

visions, as are from time to time directed by Order in Council:

"And whereas it is provided in Article 1454 of the Regulations for the Government of Your Majesty's Navy that an allowance of 2s. a week is to be paid, in all Ships in which a Chaplain is allowed in the complement, to any properly qualified person of the Ship's Company selected by the Commanding Officer, who plays the harmonium or other suitable instrument and conducts the choir during Divine Service; and in other Ships, with the prior approval of the Admiralty, provided that a harmonium is in use:

"And whereas we are of opinion that it is desirable so to extend the scope of the allowance as to permit of the payment in any one Ship of an allowance in respect of the Divine Services of one or more religious denominations, in addition to the allowance paid in respect of the Divine Services of the Church of England:

"We beg leave humbly to recommend that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased, by Your Order in Council, to sanction the payment of this allowance:—

(1) In respect of any Divine Service at which a Chaplain officiates,

(2) At the discretion of the Admiralty, in respect of any Divine Service at which a Chaplain does not officiate, provided that a harmonium is in use.

"The Lords Commissioners of Your Majesty's Treasury have signified their concurrence in this proposal."

His Majesty, having taken the said Memorial into consideration, was pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to approve of what is therein proposed.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

*Almeric FitzRoy.*

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 21st day of December, 1917.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

**W**HEREAS by Section 16 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 1,500 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, 6 weeks before certifying such Inquiry and Consent to His 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 6 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 His Majesty in Council, and thereupon it shall be lawful for His 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 His 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 Right Honourable and Most Reverend Randall Thomas, Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, hath, pursuant to the provisions of the said Acts, duly prepared, and laid before His Majesty in Council, a Certificate in writing, bearing date the 20th day of July, 1917, in the words following:—

"We, Randall Thomas, Archbishop of the Province of Canterbury, Primate of All England and Metropolitan, do hereby certify to Your Majesty in Council:—

"That the Right Reverend Bertram, Lord Bishop of Norwich, as Bishop of the Diocese within which are situate the Rectory of Bradfield, and the Rectory of Swafeld, both in the County of Norfolk, having represented unto us that the said Benefices, being contiguous to each other, and of which the aggregate population does not exceed 1,500 persons, might, with advantage to the interests of religion, be united into one Benefice, we inquired into the circumstances of the case:

"That on such Inquiry it appeared to us that such Union might be usefully made, and would not be of inconvenient extent, and that the Right Honourable Charles, Lord Suffield, being the Patron or person entitled to present to the Rectory of Bradfield, and the Right Honourable The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, on behalf of Your Majesty, being the Patron or person entitled to present to the Rectory of Swafeld, have consented to the proposed Union:

"That 6 weeks and upwards before certifying such Inquiry 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 to 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 6 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 Norwich, our Inquiry into the circumstances of the case, the Statement of Cir-