

diocese of Lincoln, and the vicarage of Normanby, situate in the same county 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 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 first and second turns shall belong to and be exercised by Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria in right of Her Duchy of Lancaster, Her successors or assigns, and the third turn in every three turns shall belong to and be exercised by the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, their successors or assigns, and so on in the same order for ever, and that on the present vacancy the turn shall belong to and be exercised by Her Majesty and shall be reckoned as the first of the above-mentioned two turns.

A. W. FitzRoy.

AT the Court at *Bulmoral*, the 26th day of *October*, 1899.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by section sixteen of "The Pluralities Act, 1838," as amended by "The Pluralities Act, 1850," it is, amongst other things, enacted, "That whenever it shall appear to the Archbishop of the Province, with respect to his own diocese, and whenever it shall be represented to him by the Bishop of any diocese, or by the Bishops of any two 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 eighth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine, in the words following, that is to say:—

"We Frederick by Divine Providence Archbishop of Canterbury do hereby in pursuance of 'The Pluralities Act 1838' certify to Your Majesty in Council that it having appeared to us that the benefice (being a rectory) of Elmstone and the benefice (being a vicarage) of Preston next Wingham both in the county of Kent and our diocese of Canterbury might with advantage to the interests of religion be united into one benefice for ecclesiastical purposes we enquired into the circumstances of the case and on such enquiry it appeared:

"That the benefices are contiguous and when united will not be of inconvenient extent.

"That the aggregate population of the parishes of Elmstone and Preston next Wingham according to the latest returns of population made under the authority of Parliament does not exceed five hundred and sixty-eight persons the population of the said parish of Elmstone being seventy-four and the population of the said parish of Preston next Wingham being four hundred and ninety-four.

"That there is a church belonging to each of the said benefices. The churches are distant about one mile and a quarter from each other.

"That there is a sufficient house of residence belonging to Elmstone but the house formerly occupied as the vicarage of Preston next Wingham but not considered suitable for a residence is let and the rent added to the income of the benefice.

"That the net yearly value of the said benefice of Elmstone is one hundred and sixty-five pounds or thereabouts and the net yearly value of Preston next Wingham is three hundred and twenty-two pounds or thereabouts.

"That the patronage of the said benefice of Elmstone belongs to the Reverend Walter Delmar Lindley, M.A. the present Incumbent thereof and the patronage of the said benefice of Preston next Wingham belongs to the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury. Both the said patrons consent to the union of the said two benefices for ecclesiastical purposes only and that the course and succession in which the respective patrons for the time being shall present or nominate 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:—subject to the right of the patron of Elmstone to present on the first vacancy of the united benefice the right of presentation thereto shall for ever thereafter belong to and be vested in and exercised by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury.

"That after the said union is effected there shall be three full services on every Sunday throughout the year in the two churches which shall then belong to the united benefice that is to say two services at Preston and one service at Elmstone.

"That it is proposed that the house of residence that now belongs to the said benefice of Elmstone