

said three miles and the population thereof is one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight persons according to the census of one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one and there is no church or chapel in the said places hamlets or districts except as hereinafter mentioned.

"That the said places hamlets or districts are intermingled with and are contiguous to other portions of the said township of Ashton-upon-Mersey which belong to and lie within the parish of the rectory of Ashton-upon-Mersey in the said county and diocese and are at distances varying from one-eighth of a mile to two miles from the parish church of Ashton-upon-Mersey aforesaid and at distances varying from one-eighth of a mile to one mile from the church or chapel of Saint Mary Magdalene in the same parish and the inhabitants of the said places hamlets or districts have usually resorted to the minister of the said parish of Ashton-upon-Mersey for ecclesiastical purposes and do now resort to such minister and to the said parish church of Ashton-upon-Mersey or the said church or chapel of Saint Mary Magdalene.

"That it would be beneficial for the inhabitants of the said places hamlets or districts to have the same legally separated from the said parish of Bowdon and annexed to the said parish of Ashton-upon-Mersey for ecclesiastical purposes.

"That the population of the parish of Bowdon aforesaid amounts according to the census of one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one to four thousand six hundred and fifty persons and the population of the parish of Ashton-upon-Mersey aforesaid according to the same census amounts to two thousand three hundred and eighty-six persons.

"That the net annual value of the said benefice of Bowdon not reckoning the house of residence as an item is eight hundred and twenty pounds or thereabouts.

"That the patronage of the said vicarage or benefice of Bowdon belongs to me and my successors Bishops of Chester in right of the see or bishoprick of Chester and the Venerable Arthur Gore is now the vicar thereof.

"That the annual value of the said rectory of Ashton-upon-Mersey not reckoning the house of residence as an item is six hundred and forty pounds.

"That the Reverend Joseph Ray is now the rector of the said rectory or benefice of Ashton-upon-Mersey and the patronage of the said rectory or benefice belongs to the said Joseph Ray.

"That I the said Francis John Lord Bishop of Chester am the patron or person entitled to the right of collation to the said vicarage of Bowdon in right of my see of Chester were the same now vacant and the incumbent of the said vicarage and parish church of Bowdon and the patron and incumbent of the said rectory and parish of Ashton-upon-Mersey are all consenting parties to the separation and annexation hereinafter proposed.

"That it appears to me that the said places hamlets or districts being that portion of the township of Ashton-upon-Mersey aforesaid which lies within the parish of Bowdon may under the provisions of the Acts of Parliament of the first and second years of the reign of Her present Majesty chapter one hundred and six and the second and third years of the reign of Her said Majesty chapter forty-nine be advantageously separated from the said vicarage and parish church of Bowdon and be annexed to the said rectory and parish church of Ashton-upon-Mersey for ecclesiastical purposes.

"That pursuant to the directions contained in the twenty-sixth section of the first-mentioned Act of Parliament I the said Lord Bishop have drawn up a scheme in writing appended to this representation describing the mode in which it appears to me that the alteration above proposed may be best effected and how the changes consequent on such alteration may be made with justice to all parties interested which together with the consents thereto of the said Joseph Ray as patron and of the said incumbents of the said rectory of Ashton-upon-Mersey and vicarage of Bowdon respectively I do submit to your Grace to the intent that your Grace may if on full consideration and enquiry you shall be satisfied with the said scheme certify the same and such consents as aforesaid by your report to Her Majesty in Council.

"Given under my hand this sixth day of July one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three.

*F. J. Cestr.*"

And whereas the said scheme drawn up by the said Bishop and the consents referred to in the said representation are as follows:—

"SCHEME.

"That the places hamlets or districts comprising and consisting of the lands and tenements situate in that portion of the township of Ashton-upon-Mersey which lies within the parish of Bowdon in the county and diocese of Chester containing altogether seven hundred and eighty acres and thirty-five perches or thereabouts which are particularly specified and mentioned in the schedule hereunder written and particularly described in the map or plan annexed to the title commutation award of that part of the township of Ashton-upon-Mersey which lies within the parish of Bowdon referred to in the foregoing representation shall be separated from the vicarage and parish church of Bowdon to which they belong and be united and annexed to the rectory and parish church of Ashton-upon-Mersey in the said county and diocese to which parish the same lands and tenements are contiguous and be constituted therewith one parish and benefice for ecclesiastical purposes which shall henceforth be styled the parish and rectory of Ashton-upon-Mersey.

"That the vicar of the parish of Bowdon shall cease to have cure of souls within the said places hamlets or districts and the rector of the parish of Ashton-upon-Mersey shall have sole and exclusive cure of souls within the same.

"That the inhabitants of the said places hamlets or districts shall have the same rights as to pews or accommodation in the church and performance of all offices and services, of the church at the said parish church of Ashton-upon-Mersey and otherwise in relation to the same church and the parish belonging thereto as other inhabitants of the same parish.

"That the inhabitants of the said places hamlets or districts shall not be entitled henceforth to any accommodation within the said parish church of Bowdon.

"That the patronage or right of presentation to the said rectory of Ashton-upon-Mersey shall remain unchanged notwithstanding the annexation thereto of the said places hamlets or districts.

"That the fees and other ecclesiastical dues and payments for churchings marriages burials and other ecclesiastical offices and services performed for the inhabitants of the said places hamlets or districts as aforesaid or arising within the limits of the same shall henceforth belong to the incumbent clerk and sexton of the rectory of