

Hartwell duly made their Report to the said Bishop of Peterborough and therein recommended the union of the said two Benefices and the terms for effecting the union, and the said Bishop of Peterborough signified in writing his approval of the said Report:

"And whereas we, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, have prepared this Scheme for the union of the said two Benefices based upon the terms recommended in the said Report:

"And whereas both of the said Benefices of Ashton and Hartwell are now full, the Reverend Henry Herbert Hurst being the present Incumbent of the said Benefice of Ashton and the Reverend Charles Ryder Macnally being the present Incumbent of the said Benefice of Hartwell:

"And whereas the Advowson or perpetual right of Patronage of and presentation to the said Benefice of Ashton is vested in Your Majesty, Your Heirs and Successors and is exercisable on behalf of Your Majesty by the Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain for the time being:

"And whereas the Advowson or perpetual right of Patronage of and of presentation to the said Benefice of Hartwell is vested in the Bishop of Peterborough for the time being:

"Now, therefore, we, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, with the consent of the said Frank Theodore, Bishop of Peterborough, as such Bishop and also as the Patron of the said Benefice of Hartwell and with the consent of the Right Honourable Sir George, Viscount Cave, now Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain (in testimony whereof they have hereunto set their respective hands), do humbly recommend and propose to Your Majesty as follows, that is to say:—

"1. That the said Benefice of Ashton and the said Benefice of Hartwell shall be permanently united together and form one Benefice with cure of souls under the style of 'The United Benefice of Ashton with Hartwell' but the Parishes of the said Benefices shall continue distinct in all respects.

"2. That if upon the day when any Order of Your Majesty in Council ratifying this Scheme shall be published in the London Gazette both of the said two Benefices shall be vacant, the union of the same two Benefices shall take effect forthwith; and if one only of the said two Benefices shall be then vacant the said union shall also take effect forthwith if the Incumbent of the other of the said two Benefices shall consent to become the first Incumbent of the United Benefice, but, if he shall not so consent, then the said union shall take effect upon the next avoidance of his Benefice and the then Incumbent (if any) of the other of the said two Benefices shall be the first Incumbent of the United Benefice; and if neither of the said two Benefices be then vacant then the said union shall take effect on the next avoidance of either of the said two Benefices if the Incumbent at that time of the other of the said two Benefices shall consent to become the first Incumbent of the United Benefice, but if he shall not so consent then the said union shall take effect immediately upon the next vacancy of his Benefice and the then Incumbent (if any) of the other of the said two Benefices shall become the first Incumbent of the United Benefice.

"3. That upon the said union taking effect the Parsonage House at present belonging to the said Benefice of Hartwell shall become and be the house of residence for the Incumbent of the United Benefice, and so soon as conveniently may be the Parsonage House at present belonging to the said Benefice of Ashton and the site and appurtenances thereof and the grounds heretofore usually occupied and enjoyed therewith shall be sold and disposed of by us the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners at such time or times and in such manner in all respects as to us shall seem expedient and that the net proceeds of such sale shall constitute and form part of the fund created by the 13th Section of the said Union of Benefices Act, 1919.

"4. That upon the said union taking effect a sum of £2,500 Four pounds per centum per annum Funding Stock (1960-1990) being part of a larger sum of such Stock at present held by us the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners in favour of the said Benefice of Ashton shall be excepted out of the union and shall be transferred and annexed as to one moiety thereof, that is to say £1,250 Four pounds per centum per annum Funding Stock (1960-1990) to the Benefice of Grafton Regis with Alderton situate in the said Diocese of Peterborough, and as to the other moiety thereof, that is to say, the remaining £1,250 Four pounds per centum per annum Funding Stock (1960-1990) to the Benefice of Woodford Halse, situate in the said Diocese of Peterborough.

"5. That after the said union has taken effect the course and succession in which the respective Patrons shall present or nominate to the United Benefice from time to time as the same shall become vacant shall be as follows, that is to say, the right of presentation shall be exercised by the Patrons of the said two Benefices alternately and that the first turn of presentation or nomination shall belong to the Patron of that one of the said two Benefices the Incumbent of which does not become the first Incumbent of the United Benefice under any of the provisions of Clause 2 of this Scheme.

"Provided always that nothing herein contained shall prevent us from recommending and proposing any other measures relating to the matters aforesaid, or any of them, in accordance with the provisions of the said Act or of any other Act of Parliament."

And whereas drafts of the said Scheme have been published locally in the manner prescribed in the Statutory Rules made under the said Act and also transmitted in the manner so prescribed to the Patrons affected, together with a notice in each case requiring any objections to such draft Scheme to be stated or transmitted in writing to the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners within the time prescribed in the same Rules:

And whereas certain objections have been so stated or transmitted to the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners within the time prescribed in the same Rules:

And whereas the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners, after giving full consideration to such objections, have deemed right to make no alterations in such draft Scheme:

And whereas public notice of the certification to His Majesty in Council of the said Scheme and the consent thereto in writing of the Bishop of Peterborough has been duly given