

hundred and ninety-one it was provided that in all Admiralty matters an appeal should lie from the Colonial Court of Admiralty of the said possession of British New Guinea to the said Supreme Court of Queensland.

And whereas by the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900 it is provided that the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia may make laws for the government of any territory placed by His Majesty the King under the authority of and accepted by the Commonwealth.

And whereas the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia have respectively passed resolutions authorizing the acceptance of British New Guinea as a territory of the Commonwealth.

And whereas His Majesty has this day been pleased by and with the advice of His Privy Council to direct that Letters Patent be passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom to make provision for placing British New Guinea under the authority of the Commonwealth of Australia and for the revocation of certain Letters Patent and instructions of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria relating to British New Guinea and for such other purposes as in the said Letters Patent are more fully described.

And whereas it is expedient that so soon as the Parliament of the Commonwealth has made laws providing for the hearing of appeals from the courts of the possession of British New Guinea the said Orders in Council of the seventeenth day of May one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight and the twenty-fourth day of November one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one shall be revoked.

Now therefore His Majesty by and with the advice of His Privy Council is pleased to order and it is hereby ordered as follows:—

1. The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia so soon as the Parliament of the Commonwealth has made laws providing for the hearing of appeals from the courts of the possession of British New Guinea shall issue a proclamation signifying and declaring that the Parliament of the Commonwealth has made such laws accordingly and thereupon the aforesaid Orders in Council of the seventeenth day of May one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight and the twenty-fourth day of November one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one shall be revoked and shall cease to have effect without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder provided that any appeals from any court of the possession of British New Guinea to the Supreme Court of Queensland at Brisbane under the provisions of the said Orders in Council which shall be pending at the date of such Proclamation shall be heard and determined by the Supreme Court of Queensland at Brisbane in the same manner and in all respects as though the aforesaid Orders in Council had not been revoked.

2. This Order shall be laid before Parliament.

*A. W. FitzRoy.*

AT the Court at *Saint James's*, the 6th day of *March*, 1902.

PRESENT,

The KING'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 His Majesty in Council a certificate in writing, bearing date the sixteenth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and two, in the words following, that is to say:—

"We the undersigned Frederick Archbishop of the Province of Canterbury Primate of All England and Metropolitan do hereby certify to Your Majesty in Council

"That the Right Reverend Francis Lord Bishop of Oxford as Bishop of the diocese within which are situate the rectory of Oving and the rectory of Pitchcott both in the county of Buckingham having represented unto us that the said benefices being contiguous to each other and of which the aggregate population does not exceed three hundred and fifty-eight persons may 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 is not of inconvenient extent and that the Right Honourable Hardinge Earl of Halsbury Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain being in right of the Crown the patron or person entitled to present to the benefice (being a rectory) of Oving and the Reverend Charles Litchfield Banister, being the patron or person entitled to present to the