the eighth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, in the words and figures following; that is to say:

"We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, in pursuance of the Act of the session of Parliament holden in the third and fourth years of your Majesty's reign, chapter one hundred and thirteen; and of the Act of the session of Parliament holden in the fourth and fifth years of your Majesty's reign, chapter thirty-nine; and of the Act of the session of Parliament holden in the sixth and seventh years of your Majesty's reign, chapter thirty-seven; and of the Act of the session of Parliament, holden in the seventeenth and eighteenth years of your Majesty's reign, chapter eighty-four, have prepared and now humbly lay before your Majesty in Council the following scheme for effecting certain arrangements with a view to making better provision for the cure of souls in the parishes of Frant and Rotherfield, in the county of Sussex, and in the diocese of Chichester, and for constituting a separate district for spiritual purposes out of the said parishes:

"Whereas it was by the first-mentioned Act enacted, with an especial view to the better care of populous parishes, that arrangements might from time to time be made by the authority therein provided (that is to say, by a scheme prepared by us, and a duly gazetted Order of your Majesty in Council ratifying the same), for improving the value or making a better provision for the spiritual duties of ill-endowed parishes or districts by means of such exchange of advowsons or of such other alterations in the exercise of patronage as might be agreed upon by patrons with the consent of the bishop in every such case; and it was by the same Act further enacted that arrangements might be made by the like authority for the apportionment of the income of two benefices, belonging to the same patron, between the incumbents or ministers of such benefices, or the churches or chapels connected therewith, provided that no such arrangement should be made with respect to benefices in lay patronage, without the consents of the respective patrons, nor in any case so as to prejudice the interests of any existing incumbent, nor without the consent of the bishop of the diocese.

"And whereas it was by the secondly-mentioned Act declared and enacted, that it should be competent to the authority in the first-mentioned Act provided, to make arrangements under and according to the provisions of the same Act for improving the value or making a better provision for the spiritual duties of ill-endowed parishes or districts, by means of the exchange of advowsons or other alterations in the exercise of patronage, notwithstanding that such advowsons, or any or either of them, or such patronage, should be vested in or belong to any ecclesiastical corporation, aggregate or sole:

"And whereas it was by the fourthly-mentioned Act enacted, that the hereinbefore recited provisions of the first-mentioned Act, respecting the apportionment of the income of two benefices belonging to the same patron between the incumbents or ministers of such benefices, or the churches or chapels connected therewith, should apply to any lands, tithes, tithe rent-charges, or other hereditaments, or sources of income, of what nature or kind soever, belonging to such benefices, and should apply to any number of benefices belonging to the same patron, including any united benefice, and that every church or chapel possessed of any

endowment, or capable of receiving the same, and also any sinecure rectory, so far as regards the transfer of its endowments, or any portion thereof, to any benefice, should be deemed a benefice for the purpose of such arrangements or any of them:

"And whereas it was by the thirdly-mentioned Act enacted, that if at any time it should be made to appear to us that it would promote the interests of religion that any part or parts of any parish or parishes, chapelry or chapelries, district or districts, of great extent, and containing a large population, and wherein, or in parts whereof, the provision for public worship and for pastoral superintendence is insufficient for the spiritual wants of the inhabitants thereof, or any extra-parochial place or places, or any part or parts thereof, should be constituted a separate district for spiritual purposes, it should be lawful, by the authority aforesaid, with the consent of the bishop of the diocese, under his hand and seal, to set out by metes and bounds, and constitute a separate district accordingly, such district not then containing within its limits any consecrated church or chapel in use for the purposes of divine worship, and to fix and declare the name of such district; and it was by the same Act provided, that the draft of any scheme for constituting any such district should be delivered or transmitted to the incumbent and to the patron or patrons of the church or chapel of any parish, chapelry, or district out of which it is recommended that any such district or any part thereof should be taken, in order that such incumbent, patron or patrons, might have an opportunity of offering or making to us, or to such bishop, any observations or objections upon or to the constituting of such district, and that such scheme should not be laid before your Majesty in Council until after the expiration of one calendar month next after such copy should have been so delivered or transmitted, unless such incumbent and patron or patrons should in the meantime consent to the same; and it was by the same Act also provided, that in every such scheme for constituting any such district we should recommend to your Majesty in Council that the minister of such district, when duly licensed according to the same Act, should be permanently endowed, under the provisions of the same Act, to an amount of not less than the annual value of one hundred pounds, and also, if such endowment be of less than the annual value of one hundred and fifty pounds, that the same should be increased to such last-mentioned amount at the least, so soon as such district shall have become a new parish as therein-after provided; and it was by the same Act further enacted, that it should be lawful, by the authority aforesaid, at any time to assign the right of patronage of any such district or new parish as aforesaid, and the nomination of the minister or perpetual curate thereof respectively, either in perpetuity, or for one or more nomination or nominations, to any ecclesiastical corporation, aggregate or sole, or to either of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, or Durham, or to any college therein respectively, or to any person or persons, or the nominee or nominees of such person or persons or body respectively, upon condition of such corporation, university, college, person or persons contributing to the permanent endowment of such minister or perpetual curate, or towards providing a church or chapel for the use of the inhabitants of such district or new parish, in such proportion and in such manner as should be approved by the like authority:

"And whereas the Right Honourable and Reverend William Earl of Abergavenny is patron