

(testified by their respectively signing this Scheme), do humbly recommend and propose to Your Majesty as follows, that is to say:—

" 1. That the said Benefice of Spennymoor, Saint Paul, and a part of the said Benefice of Whitworth, namely, all that part of the last-named Benefice which lies to the north of the Bishop Auckland and Ferryhill Branch Line and of the Toddhill Branch Line of the London and North Eastern Railway shall be permanently united together and form one Benefice with cure of souls under the style of 'The United Benefice of Whitworth with Spennymoor' but that the parishes of the said Benefices shall continue distinct in all respects.

" 2. That the said Benefice of Byers Green and the remaining part of the said Benefice of Whitworth shall be permanently united together and form one Benefice with cure of souls and one parish for ecclesiastical purposes under the style of 'The Benefice of Byers Green' (hereinafter referred to as the United Benefice of Byers Green).

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

" 4. That upon the day when any Order of Your Majesty in Council ratifying this Scheme shall be published in the London Gazette the unions shall forthwith take effect and the said Kenneth Moir Carey if he is then Incumbent of the said Benefice of Spennymoor, Saint Paul, shall be the first Incumbent of the United Benefice of Whitworth with Spennymoor.

" 5. That upon the said unions taking effect the Parsonage House at present belonging to the said Benefice of Spennymoor, Saint Paul, shall become and be the house of residence for the Incumbent of the United Benefice of Whitworth with Spennymoor and so soon as conveniently may be the Parsonage House at present belonging to the said Benefice of Whitworth 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 Expenses Fund established pursuant to the 32nd Section of the Union of Benefices Measure, 1923, to the intent that grants shall thereafter be made out of such Fund of such amounts as shall with the approval of us, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners, be recommended by the Bishop of Durham, towards the cost of (a) providing a Parish Hall for the benefit of the area known as Page Bank in the Parish of Whitworth and (b) repairing the Church of Saint Barnabas, Binchester, in the Parish of the said United Benefice of Byers Green.

" 6. That upon the said unions taking effect the glebe at present belonging to the said Benefice of Whitworth shall be annexed to the said United Benefice of Whitworth with Spennymoor as part of the endowment thereof and all other the secured endowments of the said Benefice of Whitworth now held by us, the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and by Queen Anne's Bounty shall be assigned for

the endowment of two assistant curacies as follows, viz.:—

" (a) a sum of £1,754 9s. 6d. Local Loans £3 per cent. Stock and a sum of £2,710 1s. 10d. £3 per cent. Redemption Stock now held by Queen Anne's Bounty on behalf of the said Benefice of Whitworth shall be annexed to that part of the Benefice of Whitworth united to the Benefice of Byers Green and shall be held by Queen Anne's Bounty for endowment of an assistant curacy in the said United Benefice of Byers Green; and

" (b) all other the secured endowments of Whitworth now held by us the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and by Queen Anne's Bounty, shall be annexed to that part of the Benefice of Whitworth united to the Benefice of Spennymoor, Saint Paul, and shall be held for endowment of an Assistant Curacy in the said United Benefice of Whitworth with Spennymoor;

and the income therefrom shall be paid by us the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners or by Queen Anne's Bounty as the case may be as it accrues due to the Diocesan Board of Finance of the Diocese of Durham upon trust to apply the same as to £133 18s. 8d. per annum in or towards the stipend of an assistant Curate working in the said parish and United Benefice of Byers Green and as to the balance in or towards the stipend of an Assistant Curate working in the said parishes and United Benefice of Whitworth with Spennymoor.

" Provided that as from the same date the annual sum of £120 at present payable by us towards the stipend of an Assistant Curate working in the said parish and Benefice of Byers Green shall also be paid by us the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners to the said Diocesan Board of Finance upon trust to apply the said sum in or towards the stipend of the Assistant Curate in Byers Green hereinbefore referred to.

" Provided further that as from the same date the annual sum of £120 at present payable by us the said Ecclesiastical Commissioners for an Assistant Curate in the parish of Spennymoor shall be payable by us only if two curates are employed in the United Benefice of Spennymoor with Whitworth.

" 7. That with the consent of the Dean and Chapter of Durham as the Patrons of the Benefice of Merrington in the said County and Diocese and also as the Patrons of the said Benefice of Spennymoor, Saint Paul (in testimony whereof they have caused their Common or Capitular Seal to be affixed to this Scheme), and with the consent of the Reverend Matthew Richardson, being the present Incumbent of the said Benefice of Merrington (testified by his signing this Scheme), upon the unions taking effect there shall be transferred for all ecclesiastical purposes to the Parish of Spennymoor, Saint Paul, all that portion of the Parish of Merrington which lies to the north-west of the Binchester Colliery Railway.

" 8. That after the said unions have taken effect (a) the Patronage of the said United Benefice of Whitworth with Spennymoor shall belong wholly to the patrons of the said Benefice of Spennymoor, Saint Paul, and (b) the patronage of the said United Benefice of Byers