

12
THIRD EDITION.

CHURCH, OF IRELAND.

STATUTES

PASSED AT THE

First Session

THE GENERAL CONVENTION,
1870;

WITH

STANDING ORDERS, THE DRAFT OF THE CHARTER AS
APPROVED BY THE GENERAL CONVENTION, AND
RESOLUTIONS WITH REFERENCE TO FINANCE.

DUBLIN:

HODGES, FOSTER & CO., GRAFTON STREET,
PUBLISHERS TO THE UNIVERSITY.

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Price One Shilling.

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CHURCH OF IRELAND.

GENERAL CONVENTION, 1870.

STANDING ORDERS.

1. The Bishops and the Clerical and Lay Representatives shall meet in the same chamber for the discussion and transaction of business.

2. The Convention shall meet during its session on Mondays at 1 o'clock p.m. and sit till 6 o'clock p.m.; on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, at 11 o'clock a.m., and sit till 5 o'clock p.m.; on Saturdays at 10 o'clock a.m. and sit till 3 o'clock p.m.

3. Speeches, with the exception of opening statements, shall be limited to ten minutes.

4. The votes of the Clerical and Lay Representatives shall be taken conjointly, except when separate votes shall be demanded by any ten Members of either Order, who shall send to the President a requisition in writing; and the Bishops, if they desire to vote, shall vote after the declaration of the votes of the Representatives, and may, if they desire it, reserve the declaration of their vote until the next day of meeting.

5. The demand for the vote by Orders can only be made when a division is called.

6. No persons not members of the Convention shall be admitted to its meetings, except its officers and reporters when permitted, and such persons as may be expressly invited to attend as advisers or assessors.

7. The Primate, or in his absence the Prelate next in order of precedence present, shall *ex officio* preside at the meetings of the full Convention, and in case none of the Prelates present shall desire to take the Chair on any particular occasion, the presiding Prelate shall request one of the two Vice-Presidents (to be as hereinafter appointed) to preside, who shall preside accordingly.

8. The Holy Bible and the Book of Common Prayer shall lie on the table.

9. The quorum shall consist of 3 Bishops and 50 Clerical and 100 Lay Representatives.

10. Four Honorary Secretaries, two Clerical and two Lay, shall be elected by their respective Orders from among their own members.

11. Two Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the united vote of the Clerical and Lay Representatives.

12. When the President shall have taken the Chair, no member shall continue standing up, except when addressing the Chair.

13. All questions of order shall be decided by the President.

14. When two or more members shall rise simul-

taneously to address the Chair, the President shall decide which of them shall speak.

15. The President shall confine each speaker to the subject-matter of debate ; but it shall not be in order for any member to interrupt the speaker except through the medium of the President.

16. No member shall be allowed to speak more than once on the same question in the same debate, unless in Committee of the whole Convention, except in explanation, or to order ; Provided that the mover of any question (not being an amendment), shall be allowed the liberty of reply, and that the seconder of a motion or an amendment may reserve his speech to any period of the debate.

17. Whenever the President rises during a debate, any member speaking, or offering to speak, shall sit down, so that the President may be heard without interruption.

18. The President shall not take part in the discussions of the Convention without leaving the chair.

19. Notices of motion, signed by the mover, shall be handed in, in writing, to the secretaries one clear day at least before such notices are moved. Each motion to be in triplicate, one copy to be retained by the secretaries, the others to be posted in convenient places in the lobby.

20. No motion or amendment except in Committee on a legislative measure shall be taken into consideration unless it be seconded, but if seconded it shall not be withdrawn without the leave of the Convention.

21. No amendment on an amendment shall be in order, unless when an amendment shall have become a substantive motion.

22. When a motion for a select Committee is carried, the mover thereof shall then move the appointment of the members proposed to serve on the Committee, the mover of the resolution for the Committee to be in all cases a member of it.

23. No select Committee may, without leave of the Convention, consist of more than fifteen members.

24. Every report of a Committee requiring action, shall be accompanied by a Resolution or Resolutions for the consideration of the Convention.

25. No legislative measure shall be submitted to the Convention, except by leave or order of the Convention. But when such leave or order shall have been given the measure proposed shall forthwith be read a first time and ordered to be printed. No debate or discussion shall take place on the first reading. And after the first reading, a motion may be made without notice, that the second reading shall take place on some future day to be named in such motion; and if it pass such second reading, it shall be considered in Committee.

26. No legislative measure shall be passed until it shall have been first, read a first time; secondly, read a second time; thirdly, considered in detail in Committee of the whole Convention; and fourthly, have been adopted and reported to the Convention by such Committee, read a third time and passed. No alter-

ation shall be made in any such measure except in a Committee of the whole Convention : but it may be re-committed for such purpose after it shall have been already reported to the Convention.

27. Any legislative measure or resolution which has been approved of by the Committee of Organization, may be at once brought forward by resolution in the General Convention as a Committee of the full Convention, and may be adopted or altered at its discretion without carrying it through the previous stages.

28. Any proposition to alter any part of the Draft Constitution may be made either by verbal amendment, or by resolution describing the nature and object of the proposed alterations : and a Committee shall be appointed to revise and alter the Draft Constitution in accordance with all such resolutions passed by the Convention : Provided that the Draft, or parts of it, so revised shall be returned to the Convention for approval or further alteration, before it be finally passed.

29. No legislative measure shall be passed until it shall have lain on the table of the House at least one clear day after having been reported by the Committee of the whole Convention.

30. No question shall be decided except by a majority of the Bishops present, if they desire to vote on such question, and a majority of the Clerical and Lay Representatives present, whether voting conjointly or separately provided always that where any

motion has been carried by a majority of each of the two Orders present and voting, it shall pass unless seven at least of the existing Bishops be present and shall concur in a dissentient vote.

ORDER OF EACH DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

1. The President shall take the chair.
2. The meeting shall open with the reading of Holy Scripture and prayer, during which time the the doors shall be closed.
3. The presence of a quorum shall be ascertained by the President or Vice-President presiding.
4. If at the expiration of one hour after the appointed time of meeting, no quorum shall be formed, the President shall adjourn the meeting till the next day of business. And if at any time during the progress of business there shall not be a quorum, the President shall adjourn the meeting, on any member moving that the meeting be counted.
5. The minutes of last day's proceedings shall be read and confirmed.
6. Reports of Committees shall be presented and received.
7. Motions relating to the same matter shall be considered in the order in which they shall have been presented to the Secretaries.
8. Adjourned debates, and other business ordered by the Convention at a previous sitting to be taken

into consideration, shall be proceeded with one hour after the time appointed for the meeting of the Convention, unless all previous business shall have been disposed of sooner.

9. Subject to the above rules, any business not disposed of on the proper day shall have precedence on the next day's sitting, in the order in which it shall have been previously brought forward.

THE CONSTITUTION
OF
THE CHURCH OF IRELAND.

PREAMBLE AND DECLARATION.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen : Whereas it hath been determined by the Legislature that on and after the First day of January, 1871, the Church of Ireland shall cease to be established by law ; and that the Ecclesiastical Law of Ireland shall cease to exist as law save as provided in the 'Irish Church Act, 1869' and it hath thus become necessary that the Church of Ireland should provide for its own regulation:

We, the Archbishops and Bishops of this the Ancient Catholic and Apostolic Church of Ireland, together with the Representatives of the Clergy and Laity of the same, in General Convention assembled in

Dublin in the year of our Lord God one thousand eight hundred and seventy, before entering on this work, do solemnly declare as follows :—

I.

1. The Church of Ireland doth, as heretofore, accept and unfeignedly believe all the Canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, as given by inspiration of God, and containing all things necessary to salvation ; and doth continue to profess the faith of Christ as professed by the Primitive Church.

2. The Church of Ireland will continue to minister the Doctrine, and Sacraments, and the Discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded; and will maintain inviolate the Three Orders of Bishops, Priests or Presbyters, and Deacons in the sacred Ministry.

3. The Church of Ireland, as a Reformed and Protestant Church, doth hereby re-affirm its constant witness against all those innovations in doctrine and worship, whereby the Primitive Faith hath been from time to time defaced or overlaid, and which at the Reformation this Church did disown and reject.

II.

The Church of Ireland doth receive and approve *The Book of the Articles of Religion*, commonly called the Thirty-nine Articles, received and approved by the Archbishops and Bishops and the rest of the Clergy of Ireland in the Synod holden in Dublin, A. D. 1634 ; also, *The Book of Common Prayer and*

Administration of the Sacraments, and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, according to the use of the Church of Ireland; and the Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, as approved and adopted by the Synod holden in Dublin, A. D. 1662, and hitherto in use in this Church. And this Church will continue to use the same, subject to such alterations only as may be made therein from time to time by the lawful authority of the Church.

III.

The Church of Ireland will maintain communion with the sister Church of England, and with all other Christian Churches agreeing in the principles of this Declaration ; and will set forward, so far as in it lieth, quietness, peace, and love, among all Christian people.

IV.

The Church of Ireland, deriving its authority from Christ, Who is the Head over all things to the Church, doth declare that a General Synod of the Church of Ireland, consisting of the Archbishops and Bishops, and of Representatives of the Clergy and Laity, shall have chief legislative power therein, and such administrative power as may be necessary for the Church, and consistent with its Episcopal Constitution.

CHAPTER I.

STATUTE CONCERNING THE GENERAL SYNOD, DIOCESAN SYNODS, PARISHES, AND PARO- CHIAL ORGANIZATION.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make provision for a General Synod of the Church of Ireland, and also for the regulation of Diocesan Synods, Parishes, and Parochial Organization in the said Church :

Be it therefore enacted by the Archbishops, and Bishops, and Representatives of the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland, assembled in Dublin in General Convention, as follows :—

GENERAL SYNOD.

1. The General Synod of the Church of Ireland shall consist of three distinct Orders, viz., the Bishops, the Clergy, and the Laity.

2. The General Synod shall consist of two Houses, namely, the House of Bishops, and the House of Representatives ; but both Houses shall sit together in full Synod for deliberation and transaction of business, except in such cases as shall be hereinafter provided.

3. The House of Bishops shall consist of all the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland for the time being.

4. The House of Representatives shall consist of 208 Representatives of the Clergy, and 416 Representatives of the Laity, to be elected as hereinafter provided.

5. The number of Representatives, Clerical and Lay, specified in the following table, shall be the number returned to represent in the General Synod the Diocese of Meath, and the several united Dioceses named in said Table, and at the election of such Representatives the Clergy shall vote for Clerical Representatives only, and the Synodsmen for Lay Representatives only.

| | Clerical Representatives. | | Lay Representatives. | |
|----------|---------------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| Armagh | ... | 24 | ... | 60 |
| Down | ... | 21 | .. | 59 |
| Dublin | ... | 29 | ... | 50 |
| Derry | ... | 16 | ... | 34 |
| Kilmore | ... | 17 | ... | 33 |
| Cork | ... | 22 | ... | 39 |
| Ossory | ... | 21 | ... | 37 |
| Tuam | ... | 10 | ... | 20 |
| Meath | ... | 12 | ... | 22 |
| Killaloe | ... | 10 | ... | 20 |
| Limerick | ... | 13 | ... | 21 |
| Cashel | ... | 13 | ... | 21 |
| | | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| | | 208 | | 416 |

6. The Synods of the several Dioceses composing each united Diocese may make such mutual arrange-

ments as to them shall seem fit for apportioning amongst such Dioceses respectively the number of Representatives allotted in the foregoing table to the several united Dioceses therein named; and each Diocese may make such arrangements as to it shall seem fit for dividing itself into districts for the purposes of the election of Representatives, and for apportioning the number of its Representatives amongst such districts. The number of Representatives which shall be so apportioned to each several Diocese or District shall be elected by the Clergy and Synodsmen of that Diocese or District, the Clergy voting for Clerical Representatives only, and the Synodsmen for Lay Representatives only. It shall be lawful for each Diocesan Synod to repeal or vary any such enactment from time to time.

7. Every Clergyman of the Church of Ireland, who is in Priest's orders, shall be qualified to be elected as a Clerical Representative, whether he reside in the Diocese for which he may be elected or not.

8. Every Layman of the age of twenty one years, being a member of the Church of Ireland and a communicant of the said Church, shall be qualified to be elected as a Lay Representative for any Diocese. Every person so elected, shall, before taking his seat, sign a declaration in the following form in a book to be kept for that purpose by the proper officer of the General Synod :

I, A. B., of do hereby solemnly declare
that I am a member of the Church of Ireland,
and a communicant of the said Church ;

And such declaration shall be sufficient evidence of such qualification : Provided that a Clergyman not having any cure of souls but being an owner of property within the Diocese shall be considered as a Layman within the meaning of this section.

9. The Clerical and Lay Representatives shall be elected for a period of three years, at a General Election to be held once in every three years for that purpose : Provided, that in case the seat of any Member shall become vacant before the expiration of the period for which he shall have been elected, the person who shall be elected to fill such vacancy shall hold his seat only so long as the member in whose room he shall have been elected would have held it.

10. There shall be an Ordinary meeting of the General Synod in Dublin in the year of our Lord 1871, and in every subsequent year, at such time and place as shall from time to time be prescribed in that behalf by the General Synod, and the time for holding the triennial election of Representatives shall be determined by the same authority.

11. The Archbishop of each Province shall, at least two months before the time appointed for the election of Representatives to serve in the General Synod, issue his Mandate to his Suffragan Bishops

for the election of Clerical and Lay Representatives of each Diocese, returnable on a day therein to be named; and thereupon every Bishop shall convene the Synod of his Diocese and proceed to hold such election. The Archbishops shall also convene the Synods of their respective Dioceses for the same purpose, and proceed to hold such elections therein. On the day appointed for the return of the said Mandates, the period for which the previously existing members of the General Synod were elected shall be deemed to have expired.

12. If any person be elected a Representative for two or more Dioceses or Districts, he shall choose for which Diocese or District he will serve, and signify his choice in writing to the Bishop of every Diocese for which he may have been elected, within one week after he shall have received notice of his having been so elected; and in case he shall omit so to do, the said Bishops or Bishop, as the case may be, shall decide for which Diocese or District he shall serve, and make known such decision to him; and thereupon the seat of such Representative, for any other Diocese or District for which he shall have been elected, shall be filled up from the supplemental list.

13. Any Clerical or Lay Representative may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Bishop of the Diocese for which he may have been elected, resign his seat in the General Synod; and, on the

receipt by the Bishop of such resignation, the seat of such Representative shall become vacant.

14. When the seat of any Representative shall become vacant from any cause, and the Diocesan Synod shall not have provided, by a supplemental list or otherwise, for the filling of such vacancy, the Bishop of the Diocese shall issue his Precept for the election of a Representative to fill the vacant seat.

15. In the event of any change taking place in the representation of a Diocese, the Bishop shall forthwith notify the same to the Primate or other person for the time being authorized to convene the General Synod.

16. The Primate, or, in case of his death, absence, or incapacity, the Archbishop of Dublin, may, at his own discretion, and shall, on the application in writing of not less than one-third of the members of any one Order of the General Synod, convene a Special Meeting of the General Synod. The business to be transacted shall be specified in the Mandate convening the Synod, and no other business shall be transacted at such Special Meeting. In case both Archbishops shall be absent or incapacitated, then the Bishop next in order of precedence shall, on such Requisition, convene such Special Meeting.

17. The presence of at least three Bishops, forty Clerical, and eighty Lay Representatives, shall be

necessary to constitute a Meeting in full Synod. The presence of at least five Bishops shall be necessary to constitute a House of Bishops; and the presence of at least forty Clerical, and eighty Lay Representatives, shall be necessary to constitute a House of Representatives.

18. The failure of any Diocese to return Representatives, Clerical or Lay, shall not prevent the General Synod from proceeding to the despatch of business.

19. When both Houses meet in full Synod, the Meeting shall be presided over by the Primate, or, in his absence, by the Archbishop of Dublin, or, in his absence, by the Bishop next in order of precedence.

20. Every proposed Statute or Canon shall be introduced as a Bill; and the course of procedure shall be as follows:—No Bill shall be introduced except on leave given by a resolution passed in full Synod. The Bill shall then be read the first time without debate, and printed. It shall then be set down for debate upon its principles, and a vote shall be taken upon the question whether it shall be read a second time. If the Bill be read a second time, a day shall be fixed for consideration thereof in Committee of the full Synod. The Bill being reported, a day shall be fixed for the third reading one clear day at the least being interposed. When the Bill shall have been read a third time and passed, it shall become a Statute or Canon of the General Synod, and shall thenceforth be a law of

the Church of Ireland, and binding on all the members thereof.

21. If at any time the Bishops express their wish to consider separately any matter in debate, the further discussion of that matter shall be postponed until the Bishops shall have had the opportunity of so doing.


22. The Bishops shall vote separately from the Representatives, and no question shall be deemed to have been carried unless there be in its favour a majority of the Bishops present, if they desire to vote, and a majority of the Clerical and Lay Representatives present voting conjointly or by Orders; provided always, that if a question affirmed by a majority of the Clerical and Lay Representatives, voting conjointly or by orders, but rejected by a majority of the Bishops, shall be re-affirmed at the next ordinary Session of the General Synod, by not less than two-thirds of the Clerical and Lay Representatives, voting conjointly or by orders, it shall be deemed to be carried, unless it be negatived by not less than two-thirds of the then entire existing order of Bishops, the said two-thirds being present and voting, and giving their reasons in writing.

23. The Bishops shall ~~not~~ vote until after the declaration of the votes of the Clerical and Lay Representatives. If they desire to vote, the Bishops may withdraw from the General Synod for that purpose, and may reserve the declaration of their vote until the next day of meeting.

24. The Members of the House of Representatives shall all vote together, unless, upon a Division being called, ten Members then present of either Order shall require by a requisition in writing the votes to be taken by Orders; whereupon the votes shall be taken accordingly. No question shall be deemed to be carried in the House of Representatives, unless, in case of both Orders voting together, there be a majority in favour of the same of the Representatives voting thereon, or in case of the votes being taken by Orders, there be a majority in favour of the same of the Representatives of each Order voting thereon.

25. Each House may make such Standing Orders for the regulation of its procedure as it shall think fit, provided that the same be not inconsistent with any thing herein enacted, and may from time to time rescind and vary the same.

FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL SYNOD.

26. The General Synod shall have power to alter, amend, or abrogate any of the enactments herein contained, and any of the Canons which now are, or at any time shall be, in force in the Church, and to enact new Canons. 

27. No modification or alteration shall at any time hereafter be made in the articles, doctrines, rites, rubrics, or, save in so far as may have been rendered necessary by the passing of the 'Irish Church Act, 1869,' in the formularies of the Church, unless by a

Bill duly passed, as hereinbefore provided. No Bill for such purpose shall be introduced except on a Resolution passed in full Synod stating the nature of the proposed modification or alteration; and no such Bill or Resolution shall be deemed to have passed the House of Representatives except by majorities of not less than two-thirds of each Order of the said House present and voting on such Bill or Resolution; Provided that any such Resolution shall be communicated to every Diocesan Synod at its meeting next after the Session of the General Synod at which such Resolution shall have passed; and no Bill for such purpose as aforesaid shall be introduced until one year shall have elapsed after such resolution shall have been communicated to the Diocesan Synods.

28. Provided that the General Synod may, if it shall think fit, by Resolution and Bill adopt any recommendation that shall have been unanimously made by the Royal Commission on the Rubrics, commonly called the Ritual Commission, and for this purpose it shall not be necessary to proceed by Resolution or Bill at a previous Session; provided always, that the adoption of any such recommendation shall be carried by a majority of two-thirds of each Order present and voting.

29. The General Synod shall have power to make general regulations as to how and by whom all patronage shall be exercised; and generally to make all such regulations as shall be necessary for the

order, good government, and efficiency of the said Church of Ireland.

30. The General Synod shall have power to control, alter, repeal, or supersede any Regulation made by a Diocesan Synod, so far as may be necessary to provide against the admission of any principle inexpedient for the common interest of the Church.

31. The existing territorial arrangements of the two Provinces under the government of their respective Archbishops, of the several Dioceses under the government of their respective Bishops, and of the several Parishes and Districts under the spiritual care of their respective Incumbents, shall continue as at present, unless and until the same respectively be altered by the lawful authority of the Church.

32. The General Synod shall have the power of separating Provinces or Dioceses which are now united, of subdividing existing Dioceses, of uniting two or more Dioceses under one Bishop, and of transferring any District from one Diocese to another Diocese, to which such District is contiguous: Provided, that no such alteration shall be made without the consent of the Diocesan Synod of each Diocese affected thereby: Provided also, that no such alteration shall be made in any Province or Diocese during the incumbency of its Archbishop or Bishop without his consent.

33. At the conclusion of the business of the General Synod, the proceedings shall be authenticated by

the signature, of the Primate, or other President. A Committee shall be appointed by the General Synod to cause the enactments of the Synod to be duly recorded, and to cause the same, together with such parts of the proceedings as shall be ordered to be published, to be printed for the general use of the Church.

DIOCESAN SYNODS.

34. In each Diocese there shall be a Diocesan Synod: Provided that each Diocese shall have the right of uniting in Synod with any other Diocese or Dioceses under the same Bishop, if the union shall seem to the Dioceses desirable: Provided also that the Bishop of each United Diocese shall have the power of summoning the several Synods to meet in the first instance in the same place. The Diocese of Meath or any other Diocese now or hereafter constituted may, if it so think fit, divide itself into two districts for the purpose of holding the Diocesan Synod in two parts.

35. The Synod shall consist of the Bishop, of the beneficed and the licensed Clergymen of the Diocese, and of at least one Synodsman for each Parish and District Parochial Church in the Diocese. Every Church or Chapel, other than a District Parochial Church, which is under the charge of a Clergyman specially licensed therefor, shall also be entitled to return at least one Synodsman. Every such Parochial District, and every such Church and Chapel, shall

hereinafter be taken to be included in the word Parish, except where the context is inconsistent with such meaning, or where otherwise expressly provided. Where two or more Parishes are united under one Incumbent, or where the Bishop has made an order under a statute passed in the fourth year of George the Fourth, chapter 86, for the Parishioners of any Parish to use and resort to the Church of any adjoining Parish, the said Parishes shall for this purpose be deemed to be one Parish. The Provost and Fellows of Trinity College, and the Professors in the University of Dublin, being in Priest's Orders and in communion with the Church of Ireland, shall, for the purposes of this Statute, be regarded as licensed Clergymen of the Diocese of Dublin.

36. The failure of one or more Parishes to return Synodsmen shall not prevent any Diocesan Synod from proceeding to the despatch of business.

37. The number of Synodsmen which each Parish shall be entitled to return to the Diocesan Synod shall be two for each of its officiating Clergymen : Provided that it shall be lawful for any Diocesan Synod constituted under this statute, to alter such proportion, and to enact that in future Synods there shall be such number of Synodsmen as it shall determine, not exceeding two for each Clergyman.

38. Every Layman of the age of twenty one years, being a Member of the Church of Ireland, and a Communicant of the said Church, shall be qualified to be elected as a Synodsmen. Every person so

elected shall before doing any act in the Diocesan Synod, sign a declaration in the following form in a book to be kept for that purpose by the proper officer of the Diocesan Synod.

I, A. B. of do hereby solemnly
declare that I am a member of the Church of
Ireland, and a Communicant of the said
Church.

39. The Synodsmen for the first Diocesan Synod in each Diocese shall be elected at the Easter Vestries of 1870, or as soon after as the Bishop may appoint ; and for subsequent Synods at least every third year at such times as the Diocesan Synod may fix, and such notice of holding each Election shall be given as the Diocesan Synod shall prescribe. Synodsmen shall remain in office until the next General Diocesan Election.

40. The Diocesan Synod shall have power to provide that if a Parish fail to fulfil any engagement into which it has entered with the Diocesan Synod, the Synodsmen for that Parish shall not be admitted to the Synod during such default.

41. The Diocesan Synod shall make regulations for the registration and revision of lists of persons entitled to vote at the election of Synodsmen ; for the mode of voting at such elections ; for determining the validity of disputed returns ; and, generally, for ensuring the proper conduct of such elections : Provided that, until such regulations shall have been made by the

Diocesan Synod, the above-mentioned powers shall be exercised by the Bishop.

42. If any person be elected a Synodsmen for two or more Parishes in the same Diocese, he shall choose for which Parish he will serve ; and shall, within one fortnight after he shall have had notice of his being so elected, signify his choice in writing to the Bishop, and thereupon his seat for any other Parish for which he shall have been elected shall become vacant. If any such Synodsmen shall fail to signify his choice as aforesaid, the Bishop shall decide for which Parish he shall serve, and shall notify the same to him, and thereupon his seat for any other Parish shall become vacant.

43. Any Synodsmen may, by writing under his hand, addressed to the Bishop, resign his seat in the Diocesan Synod ; and, upon the receipt of such resignation by the Bishop, the seat of such Synodsmen shall become vacant.

44. When the seat of a Synodsmen shall become vacant from any cause, the Bishop shall give notice to the Parish for the election of a new Synodsmen in his place.

54. The persons entitled to vote at the election of Synodsmen shall be the Vestrymen of the Parish, qualified and registered as hereinafter provided.

46. The Diocesan Synod shall meet at such time and place as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Bishop : Provided that there shall be a Meeting at least once in every year.

47. Notice of all Meetings of the Diocesan Synod shall be given to every member thereof, at such time and in such manner as the Diocesan Synod shall determine.

48. The presence of the Bishop of the Diocese, or of his Commissary specially authorized, or of the Archbishop or Bishop or Commissary as provided in the next section, of one-fourth of the Clergy qualified to be members of the Synod, and of one-fourth of the Synodsmen, shall be necessary to constitute a Meeting of the Synod.

49. The Bishop, or in his absence his Commissary specially authorized, shall preside at all meetings of the Synod; and in case of the death, resignation, or incapacity of the Bishop, or of his absence without having appointed a Commissary for the purpose, then the Archbishop, or, in the event of his absence or incapacity, the Bishop of the Province next in order of precedence, shall preside, or shall appoint a Commissary, who shall preside accordingly; and every such presiding Archbishop, Bishop, or Commissary, shall exercise all the powers ordinarily exercised by the Bishop of the Diocese in the Diocesan Synod.

50. A Special Meeting of the Diocesan Synod may be convened at any time or place by the Bishop, or his Commissary thereto specially authorized, or, in case of the Bishop's incapacity, death, or resignation, by the Archbishop, or Bishop of the Province next in order of precedence, or his Commissary thereto specially authorized; and a Special Meeting thereof

shall be convened at any time by the like authority, upon the written requisition of not less than half the members of the Diocesan Council, or one-third of the members of either Order of the Diocesan Synod. No business shall be transacted at any Special Meeting, save such as shall be expressed in the summons convening the same.

51. The Bishop, Clergy, and Laity, shall sit together in the Diocesan Synod for the transaction of all business, and shall debate all questions together.

52. If a division be called for upon any question, all the Members, except the Bishop or other President, shall vote together, unless upon the division being called, six members at least of either Order present shall require the votes to be taken by Orders; in which case they shall be so taken.

53. Every act of the Diocesan Synod assented to by the presiding Bishop or Commissary, and by a majority of the Clergy and Synodsmen present and voting conjointly, or by a majority of the members of each Order present and voting by Orders, shall bind the Synod, and all other members of the Church in the Diocese.

54. If any act of the Diocesan Synod be varied repealed, or superseded by the General Synod, and shall be re-enacted by the Diocesan Synod wholly or in part, such act shall not come into operation until it shall have received the assent of the General Synod.

55. If a majority of the Clergy and of the Synods-

men present shall be in favour of any Resolution or Motion, the Bishop or other President may take reasonable time, not exceeding one month, to consider whether he will assent to or dissent from the same.

56. In case the Bishop dissent from the other two Orders, with respect to any proposed act of the Synod, all action thereupon shall be suspended until the next annual meeting of the Synod ; and should such act be then re-affirmed by two-thirds of each of the other Orders, present and voting, and the Bishop still dissent, it shall be submitted to the General Synod, whose decision shall be final : Provided always, that where any act has been affirmed by a majority of each Order, it shall be competent for the Bishop to refer the question to the next General Synod for decision.

57. Every Diocesan Synod may exercise all such powers, and make all such regulations as to the temporalities of the Church appertaining to the Diocese (not being repugnant to any law of the Church or to any regulation of the General Synod, or to any special trusts on which such temporalities may be held), as the Synod may deem necessary for the welfare of the Church in such Diocese. Any person who may consider himself aggrieved by an act of the Diocesan Synod, may in the case of property held under or administered by the Diocesan Synod, appeal to the Court of the General Synod, and in other cases to the General Synod, and the decision of such Court or of the General Synod, as the case may be, shall be final.

58. The Diocesan Synod may make Standing Orders for the regulation of its procedure not inconsistent with anything herein enacted, and may from time to time rescind or vary the same.

59. The Diocesan Synod, with the consent of the Representative Body may group any number of Benefices together under one Incumbent ; may unite two or more Benefices permanently or temporarily ; may alter the boundaries of existing Benefices ; may divide any Benefices now united ; may form any portion of a Benefice into a separate Benefice, or unite the same to any other Benefice or portion of a Benefice, or, with the consent of the minister thereof, to any Church at present without a district, and whose clergyman shall desire it ; such union or division to take effect either immediately or prospectively : Provided that in case any Benefice affected by such arrangements be not vacant, the consent of its Incumbent, if inducted prior to 1st January, 1871, shall have been previously obtained.

60. The Diocesan Synod shall appoint a Diocesan Council yearly from among its members, which shall consist of the Bishop, and such number of Clergy and Synodsmen, and chosen in such manner, as the Synod shall determine.

61. The Diocesan Council shall exercise such of the powers of the Diocesan Synod as the Synod shall assign to it, and shall be subject to such rules as the Synod shall prescribe.

62. The Bishop, or in his absence, his Commissary

specially authorized thereto, shall, *ex officio*, be President of the Diocesan Council, and may convene Special Meetings of the same.

PARISHES AND PAROCHIAL ORGANIZATION.

63. In every Parish, as hereinbefore defined, there shall be two Churchwardens taken yearly from the registered Vestrymen thereof, one of whom shall be appointed by the Incumbent, or in his absence by the Curate or other officiating Clergyman, and the other shall be elected by the registered Vestrymen, at the Easter Vestry. In case the Incumbent, or in his absence the Curate or other officiating Clergyman shall not at the Easter Vestry appoint his Churchwarden, the Vestrymen, at such Vestry or at some adjournment thereof, shall elect a second Churchwarden. The word Churchwarden shall be deemed to include Chapelwarden.

64. Every male of the age of 21 years, being a resident or owner of property in any Parish or Parochial District, or who has for at least six months next preceding the time of Registration, been an accustomed member of the congregation attending the Church of such Parish or Parochial District for Divine worship, who shall sign the following declaration:—

I, A. B., of _____ do hereby solemnly
declare that I am a Member of the Church of
Ireland, and am an owner of property in the
Parish of _____
or, [am a resident in the Parish of _____]

and am not registered in another Church of the same Parish as an accustomed member of a congregation], *as the case may be.*

or, [am an accustomed member of the congregation of _____, and am not registered as an accustomed member of any other congregation], *as the case may be.*

A. B. of

shall, subject as hereinafter provided, be entitled to be registered as a Vestryman of such Parish or Parochial District: Provided always that no one shall be entitled to vote in any Parish or Parochial District in which he resides, if he be registered in another Church of the same Parish or district in which he has no property, and in which he is registered only as a member of the congregation. Any owner of property in a Parish in which he is not resident may, by voting papers, vote for Synodsmen and Vestrymen, provided he is a contributor to the Church Fund in said Parish.

65. In every Church or Chapel, not being a Parish Church, or a District Parochial Church, every Layman of the age of twenty-one years, who has for at least six months next preceding the time of registration been an accustomed member of the congregation, and who shall sign the following declaration :—

“ I, A. B., of _____ do hereby solemnly declare that I am a member of the Church of Ireland, and that I am not registered as a

Vestryman in any other church or chapel as an accustomed member of the congregation attending the same.

shall, subject as hereinafter provided, be entitled to be registered as a Vestryman of such Church or Chapel.

66. Any Diocesan Synod may require, as a further qualification for a Vestryman, that he shall be a subscriber to the Church Funds, and may make regulations accordingly.

67. Immediately after the passing of this Statute, the Incumbent, or in his absence, the Curate or other officiating Clergyman, with the Churchwardens of the Parish, shall prepare a list of the persons qualified to be Vestrymen, which shall be settled at a meeting of all persons claiming to be so qualified, convened, pursuant to notice posted on the Church door previous to Divine Service, on the two Sundays next preceding the day appointed for such meeting. Such meeting may be adjourned from time to time within a reasonable period, and when the list shall have been settled, it shall be recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose by the Incumbent and Churchwardens, and shall thereupon be the Register of Vestrymen of the Parish.

68. The Register of Vestrymen shall be revised once in each year, at such time and in such manner as the Diocesan Synod shall appoint.

69. An appeal shall lie to the Diocesan Council in

such manner as the Synod shall provide, against the admission or rejection of any person in such registration or revision, and the decision of the Diocesan Council shall be final.

70. The original Register until the first revision, and thenceforth the last revised Register shall, subject to appeal as aforesaid, be deemed conclusive evidence that the persons registered therein, and none others, are Vestrymen of such Parish, and entitled to vote.

71. In every Parish there shall be a Select Vestry, which shall consist of the Incumbent and his Curates, if any, the Churchwardens, and not more than twelve other persons, to be elected by the members of the Vestry out of their own number annually at the Easter Vestry, or at such other time as shall be appointed by the Diocesan Synod, and such elected members shall hold office until the next election.

72. A vacancy in the office of Minister's Churchwarden shall be filled by the Incumbent; or, in case of default by him for the space of one month after he shall have been required by the Select Vestry to fill the same, then by the Select Vestry.

73. Vacancies in the places of elected Churchwardens, Select Vestrymen, or other Parochial Officers, by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by the Select Vestry; and any persons chosen to fill such vacancies shall continue in office till the next ordinary election.

74. The Select Vestry shall meet at such times as shall be fixed by itself, or by the Diocesan Synod;

and Special Meetings may be convened at any time by the Incumbent, or in his absence, by the Curate, or by the Churchwardens or either of them.

75. The Incumbent shall be *ex officio* Chairman of all Vestries, whether general or select, and shall have an ordinary as well as a casting vote. In the absence of the Incumbent, the Curate or in his absence one of the Churchwardens, shall preside with like right of voting.

76. Subject to any regulation of the Diocesan Synod, the Select Vestry shall have the control and charge of all Parochial Charity and Church Funds not excluded from the operation of this clause by the trusts on which the same are held. The Select Vestry shall provide from the funds at its disposal all the requisites for Divine Service, and shall keep the Church and other Parish buildings in repair. It shall have the appointment and control, save as otherwise prescribed herein or by the Diocesan Synod, of all Church and Parish Officers and Servants, and shall provide for their payment from the funds at its disposal.

77. The Diocesan Synod shall define the powers and duties of the Vestry, the Select Vestry, and the Churchwardens in all matters not herein prescribed.

78. The General Vestry shall elect the Synodsmen or Synodsmen of the Parish at the Easter Vestry, or at such other time as the Diocesan Synod shall fix, and shall elect persons to fill vacancies among the Synodsmen, when duly required so to do.

79. The return of the election of Synodsmen shall be signed by the Incumbent or other Chairman of the Vestry at which the election took place, and shall be made to the Bishop of the Diocese, and shall shew on the face of the same that the persons returned have been duly elected.

CHAPTER II.

STATUTE CONCERNING THE REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF THE CHURCH.

WHEREAS in order to meet the requirements of the Irish Church Act, it is expedient to make provision for the appointment of a Body to represent the Church of Ireland, and to hold property for any of the uses or purposes thereof.

Be it therefore enacted by the Archbishops and Bishops, and the Representatives of the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland, assembled in Dublin in General Convention, as follows : —

1. The Body to represent the Church of Ireland, and to hold property for the uses and purposes thereof, called in the Irish Church Act, 1869, the Representative Body of the said Church, and hereinafter called the Representative Body, shall consist of

all the Archbishops and Bishops of the said Church for the time being, and of one Clerical Member and two Lay Members for each Diocese, and of such number of other persons, chosen as hereinafter in that behalf provided, as shall be equal to the number of the said Dioceses for the time being. The word Diocese throughout this Statute shall signify any Diocese, or United Diocese, under the jurisdiction of one Bishop.

2. The Clerical and Lay Members of the said Body for each Diocese shall be elected by the Clerical and Lay Representatives respectively of that Diocese in the General Convention or the General Synod, as the case may be; the Clerical Representatives present voting for the Clerical Member, and the Lay Representatives present voting for the Lay Members only. Such members are hereinafter called the Elected Members.

3. The other persons, who are hereinafter called the Co-opted Members, shall be chosen as follows :—the Archbishops and Bishops and the Elected Members shall choose a number of fit and proper persons equal to the number of Dioceses for the time being, and shall submit the names of the persons so chosen to this General Convention for its approval. The General Convention may, within one week after the said names shall have been so submitted to it, by Resolution, reject any one or more of such persons, and substitute the names of any other in their stead; but in default of such rejection and substi-

tution, or so far as the same shall not extend, the persons whose names shall have been so submitted shall be taken to have been approved, and shall thereupon be members of the said Body.

4. The qualification for Members shall be the same as that for Members of the General Synod.

5. Within one week after the passing of this Statute, the Representatives of each Diocese shall proceed to elect one Clerical Member and two Lay Members in manner hereinbefore provided. The Archbishops and Bishops and the thirty-six Elected Members shall, as soon as conveniently may be after such election, co-opt twelve other fit and proper persons, and submit their names for approval as aforesaid.

6. The Elected Members shall retire from office by rotation; one third, or if at any time hereafter their total number shall not be a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one third, of the Clerical and Lay Members respectively retiring at each ordinary Session of the General Synod. The vacancies so occasioned shall be filled during such Session in the manner hereinbefore provided by the Clerical or Lay Representatives, as the case may be, of the several Dioceses for which such vacancies shall occur.

7. The rotation according to which the Elected Members shall retire shall be one of Dioceses, and shall be so arranged, as that the Clerical and Lay Members for the same Diocese shall not retire together.

The order of such rotation shall be determined by the Representative Body.

8. The Co-opted Members shall also retire from office by rotation, one third, or if at any time hereafter their total number shall not be a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one third, retiring at each ordinary Session of the General Synod. Those to retire at the first and second Session, shall be determined by lot and at each subsequent Session, those longest in office shall retire. In case any question shall arise as to which of the Members, having been the same time in office, shall retire, it shall be decided by lot.

9. All Members of the said Body, whether Elected or Co-opted, who shall so retire, shall be capable of re-election.

10. Any member of the Representative Body may be removed by Resolution of the General Synod for sufficient cause to be expressed in such Resolution.

11. Any Elected or Co-opted Member may, by writing under his hand, addressed to the Primate, resign his office.

12. Any casual vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, occurring among the Elected Members, shall be filled, as soon as conveniently may be, by the Clerical or Lay Representatives, as the case may be, of the Diocese for which such vacancy shall have occurred.

13. Any vacancy occurring among the Co-opted Members shall be filled by the Representative Body:

Provided that the name of any person so co-opted shall be laid before the General Synod at the first opportunity ; and the General Synod may remove any such person and substitute another for him in like manner as hereinbefore provided.

14. Any person elected or co-opted to fill a casual vacancy shall hold office only so long as the person whose place he fills would have held office, if no such vacancy had occurred.

15. The Representative Body shall hold all property which shall become vested in it in trust for such objects and purposes, and in such manner, so far as lawfully may be, as this Convention or the General Synod shall ordain and direct ; and shall be subject to the order and control of this Convention or the General Synod, in all matters not provided for by the laws of this realm.

16. The Representative Body shall possess, and may exercise, such of the powers vested in the General Synod as shall be by the General Synod from time to time committed to it.

17. The Representative Body shall have power to appoint Sub-Committees of its members, to make Bye-laws for the regulation of its procedure, and to appoint and pay such officers and clerks as it shall deem necessary. Any Bye-laws so made shall be laid before the General Synod at its next Ordinary Session, and shall be subject to its approval.

18. The Representative Body shall lay before the General Synod on the first day of each ordinary Ses-

sion a statement of accounts, and a Report of proceedings, commencing from the termination of the last preceding statement and report.

19. A Committee shall be appointed to prepare the Draft of a Charter for the Representative Body and to report to this Convention.

20. The Representative Body shall, as soon as conveniently may be after its appointment, and after the approval of the Draft Charter by this Convention, apply to Her Majesty for a Charter of Incorporation.

21. The Representative Body shall be authorized to accept the Charter of Incorporation if conformable to the provisions of the Draft approved by the Convention; but if there be any substantial departure from these provisions, the Representative Body shall request their Graces the Archbishops to summon a special meeting of this Convention to consider the Charter of Incorporation proposed by Her Majesty's Government for the acceptance of the Church of Ireland.

CHAPTER III.

STATUTE CONCERNING THE ELECTION OF BISHOPS AND APPOINTMENT OF MINISTERS TO CURES.

WHEREAS it is necessary to make provision for the election of Bishops, and the appointment of Ministers to cures from and after the first of January, 1871 :

Be it therefore enacted by the Archbishops and Bishops and Representatives of the Clergy and Laity of the Church of Ireland, assembled in Dublin in General Convention, as follows :—

BENEFICED CLERGYMEN AND CURATES ASSISTANT.

1. There shall be a Committee of Patronage in each Diocese, to be elected as hereinafter provided, for the nomination of Clergymen for Institution to vacant cures.

2. Each Diocesan Synod shall, as soon as conveniently may be after the election thereof, elect by voting papers, or otherwise as the said Synod shall determine, one lay and two clerical members of such Synod to be, together with the Bishop, the Committee of Patronage for the Diocese. They shall also elect in like manner one or more Lay and two or more

Clerical members of such Synod, whose names shall form a supplemental list from which vacancies in the Committee, which may occur by death, resignation, absence or removal from the Diocese, inability to attend, or otherwise, shall be filled up, as the Diocesan Synod may direct : Provided that if in any case two or more Dioceses, under the same Bishop, shall determine to unite in one Diocesan Synod, each several Diocese shall retain the right of electing for itself, in such United Diocesan Synod, a separate Committee of Patronage.

3. The Committee of Patronage shall hold office from the date of the election thereof until the next ensuing election of the Diocesan Synod : Provided that such Committee shall continue to hold office for the purpose of completing any business connected with the filling of a vacant benefice pending before it at the time of the election of the Diocesan Synod, but not further or otherwise.

4. The Registered Vestrymen of each parish, parochial district, or union of parishes under one incumbent, and in the case of Chapels without districts, the Registered Vestrymen of such Chapels, at a Vestry to be held as soon as conveniently may be after the passing of this Statute, and at the Easter Vestry in every third year, commencing with the Easter Vestry in the year 1873, shall elect three persons, whose qualification shall be the same as for the lay members of the Diocesan Synod, to be the Nominators for the said parish : Provided that in no case shall a

Clergyman instituted to the cure of souls, or a Licensed Curate Assistant, be capable of election : Provided also that any person elected as a Diocesan Nominator shall not, so long as he holds that office, be capable of election as a Parochial Nominator in the same Diocese.

5. Upon the occurrence of a vacancy by death or otherwise in the number of the Parochial Nominators during their period of office the parishioners shall at a special Vestry elect a person qualified as above mentioned to fill up such vacancy.

6. In the event of a Vestry failing to elect Nominators, or to supply a vacancy within three months after its occurrence, it shall be competent for the Diocesan Council to appoint Nominators, or to supply such vacancy : Provided that the person or persons so appointed shall hold office only until the next ordinary meeting of the Vestry, when they shall be at liberty to fill the vacancy.

7. The parochial Nominators in office at the time of a cure becoming vacant, or at the time of a Clergyman giving notice of his intention to resign, shall continue in office until the institution of his successor, without prejudice to the election of Nominators at any Easter Vestry which may occur pending the Nomination or Institution of such successor.

8. When a vacancy in a cure of souls shall occur, the Committee of Patronage of the Diocese, with the Parochial Nominators of the cure so vacant, shall form a Board of Nomination, presided over *ex officio* by

the Bishop if present, who shall have an independent vote and also a casting vote. This Board shall nominate one Clergyman in priest's orders, and otherwise fitted and willing to undertake such cure, and shall return his name to the Bishop. The time and manner of the summoning and meeting of such Board and the mode of their procedure, and the number to form a quorum, shall be determined by the Diocesan Synod.

9. If, in the absence of the Bishop, the votes should be equal, the nominators shall have power to report the matter to the Bishop and leave the decision to him.

10. The Bishop shall forthwith institute the Clergyman so nominated, if satisfied of his fitness; or, in case he may decline to do so, he shall give to him, if so required, his reasons in writing for so declining.

11. The Clergyman so rejected, or one half of the Board of Nomination including two of the three Parochial Nominators, with the consent of the Clergyman so rejected, may appeal against such rejection to the competent Tribunal to be constituted by this Convention, or by the General Synod in that behalf. The form of such appeal, and the procedure thereupon, and the time to be limited therefor shall be settled by the said Tribunal, which shall publish the rules and orders regulating the same.

12. When no nomination shall be made to the Bishop within three months after a vacancy in any cure shall have occurred, the appointment shall lapse to the Bishop.

13. It shall be lawful for the Nominators of any cure, upon the occasion of a vacancy, to signify to the Bishop in writing, their desire to leave the nomination of such cure to the Bishop; who thereupon shall institute any duly qualified clergyman whom he may think fit.

14. Nothing hereinbefore contained shall be deemed or taken as affecting the rights of patronage preserved by the 70th section of 'The Irish Church Act, 1869,' or the right of patronage to any proprietary Church which may be built and endowed out of private funds given or bequeathed for the purpose, in accordance with the 14th and 15th Vict. cap. 72, and the 21st and 22nd Vict. cap. 59: but in all cases where such right of patronage is preserved, the Ordinary shall act as he is now legally bound to do.

15. It shall be competent for the Board of Nomination of any cure at a meeting specially convened for that purpose, which meeting the Bishop of the Diocese shall summon, upon the request, in writing, of any benefactor or benefactors contributing or proposing to contribute to the endowment of such cure, to arrange with such benefactor or benefactors, in what manner the right of presentation shall be exercised for the future, and to vest the right of Patronage accordingly, subject to the approval of the Representative Body: Provided always that any such arrangement shall be approved by the Bishop, by the Diocesan Council, by at least four members of the Board, in addition to the Bishop, including not less than two

of the Parochial Nominators, and by the Vestry: Provided also that no one shall be permitted to acquire a right of Patronage while the cure is vacant.

16. Every such right of presentation shall be deemed a discretionary trust reposed in such Patron for the benefit of the Church, and incapable of being assigned or delegated to another: Provided always, that if any Patron, or any Trustees in whom the right of Presentation is vested, shall fail to present a Clergyman, within three months after a vacancy, the right to present for that turn shall lapse to the Board of Nomination, who shall thereupon proceed to fill such vacancy according to the course hereinbefore enacted.

17. A Clergyman resigning shall not withdraw from the duties of his cure until the acceptance by the Bishop of his resignation shall have been registered in the Diocesan registry, and notified by the Bishop to the Churchwardens, except in cases provided for otherwise by the 'Irish Church Act, 1869.'

18. Whenever any Clergyman shall have sent a written notice to the Bishop of his intention to resign his cure, which notice shall fix a definite time at which the resignation is intended to take effect, the Bishop, if he determine to accept such resignation, shall notify at once such intention of resignation to the Parochial Nominators; and such cure shall be vacant at the expiration of the time specified in the notice of resignation.

19. The Churchwardens or Trustees of any Church

shall allow the free use of such Church during a vacancy in the cure to such Clergymen as shall be authorized by the Bishop to officiate therein.

20. A Clergyman duly admitted to a cure shall be deemed Incumbent thereof, and shall not be removable without his consent, unless upon the decision of a competent Tribunal, constituted by this Convention or by the General Synod in that behalf; and it shall be lawful for such Incumbent, when circumstances require it, and a sufficient maintenance can, in the judgment of the Bishop, be guaranteed, to nominate to the Bishop for his approval a Clergyman to act as Curate-Assistant; and such Curate-Assistant, duly nominated and licensed, shall not be removed from his curacy without his own consent, unless upon the decision of the Bishop, or upon the avoidance of the Benefice.

21. No member of the Board of Nominators shall be capable of performing any of the duties of his office, until he shall have signed the following Declaration.

I, A. B., *[do solemnly declare that I am a member of the Church of Ireland, and a communicant of the said Church, and] being fully sensible how important it is that the cure of souls should be committed only to those well fitted and qualified to undertake the same do [further] solemnly declare that I nominate such

* The words in brackets shall be omitted when the declaration is made by a Clergyman.

person only as I believe in my conscience to be of such pure and godly conversation and manners as to be fitted for admission to the cure of souls in the parish of _____, and that I am not acting herein through favour or affection but in singleness of heart, for the glory of God, the good of His Church, and the welfare of His people.

(Signed)

A. B.

Dated the _____ day of _____

And such Declaration shall be signed by every member present of such Board, before proceeding to each nomination ; and the declaration so signed shall be attached to, or transmitted with, any nomination, report, or proceedings of the Board.

22. No person shall be capable of exercising the rights of Patronage mentioned in the 15th and 16th sections of this Act, unless he shall have signed the Declaration contained in the last preceding section.

23. In this chapter the word Parish shall not be understood necessarily to mean a District actually under the charge of one Incumbent ; but it shall be in the power of each Diocesan Synod to alter, from time to time, the boundaries of Parishes for the purposes of this chapter.

ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS.

24. From and after the first of January, 1871, if any See be or shall become vacant, the Archbishop of the Province shall, as soon as may be

convenient, convene the Diocesan Synod, for the election of a successor. And if the Archiepiscopal See of the Province be vacant, or the Archbishop be unable, then the person for the time being authorized to convene the Diocesan Synod, shall convene the same: Provided that where the vacant See comprise two or more Dioceses, having separate Diocesan Synods, the Diocesan Councils of the Synods shall make arrangements by common agreement for the meetings of the Synods, securing that the members of each Diocesan Synod shall be enabled to register their votes in the Synod of their own Diocese, whether the Synods meet conjointly or separately: Provided that such arrangements receive the consent of the person for the time being authorised to convene the Diocesan Synod.

25. The Diocesan Synod shall thereupon meet, and, save in the cases hereinafter specially provided for, the Clerical and Lay Members present shall, in the first instance, vote by voting papers each for one or more persons (not exceeding three) being Bishops or Priests of not less than thirty years of age: Provided that no person shall be entitled to vote for himself.

26. The voting papers shall then be examined, and the names of such persons as shall have obtained not less than one-fourth of the votes of the Members, present and voting, of each Order, or one-third of the votes of the members of either Order, present and voting, shall be placed on a select list. If not more

than one person shall have received the above proportion of votes, the voting shall be repeated until two persons, at least, shall have been so qualified. It shall be in the power of the Synod, by a majority of both Orders, at anytime to add names to this select list.

27. The Members present of each Order shall then proceed to vote on the names so selected, each Member voting for one person only; and such voting shall be repeated, if necessary, until one person shall have obtained a clear majority of the votes of the Members, present and voting, of each Order.

28. If the majority so obtained in favour of the said person shall amount to two-thirds of the votes of the Members, present and voting, of each Order, he shall be thereupon declared elected. If not, the name of the said person shall again be submitted to the Synod, and if two-thirds of the Members, present, of each Order, shall then vote, as before, by voting papers, in his favour, he shall thereupon be declared elected. If there shall not be such a majority of votes in his favour, the voting shall be repeated on the remaining names, each Member voting for one name only, in the select list, until, at least, a second person shall have been chosen by a majority of the votes of the Members of each Order as aforesaid.

29. If any one person shall have been declared elected by the Synod as aforesaid, his name shall be forthwith transmitted to the Bench of Bishops, who, if satisfied of his fitness, shall take the necessary steps

to give effect to such nomination ; and if more than one person shall have been chosen by the Synod as aforesaid, the names of such persons (not exceeding three) shall be transmitted to the Bench of Bishops, who shall thereupon elect by a majority of their votes one of the said persons, if satisfied of his fitness, to the vacant See.

30. Such return shall be made by the Synod within three months from the date of its meeting, and in default of such return within the said period, the appointment of the Bishop shall lapse to the Bench of Bishops.

31. Upon every meeting of a Diocesan Synod for the election to a vacant See, and before any member thereof shall be entitled to vote at such meeting, he shall sign a declaration in the words following :—

I, A. B., bearing in mind how important it is that the sacred office of a Bishop should not unworthily be conferred, do solemnly declare, that I record my votes at this election for such persons only as I in my conscience believe to be of such learning and soundness in the faith, and of such virtuous and pure manners and conversation as to be fitted and qualified for the holy office of Bishop: and I further solemnly declare that I am not acting herein through favour or affection, but in singleness of heart, for the glory of God, the good of His Church, and the welfare of His people.

32. On the occurrence of a vacancy in the See of Armagh, the Diocesan Synod of the United Dioceses of Armagh and Clogher, if the said Dioceses shall remain united, or if not united, then the Diocesan Synod of the Diocese of Armagh only, shall thereupon meet, and the Clerical and Lay Members present shall select four of the Bench of Bishops, who shall each have a majority of the votes of the Members of each Order, present and voting. The names of the Bishops so selected shall be returned to the Bench of Bishops, who shall thereupon choose one of the said Bishops to be Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland; and shall take the necessary steps for his translation and installation.

33. The Synod of the United Dioceses of Armagh and Clogher, or of the Diocese of Armagh only, as the case may be, shall, either at the same or at a subsequent meeting convened for the purpose, select one Presbyter, of not less than thirty years of age, who shall have a majority of the votes of the Members of each Order, present and voting. The Synod of the Diocese, whose Bishop shall have been appointed to the Primacy, shall also meet and select one Presbyter, of not less than thirty years of age, who shall have a majority of the votes of the Members of each Order, present and voting. The names of the two Presbyters so selected shall be returned to the Bench of Bishops, who shall thereupon, by a majority of their votes, nominate one of the said Presbyters, if satisfied of his fitness, to be the Bishop of the vacant

See, and shall take the necessary steps to give effect to such nomination : Provided that it shall be lawful for the said Dioceses to agree in the selection of one Bishop or Presbyter of any Diocese, in which case the name of such Bishop or Presbyter shall be returned to the Bench of Bishops, who, if satisfied of his fitness, shall take the necessary steps to give effect to such nomination : Provided that if either Diocese fail to return, within three months, any name to the Bench of Bishops, the Bishops shall appoint to the vacant Bishopric, if satisfied of his fitness, the person selected by the other Diocese.

34. In case no such return, as hereinbefore required, shall be made within the period of three months, the appointment of the Archbishop or Bishop, as the case may be, shall lapse to the Bench of Bishops.

CATHEDRALS, DEANS AND ARCHDEACONS.

35. All arrangements relating to the future maintenance and management of Cathedrals shall be postponed until the General Synod shall make provision therefor, when the respective Diocesan Synods shall have had the opportunity of considering the special requirements of each case, and the Representative Body shall be in a position to estimate the financial resources of the Church : Provided that in the meantime the Diocesan Synod shall have power to make temporary arrangements, when necessary, to

secure the performance of Divine Service in any Cathedral within the Diocese.

36. No appointment shall, from and after the first of January, 1871, be made to any Deanery, Dignity, Prebend, or Canonry, connected with any Cathedral, nor to the Incumbency of any Parish in which a Cathedral is situate, until the General Synod shall have determined as to the future mode and manner of making such appointments ; but should a vacancy occur in the meantime in any such office, the Ordinary shall make such arrangements for the temporary discharge of the duties thereof as he shall think expedient.

37. From and after the first of January, 1871, all Deans, Dignitaries, Prebendaries, Canons, and subordinate Officers in any Cathedral shall (subject to the provisions of the 'Irish Church Act, 1869,') continue to hold such offices, and shall retain the same rights, powers and privileges as they have hitherto enjoyed, and shall be liable to discharge all duties to which they have been hitherto liable, until such time as the General Synod shall make provision respecting the same.

38. The appointment of Archdeacon shall be made by the Bishop of the Diocese, but the office shall not of necessity be connected with any particular benefice, but may be held by any beneficed Clergyman within the Diocese.

DRAFT OF CHARTER.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. : To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting, Whereas, by the Irish Church Act, 5 1869, it was enacted, among other things, that if at any time it should be shewn to our satisfaction that the Bishops, Clergy, and Laity of the Church of Ireland, or the persons who, for the time being, should succeed to the exercise and discharge of the 10 Episcopal functions of such Bishops, and the Clergy and Laity in communion with such persons, should have appointed any persons or body to represent the said Church, and to hold property for any of the uses or purposes thereof, it should be lawful for us, by Charter, to incorporate such body with powers, notwithstanding the Statutes of Mortmain, to hold lands to such extent as by the said Act is provided, but not further or otherwise : and Whereas, the said Bishops, Clergy, and Laity of the said Church of Ireland have 20 appointed the Most Reverend Father in God, Our right trusty and right entirely-beloved Councillor, Marcus Gervais, Archbishop of Armagh ; the Most Reverend Father in God, Our right trusty and right entirely-beloved Councillor, Richard Chenevix, Arch- 25 bishop of Dublin ; Our right trusty and well-beloved

Councillor, Samuel, Bishop of Meath ; the Right Reverend Father in God, Robert, Bishop of Cashel ; the Right Reverend Father in God, James Thomas, Bishop of Ossory ; the Right Reverend Father in
5 God, Robert, Bishop of Down ; the Right Reverend Father in God, William, Bishop of Killaloe ; the Right Reverend Father in God, John, Bishop of Cork ; the Right Reverend Father in God, Charles, Bishop of Limerick ; the Right Reverend Father in God,
10 Charles Brodrick, Bishop of Tuam ; the Right Reverend Father in God, William, Bishop of Derry ; the Right Reverend Father in God, , Bishop of Kilmore ; Our trusty and well-beloved Alexander Irwin, Clerk, Master of Arts ; Our trusty and well-
15 beloved John William Ellison Macartney, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-beloved Robert Baron Templer, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-beloved Edward Adderley Stopford, Doctor of Laws, Archdeacon of Meath ; Our trusty and well-beloved William Barlow
20 Smythe, Esquire, Deputy Lieutenant ; Our trusty and well-beloved Hans Hamilton Woods, Esquire, Deputy Lieutenant ; Our trusty and well-beloved William Macklin Edwards, Master of Arts, Clerk ; Our trusty and well-beloved Robert George Montgomery,
25 Esquire, Deputy Lieutenant ; Our trusty and well-beloved William Edward Scott, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-beloved Jeffry Lefroy, Master of Arts, Clerk ; Our trusty and well-beloved John Mulholland, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-beloved Anthony Traill, Doctor
30 of Laws ; Our trusty and well-beloved Augustus

William West, Dean of the Cathedral Church of
Ardagh ; Our trusty and well-beloved Thomas George
Wills Sandford, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-beloved
Joseph Story, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-beloved
5 Sir Francis Arthur Knox Gore, Baronet ; Our
trusty and well-beloved Robert Blundell, Master
of Arts, Clerk ; Our trusty and well-beloved
James O'Hara, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-
beloved John West, Dean of the Collegiate and
10 Cathedral Church of St. Patrick, Doctor of Di-
vinity ; Our right trusty and right well-beloved
cousin, William, Earl of Meath ; Our trusty and
well-beloved Andrew Searle Hart, Doctor of Laws ;
Our trusty and well-beloved John Evans Johnson,
15 Doctor of Divinity, Archdeacon of Ferns ; Our
right trusty and right well-beloved cousin, James
George Henry, Earl of Courtown ; Our right trusty
and right well-beloved cousin, Thomas, Viscount De
Vesci ; Our trusty and well-beloved Sir Robert Paul,
20 Baronet ; Our trusty and well-beloved Robert Bell,
Doctor of Divinity ; Our trusty and well-beloved
Richard Uniacke Bayly, Esquire ; Our right trusty and
well-beloved Councillor, Hedges Eyre Chatterton,
Vice Chancellor of Ireland ; Our right trusty and
25 well beloved Councillor, Robert Richard Warren,
Judge of our Court of Probate in Ireland ; Our
trusty and well-beloved Robert Samuel Gregg, Master
of Arts, Clerk ; Our trusty and well-beloved Honorable
Charles James Trench ; Our trusty and well-beloved
30 Sir William Osborne, Baronet, Deputy Lieutenant ;

Our trusty and well-beloved Christopher Henry Gould Butson, Archdeacon of Clonfert ; Our right trusty and well-beloved Dayrolles Blakeney, Baron Ventry ; Our trusty and well-beloved John Godfrey Day, 5 Master of Arts, Dean of the Cathedral Church of Ardfert ; Our trusty and well-beloved Charles John Aldworth Coote, Esquire, (being the elected members of such body) ; and Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor Mountifort Longfield, Doctor of Laws ; 10 Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor John Thomas Ball, Doctor of Laws ; Our trusty and well-beloved George Salmon, Doctor of Divinity, Regius Professor of Divinity in our University of Dublin ; Our trusty and well-beloved Samuel Moore Kyle, 15 Doctor of Laws, Archdeacon of Cork ; Our trusty and well-beloved John Barlow, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-beloved Joseph Carson, Doctor of Divinity ; Our trusty and well-beloved James Chaigneau Colvill, Esquire ; Our trusty and well- 20 beloved Joseph Allen Galbraith, Clerk, Master of Arts ; Our trusty and well-beloved William Digges Latouche, Esquire, Deputy Lieutenant ; Our trusty and well-beloved William Ewart, Junior, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-beloved James 25 Spaight, Esquire ; Our trusty and well-beloved James Robert Stewart, Esquire, (being the co-opted members of the said Body,) and their successors to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned, to represent the said Church, for the purposes of the said 30 Act, and to hold property for the use of the said

Church, and to exercise the functions and powers by the said Act, given to the body therein called the Representative Body of the said Church. Now, know all men by these presents, that We, of our especial grace,
5 certain knowledge and mere motion, by and with the advice, &c., do, for us, our heirs and successors, grant, constitute, declare, and appoint, that the said Marcus Gervais, Archbishop of Armagh, etc., and their successors to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned,
10 shall be one Corporation or Body politic, to have continuance for ever, by the name of the Representative Body of the Church of Ireland ; and we hereby incorporate the said Marcus Gervais, Archbishop of Armagh, etc., to have perpetual succession by the said
15 name ; and that they and their successors shall have a common seal, with such stamp and inscription to be made and engraved thereon as they shall think proper ; and that it shall be lawful for them and their successors to break and alter or renew the said seal as they shall
20 think proper ; and that they shall have power, notwithstanding the Statutes of Mortmain, to hold lands to such extent as by the said Act is provided ; and further, that they may receive for the use of the said Church, or for any purposes connected therewith,
25 any money, goods, or chattels that may be given or bequeathed to them by any person or body politic capable of making a gift or bequest thereof ; and we grant and ordain that the said Representative Body shall exercise all the powers, and perform all the functions
30 and duties intended by the said Act, to be performed

by the Body in the said Act called the Representative Body of the said Church, and we ordain and declare that the Corporation hereby created shall be composed of three classes to be hereinafter called
5 respectively, the *ex-officio*, the elected and the co-opted members, and that the *ex-officio* members shall be the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland for the time being, and that the elected members shall consist of one Clerical and two Lay Represen-
10 tatives for each Diocese or union of Dioceses presided over by one Bishop, and shall be qualified and elected as hereinafter mentioned, and that the co-opted members shall consist of persons equal in number to the number of such Dioceses for the time being, to be elected
15 by the *ex-officio* and Representative members ; and we declare that henceforth in this Charter, the word Diocese shall signify any Diocese or union of Dioceses under the presidency of one Bishop ; and we further order that the elected members
20 and their successors shall retire from office by rotation, one-third, or if at any time hereafter their numbers shall not be a multiple of three, the number nearest to one third of the Clerical and Lay members respectively retiring at the commencement of each ordinary
25 meeting of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland, Provided, that on and after the third ordinary meeting of the General Synod those elected members and those only shall retire by rotation who shall have been longest in office : and we order that the rotation accord-
30 ing to which the elected members shall retire shall be

settled by the said Representative Body of the Church of Ireland, and shall be so arranged that not more than one elected member for the same diocese shall retire in the same year: and we order that the co-opted members 5 shall also retire from office by rotation, one-third, or if at any time hereafter their number shall not be a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one-third retiring at each ordinary meeting of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland, and that 10 the co-opted members who are to retire at the first and second of such Sessions shall be determined by lot ; and at each subsequent Session, those longest in office shall retire ; and that all members, whether elected or co-opted, who shall so retire, shall 15 be capable of being re-elected either to fill the vacancy occasioned by such retirement, or any other vacancies then, or at any future time occurring, for which they shall be, in other respects, duly qualified. And we order that all vacancies occurring 20 by rotation of any elected members shall be filled up by election by the Clerical and Lay Representatives in the General Synod, of the respective Dioceses in which such vacancies shall occur, the Clerical Representatives present voting for the Clerical 25 Members only, and the Lay Representatives present voting for the Lay members only: any casual vacancy by death, resignation, or otherwise, occurring among the Elected Members, shall be filled, as soon as conveniently may be, by the Clerical or Lay Representa- 30 tives, as the case may be, of the Diocese for which

such vacancy shall have occurred : any vacancy occurring among the co-opted members shall be filled by election by the remaining members of the Representative Body of the Church of Ireland :

- 5 Provided, however, that the names of the persons so co-opted shall be laid before the General Synod if it shall be then sitting, and if it shall not be then sitting then before the General Synod at its next sitting ; and such General Synod may either confirm such
- 10 co-option, or remove the person or persons so co-opted, and substitute any other person or persons in his or their place ; and that if the General Synod of the Church of Ireland shall pass a resolution that any elected or co-opted member of the said Representative
- 15 Body shall be removed for sufficient cause to be expressed in such resolution, such person shall immediately cease to be a member thereof, and his place shall be vacant as if such person had died. Any person elected or co-opted to fill a casual vacancy
- 20 shall hold office only so long as the person into whose place he shall be elected would have held office if such vacancy had not occurred.

And we further grant and declare that the said Representative Body of the Church of Ireland shall

25 be subject nevertheless to such alterations in the number of the said Representative Body, or in the rules laid down for the qualification, election or retirement of its members, as shall from time to time be adopted by the General Synod of the said Church ; and we hereby

30 authorize the said Representative Body of the Church

of Ireland to invest any property vested in them in trust for the Church of Ireland, or for any purposes connected therewith, on the security of any real or personal property, or in the purchase of guaranteed
5 or preference stock or shares, or of debentures, or of debenture stock, in any public company in Great Britain or Ireland, or in any security in which by Law trustees are or shall be permitted to invest trust funds, or in such other securities as the General
10 Synod of the Church of Ireland shall from time to time approve ; Provided that no investment shall be made in such other securities unless and until a sum producing an annual income sufficient for the payment of all then existing annuities payable
15 to Ecclesiastical persons, who shall have commuted under the provisions of the said Act, shall remain invested in the securities hereinbefore mentioned and described. And we declare that no member of the said Representative Body shall be liable for any loss
20 occasioned by the depreciation or failure of any such investment, or otherwise, save by his own wilful default ; and we further authorize the said Representative Body to sell either by public auction or by private contract any See lands, Glebes or sites of
25 Churches or See or Glebe houses, with the buildings thereon, or any School house vested in them and the land occupied therewith which shall be hereafter found unsuited or unnecessary, for the said Church of Ireland: provided that no such sale shall be made
30 without the consent of the Diocesan Council of the

Diocese in which such property is situated ; but it shall not be necessary for any purchaser to enquire whether such consent has been obtained ; and we declare that it shall not be lawful for said Representative Body to diminish the capital stock arising from commutation except for the purpose of making payments for the commuting Clergy, unless the income of the residue of the personal property remaining in their possession shall be sufficient to pay the annuities then unexpired : and we further declare and order that, subject to the payment of said annuities, and to the performance of any special trusts upon which any fund may be given, the said Representative Body shall hold all property which shall become vested in it in trust for such objects and purposes, and in such manner, so far as lawfully may be, as the General Convention of the Church of Ireland assembled in the year 1870, or any General Synod of the said Church from time to time shall have directed, and shall be subject to the order and control of the said General Synod in all matters not provided for by the laws of this realm ; and we further authorize the said Representative Body to appoint such officers and servants as they shall find needful, and to pay them such salaries as they shall think right and expedient, and to remove such officers and servants when they shall think proper so to do, and to appoint others from time to time in their stead, and also that it shall be lawful for the said Representative Body from time to time to provide such

houses, offices, or other buildings as shall be necessary for them for the purpose of meeting therein, or for providing a residence for their officers and servants, or a safe place of custody for their securities, books, 5 accounts, or other documents ; and that it shall be lawful for the said Representative Body, out of any property which shall be vested in them, to pay the salaries of such officers and servants to be appointed as aforesaid, and also to pay the rent, insurance, and 10 all other expenses caused by their providing any house or offices, or which may be otherwise necessary for exercising their powers as aforesaid ; and we also order and appoint that the said Representative Body shall be at liberty from time to 15 time to appoint such and so many Committees as may be considered necessary for the despatch of business, and to prescribe what powers and duties each such Committee shall possess and discharge, and to declare how many members present shall 20 be necessary to make a quorum of the said Representative Body, or of the said Committees respectively : and also that the said Representative Body shall have authority to make such bye-laws as shall be expedient for the regulation of 25 the times, places and manner of their meeting, and for the general conduct of their business ; provided that such bye-laws shall as soon as possible be laid before the General Synod of the Church of Ireland, which shall have power to confirm, annul, or alter the 30 said bye-laws as they may think proper. And it

is our will and pleasure, and we hereby order that on the first day of each ordinary session of the General Synod of the Church of Ireland, the said Representative Body shall lay a statement of its accounts
5 and a report of its proceedings before the said Synod, commencing from this day, or from the termination of the last preceding report or account, as the case may be. And that the said accounts shall contain such particulars as shall be required by any rules, to
10 be from time to time made by any General Synod, and that if the said General Synod shall appoint auditors to audit the accounts of the said Representative Body, it shall be lawful for the said Auditors at all reasonable times to
15 have access to, and to inspect the books of accounts of the said Representative Body, and that the Auditors may demand and have the assistance of such officers and servants of the said Representative Body, and such documents as they shall require for
20 the full performance of their duty in auditing the accounts, and that it shall be the duty of the said Representative Body to furnish to the Auditors a full explanation in writing of any matters relating to the said accounts, whereof the Auditors shall by writing
25 signed by them demand an explanation: Provided always that these our letters patent, and so forth.

RESOLUTIONS WITH REFERENCE TO FINANCE ADOPTED
BY THE GENERAL CONVENTION.

SUSTENTATION FUND.

1. That the Archbishops and Bishops be requested to issue an address upon the subject of the Sustentation Fund, to be sent to all the Clergy, and to name a very early day on which this address shall be read in every Church in Ireland.

2. That the Members of the Representative Body be requested to act as a Committee for the purpose of obtaining subscriptions, and that pending the Incorporation of the Representative Body the following Members be requested to act as Treasurers of the Central Fund :—

His Grace the Lord Primate of all Ireland,

His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Dublin,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Meath,

The Right Hon. Robert R. Warren,

John Barlow, Esq.,

William Ewart, Esq., Jun.,

and that in such Banks as they may select, an account be opened by them entitled, "The Church of Ireland Sustentation Fund Account," to the Credit of which Lodgments may be made.

3. That every Member of the Church be invited to make a special Donation without delay to the Central Sustentation Fund.

4. That every Member of the Church be also invited to become a Subscriber to the Sustentation Fund, and to signify the amount which he purposes to pay, and the time, whether weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually, at which he will be prepared to pay his subscription.

5. That there be made in every Parish or Congregation a Register of all Church Members, and that the amount of Subscriptions promised and paid be entered ; and that the Subscriptions be collected at fixed intervals by persons appointed for the purpose.

6. That the Subscribers be invited to give systematically a fixed per centage upon their income or property.

7. That all absentee owners of property be solicited to give in the same proportion as residents ; and that a circular for that purpose be immediately prepared.

8. That accounts be regularly kept of all Donations and Subscriptions, and published periodically, distinguishing between sums promised and paid.

9. That, while we regard the creation of a Central Fund as of the highest importance, and, while we hope that every member of the Church will aid in its formation, this Convention is of opinion that, in subscribing to the Sustentation Fund, each subscriber should be at liberty to allocate his subscription (or any part of it) to a particular Diocese,

or to a particular Parish or Fund, but that all such trusts should be subject to such revisions of Diocesan and Parochial boundaries as may hereafter be made by competent authority.

10. That all money collected be handed over by the Parochial authorities to the Diocesan Council, or to a Provisional Committee, as the case may be, and by them to the Treasurers of the Central Committee, in each case distinguishing the sums given specially for Diocesan and Parochial purposes: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the Parochial authorities to transmit all money collected direct to the Representative Body of the Church: Provided also, that Funds to be invested on behalf of Diocesan and Parochial Trusts may be managed by the Diocesan Synod and vested through the intervention of Trustees appointed by them, should the Donor so direct; but that accounts of all Funds, held on behalf of the Diocesan Synod, be furnished yearly to the Representative Body of the Church.

CHURCHES.

11. That each Diocesan Council prepare, without delay, and supply to the Representative Body a list of the Churches for which they recommend application to be made; and also of the Schoolhouses and Graveyards which it may be expedient to apply for, where necessary annexing a map to prevent ambiguity or mistake.

GLEBE HOUSES.

12. That each Diocesan Council draw up as soon as possible a list of the Glebe-houses which they consider it desirable to purchase under section 27 of the Irish Church Act, specifying probable cost of purchase in each case, and also whether they recommend any purchase of land under section 28, with the probable cost of same, and whether the Parish has taken steps to provide a part or the whole of the necessary funds.

COMMUTATION.

13. That the Representative Body be requested, having collected what statistics they may require, to publish as soon as possible a report on Commutation, and to state upon what terms they propose to deal with Clergymen anxious to compound.

14. That it be an instruction to the Representative Body to provide a collateral security for the commuting Clergy in addition to the commutation money, such security to be derived from subscriptions, but in such a manner as not to interfere with the Sustentation of the Church.

CHURCH ORGANIZATION.

The Constitution of the Church

IN THE

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WITH AN INTRODUCTION

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REV. W. SHERLOCK, B.A.,

CURATE OF BRAY.

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