

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 5th day of *March*, 1931.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have, in pursuance of the Union of Benefices Measure, 1923, duly prepared, and laid before His Majesty in Council, a Scheme bearing date the 26th day of February, 1931, in the words and figures following, that is to say:—

"We, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, acting in pursuance of the Union of Benefices Measure, 1923, have prepared, and now humbly lay before Your Majesty in Council, the following Scheme for effecting the union of the Benefice (being a Rectory) of Claughton and the Benefice (being a Vicarage) of Hornby, both of which Benefices are situate in the County of Lancaster and in the Diocese of Blackburn:

"Whereas Commissioners appointed at our request by the Right Reverend Percy, Bishop of Blackburn, pursuant to the provisions of the said Union of Benefices Measure, 1923, to inquire into and report upon the union of the said two Benefices of Claughton and Hornby duly made their Report to the said Bishop of Blackburn and therein recommended the union of the said two Benefices and the terms for effecting the union, and the said Bishop of Blackburn 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 which Scheme is based upon the terms recommended in the said Report but with the assent of the said Bishop of Blackburn embodies certain modifications thereof:

"And whereas the said Benefice of Hornby is now full, the Reverend William Goad Swainson being the present Incumbent thereof and the said Benefice of Claughton is at present vacant:

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

"1. That the said Benefice of Claughton and the said Benefice of Hornby shall be permanently united together and form one Benefice with cure of souls under the style of 'The United Benefice of Hornby with Claughton' and that the Parishes of the said Benefices shall also be united into one Parish for ecclesiastical purposes and for such other purposes as in the said Measure provided.

"2. That the Church of the Parish of Hornby shall be the Parish Church of the United Parish and that the Table of Fees for the said Parish of Hornby shall (until revised or altered by proper authority) be the Table of Fees for the United Parish.

"3. That upon the day when any Order of Your Majesty in Council ratifying this Scheme shall be published in the London Gazette the union shall forthwith take effect and the said

William Goad Swainson if he is then Incumbent of the said Benefice of Hornby shall be the first Incumbent of the United Benefice.

"4. That upon the union taking effect the marriage registers in duplicate current at the Church of Claughton shall be sent by the Incumbent of the United Benefice to the Registrar General to be closed officially.

"5. That upon the said union taking effect the Parsonage House at present belonging to the said Benefice of Hornby 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 Claughton 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 form part of the Expenses Fund established pursuant to the 32nd Section of the said Union of Benefices Measure, 1923, and shall be constituted a Fund for the upkeep of the Church and Churchyard at Claughton.

"6. 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, the Patron of the said Benefice of Claughton having the right upon the first presentation to the United Benefice to be made after the union and every alternate right of presentation and the Patron of the said Benefice of Hornby having the right of presentation upon the second presentation to the United Benefice to be made after the union and every alternate turn thereafter.

"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 Blackburn 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: