

Bishop of Birmingham and therein recommended the union of the said two Benefices and the terms for effecting the union, and the said Bishop of Birmingham 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 Elmdon and Bickenhill are now full, the Reverend Canon Harrison Goodenough Hayter being the present Incumbent of the said Benefice of Elmdon and the Reverend George Hood being the present Incumbent of the said Benefice of Bickenhill:

"Now, therefore, we, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, with the consent of the said Ernest William, Bishop of Birmingham (in testimony whereof he has signed this Scheme), do humbly recommend and propose to Your Majesty as follows, that is to say:—

"1. That the said Benefice of Elmdon and the said Benefice of Bickenhill shall be permanently united together and form one Benefice with cure of souls under the style of 'The United Benefice of Bickenhill with Elmdon' 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 the said Benefice of Elmdon only 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 then next avoidance of the said Benefice of Bickenhill and the then Incumbent of Elmdon shall be the first Incumbent of the United Benefice, and if the said Benefice of Bickenhill only shall be then vacant the said union shall take effect upon the next avoidance of the said Benefice of Elmdon and if neither of the said two Benefices be then vacant, then the said union shall take effect on the next avoidance of the said Benefice of Elmdon if the Incumbent at that time of the said Benefice of Bickenhill shall have been instituted to Bickenhill subsequently to the date of the publication in the London Gazette of any Order of Your Majesty in Council ratifying this Scheme or if instituted before that date shall consent to become the Incumbent of the United Benefice, but if he shall have been instituted to the said Benefice of Bickenhill before that date and shall not so consent, then the said union shall take effect immediately upon the next vacancy of the said Benefice of Bickenhill following such avoidance of the said Benefice of Elmdon and the then Incumbent of the said Benefice of Elmdon 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 Bickenhill 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 Elmdon 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 be held and invested by us the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the benefit of the United Benefice.

"4. 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, that in every series of three successive turns of presentation or nomination to be made to the United Benefice after the union the Patrons of the said Benefice of Elmdon shall have the first turn and the Patrons of the said Benefice of Bickenhill shall have the second and the third turns.

"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 Measure, or of any other Measure of the National Assembly of the Church of England, or of any Act of Parliament."

And whereas drafts of the said Scheme have been duly published in accordance with the provisions of the said Union of Benefices Measure, 1923, and Notices have been transmitted to the persons or bodies entitled under the same Measure to receive Notice 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 Statutory Rules applicable to proceedings under the said Union of Benefices Measure, 1923:

And whereas the prescribed time has elapsed and no such objections have been so stated or transmitted to the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners:

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 Birmingham has been duly given in the manner and within the time prescribed in the Statutory Rules aforesaid:

And whereas the said Scheme has been approved by His Majesty in Council:

Now, therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice of His said Council, is pleased hereby to affirm the said Scheme and to order that the Benefices therein recommended to be united shall be united to the extent and for the purposes recommended in the said Scheme, and further to order and direct that the said Scheme and every part thereof shall be effectual in law immediately from and after the date when this Order shall have been duly published in the London Gazette pursuant to the said Measure.

And His Majesty, by and with the like advice, is pleased hereby to direct that this Order be forthwith registered by the Registrar of the said Diocese of Birmingham.

*M. P. A. Hankey.*