

“ dioceses, that two or more benefices, or that one or more benefice or benefices, and one or more spiritual sinecure rectory or rectories, vicarage or vicarages, in his or their diocese or dioceses, being either in the same parish or contiguous to each other, and of which the aggregate population shall not exceed one thousand five hundred persons, may, with advantage to the interests of religion, be united into one benefice, the said Archbishop of the province shall inquire into the circumstances of the case; and if on such inquiry it shall appear to him that such union may be usefully made, and will not be of inconvenient extent, and that the patron or patrons of the said benefices, sinecure rectory or rectories, vicarage or vicarages respectively, is or are consenting thereto, such consent being signified in writing under the hands of such patron or patrons, the said Archbishop shall, six weeks before certifying such inquiry and consent to Her Majesty as hereinafter directed, cause, with respect to his own diocese, a statement in writing of the facts, and in other cases a copy in writing of the aforesaid representation to be affixed on or near the principal outer door of the church, or in some public and conspicuous place in each of such benefices, sinecure rectories, or vicarages, with notice to any person or persons interested, that he, she, or they, may, within such six weeks, show cause in writing under his, her, or their hand or hands, to the said Archbishop, against such union; and if no sufficient cause be shown within such time, the said Archbishop shall certify the inquiry and consent aforesaid to Her Majesty in Council, and thereupon it shall be lawful for Her Majesty in Council to make and issue an Order or Orders for uniting such benefices, sinecure rectory or rectories, vicarage or vicarages, into one benefice, with cure of souls, for ecclesiastical purposes only; and it shall be lawful for Her Majesty in Council to give directions for regulating the course and succession in which the patrons, if there be more than one patron, shall present or nominate to such united benefice, from time to time, as the same shall become vacant.”

And whereas the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury pursuant to the provisions of the said Act, hath duly prepared and laid before Her Majesty in Council a certificate in writing, bearing date the sixth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, in the words following, that is to say:—

“ To the QUEEN’s Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

“ We the undersigned Edward White Archbishop of the Province of Canterbury Primate of all England and Metropolitan do hereby certify to Your Majesty in Council

“ That the Right Reverend Edward Henry Lord Bishop of Exeter as Bishop of the diocese within which are situate the rectory of Saint Stephen in the city of Exeter and the rectory of Saint Martin in the same city having represented unto us that the said benefices being contiguous to each other and of which the aggregate population does not exceed six hundred persons might with advantage to the interests of religion be united into one benefice we enquired into the circumstances of the case.

“ That on such enquiry it appeared to us that such union might be usefully made and would not be of inconvenient extent and that the said Lord Bishop of Exeter as the patron or person entitled to collate to the said rectory of Saint Stephen if the same were now vacant and the

Venerable the Dean and Chapter of the cathedral church of Saint Peter in Exeter as the patrons or persons entitled to present to the said rectory of Saint Martin if the same were now vacant consent to the proposed union.

“ That six weeks and upwards before certifying such enquiry and consents to Your Majesty in Council we caused a copy in writing of the aforesaid representation of the said Lord Bishop to be affixed on the principal outer door of the parish church of each of the said benefices with notice to any person or persons interested that he she or they might within such six weeks show cause in writing under his her or their hand or hands to us the said Archbishop against such union and no such cause has been shown.

“ The representation of the said Lord Bishop of Exeter our enquiry into the circumstances of the case the statement of circumstances in reply thereto the consent in writing of the patrons and the copies of the representation and notice before mentioned are hereunto annexed.

“ And we do hereby certify the enquiry and consent aforesaid to Your Majesty in Council to the intent that Your Majesty in Council may in case Your Majesty in Council shall think fit so to do make and issue an Order for uniting the said benefices into one benefice with cure of souls for ecclesiastical purposes and for declaring that the course and succession in which the respective patrons for the time being shall collate or present to the said benefices, after the same shall be united into one benefice from time to time as the same shall become vacant shall be as follows that is to say the Lord Bishop of Exeter (the present patron of the said rectory of Saint Stephen) and his successors and the Dean and Chapter of the cathedral church of Saint Peter in Exeter (the present patrons of the said rectory of Saint Martin) and their successors shall collate or present to the said united benefices alternately and the said Lord Bishop of Exeter and his successors shall have the first turn to collate thereto and shall accordingly collate thereto on the next avoidance thereof.

“ As witness our hand this sixth day of April in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine. “ *Edw. Cantuar.*”

Now therefore Her Majesty in Council, by and with the advice of Her said Council, is pleased to order, as it is hereby ordered, that the rectory of Saint Stephen situate in the city and diocese of Exeter, and the rectory of Saint Martin, situate in the same city and diocese, shall be united into one benefice with cure of souls for ecclesiastical purposes only.

And Her Majesty in Council, by and with the advice of Her said Council, is further pleased to direct that the course and succession in which the respective patrons shall present or nominate to such united benefice, from time to time, as the same shall become vacant, shall be as follows that is to say:—The Lord Bishop of Exeter (the present patron of the said rectory of Saint Stephen) and his successors, and the Dean and Chapter of the cathedral church of Saint Peter in Exeter (the present patrons of the said rectory of Saint Martin) and their successors; shall collate, or present, to the said united benefice alternately; and the said Lord Bishop of Exeter and his successors shall have the first turn to collate thereto, and shall accordingly collate thereto on the next avoidance thereof.

*C. L. Peel.*