A BILL

To enable the Bishops Clergy and Laity Members of the United Church of England and Ireland in New South Wales to regulate the affairs of the said Church and to authorize the holding of Provincial Synods of the same Church in this Colony.

(As amended and agreed to in Select Committee.)

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the regulation and Preamble. management of the affairs of the United Church of England and Ireland in New South Wales and to authorize the holding of Provincial Synods of the same Church in this Colony Be it therefore enacted by the 5 Queen's Most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows:

1. It shall be lawful for the Bishop Licensed Clergy and Lay Synod may he held.

Members of the United Church of England and Ireland in any Diocese

10 now or at any time hereafter existing within the Colony and being convened and elected as hereinafter provided to meet in Synod as herein provided.

2. The first Synod shall be convened and holden in any existing President and time Diocese within six months after the passing of this Act and in every of holding.

15 future Diocese within twelve months after the formation of such Diocese and such first Synod and all subsequent Synods shall be convened within the periods and in the manner hereinafter provided save in so far as the same may be altered by any Synod acting under the powers here-inafter in that behalf given And the Synod shall be convened and

20 holden once in every year by summons in writing under the hand and seal of the Bishop stating the time and place of meeting And the Bishop or in his absence a Commissary appointed by him in writing shall be President of the Synod and may adjourn prorogue and dissolve the same with the concurrence of the Synod Provided always that a new Synod

25 shall be elected and convened at least once in every three years shall not be lawful for the President to vote on any question or matter arising in the Synod.

3. The Synod shall have power to make Rules for the conduct of Powers of Synod all business coming before it and to make Ordinances for the management generally.

30 and disposal of all Church property moneys and revenues net diverting any specifically appropriated or the subject of any specific trust nor interfering with any vested rights which are now or in pursuance of this Act may hereafter be vested in any Bishop as herein provided and for the election or appointment of Churchwardens and Lay Trustees and generally for the 35 order and good government of the United Church of England and Ireland in New South Wales and the regulation of its affairs as well within the

Diocese as the several Parishes thereof any provision in the Act of Council eight William Fourth number five or the Act twenty-one Victoria number four passed for amending the same in any such case notwithstanding and c 110—A

such Rules and Ordinances shall be binding on the Bishop and his Successors and on the Clergy-and Lay all other Members of the Church residing within the Diocese and on none other and on such Clergy and Lay Members only so far as the same may concern their respective rights duties and liabilities as holding any office in the Church within the Diocese.

Bishop may be appointed Trustee of Church Property sub-

4. In all cases where a power exists to elect or appoint any Trustee of any Church property moneys or revenues it shall be lawful ject to Ordinances of for the person entitled to make such election or appointment to elect or appoint the Bishop of the Diocese as such Trustee and such Bishop and his Successors shall thereupon in his and their corporate capacity 10 hold such property upon trust and to the intent that the same shall be subject to such Ordinances as the Synod shall make for the management and disposal thereof not diverting any specifically appropriated or the subject of any specific trust nor interfering with any vested rights.

Mode of voting and

4. 5. Every Rule and Ordinance of the Synod shall be made with the concurrence of the Bishop of the Diocese and by a majority of the Clergy and Lay Representative Members of the Synod voting by Orders and the presence of not less than one-fourth of the Members of each Order shall be necessary to constitute a Quorum Provided that in every case 20 unless the Bishop or five Members of the Synod shall on any question being put desire that the vetes be taken by Orders the votes of the Clergy and Lay Representative Members shall be taken collectively and the majority thereupon declared be deemed to be the majority of both Orders Provided that no such Rule or Ordinance shall take effect or have any 25 validity unless within one month after the passing of the same the Bishop shall signify to the Synod his assent thereto Provided also that any decision concurred in by any two only of the three Orders of Bishop Clergy and Lay Members such Rule or Ordinance to which the Bishop shall not assent may be the subject of reference to any Provincial Synod 30 which may be holden as hereinafter provided and such Provincial Synod shall have power to determine the same but the subject matter for decision shall-remain in abeyance until the determination of such reference.

Power of Synod to alter Constitution

5. 6. It shall be lawful for the Synod to make Rules and Ordinances for trying the validity of the election of any Representative and for 35 supplying any vacancies in the Synod which may be occasioned by death resignation or any other cause and for altering the periods within which and the manner in which subsequent Synods shall be convened and the mode of electing Lay Representatives Representative Members and for restricting the number of the Licensed Clergy and Lay Members of the 40 Church Representative Members to be respectively summoned to any future Synod and as to the manner in which they shall respectively be selected such restriction shall be effected Provided that the number of Lay Representative Members to be summoned to any such future Synod shall not exceed be more than thrice nor less than twice the number of 45 Clergy to be summoned and provided that the declarations imposed by this Act and no other shall be required either from Lay Members of the Church voting at the election of Representatives or from Lay such Representatives

6. Whenever any office bearer shall be removed or suspended from 50 Removed for suspended office bearers, his office by the Syn od he shall immediately cease to have or exercise any function connected with his office and shall be deprived of all rights emoluments or salary to which by virtue of his office he would have been entitled but for such removal or suspension and shall forthwith deliver up to any person appointed by the Synod to receive the same all property 55 in his possession charge or power as such office bearer and in default of his so doing the pers on so appointed may in his own name bring any action or suit or take any other proceeding that may be neclessary in respect of the said property.

Synod may call for

7. The Synod shall have power to call upon any person holding 60 property belonging to the Church in the Diocese or in any Parish thereof

or in which the Church or any such Parish is in any manner interested to render a full account of all such property and of the manner in which the same and every part thereof is applied and disposed of And in all cases in which any action suit or proceeding shall be necessary in respect 5 of any such property the Synod may sue and be sued in the name of the Bishop.

8. Whenever the Bishop shall convene the first Synod he shall mode of convening summon thereto the Licensed Clergy each Clergyman licensed to a Synod.

separate cure of souls within his Diocese and the Lay Representatives 10 elected as hereinafter provided And for electing such Representatives the Bishop shall require each Clergyman licensed to a separate cure of souls as aforesaid to summon a Meeting of the Members of the Church of the age of twenty-one years being males and occupiers of seats in his Church or residents within his Parish or District at such time within

15 limits which may be prescribed by the Bishop and at such place within the Parish or District as to such Clergyman may seem convenient and every Member so summoned shall be entitled to vote at such election but the Clergyman summoning the Meeting shall not be entitled to vote at

such election save to give a casting vote.

9. The Clergyman if present shall act as Chairman of the said Chairman of Meeting Meeting and so soon as six persons at the least are assembled the Meeting &c. shall proceed to business and the Chairman shall cause a list to be made of those who are present and add thereto the names of any who subsequently attend before the proceedings are closed and the Chairman shall 25 cause minutes to be taken of the proceedings of the Meeting And every

Member of the Church shall before taking part in or voting at such meeting sign the following Declaration :-

"I the undersigned A B do declare that I am a Member of the United Church of England and Ireland."

10. Every such Meeting shall choose as a Representatives one Representatives to be two male persons of the age of twenty-one years each such person being elected. a Layman and a Communicant of the Church and not being a Clergyman licensed to a separate cure of souls and if more than thirty fifty persons shall attend and vote it shall be lawful for such Meeting to elect one such 35 additional Representative but no Parish or District shall elect more than two three Representatives.

11. In case at any such Meeting the persons proposed for election Mode of election, exceed the number which the Meeting is authorized to elect the Chairman shall take in writing the votes of the qualified persons present each of 40 whom may give one vote for such one or two of the persons proposed as he may think fit according to but not exceeding the number to be elected and the Chairman shall declare the number of votes given for each person and where the votes for two or more are equal the Chairman may give a casting vote in favour of either one or two more of such persons as the 45 case may require.

12. The Chairman shall cause to be delivered to each person Certificate to be elected a Certificate of his election and shall sign the minutes of the given &c. Meeting in token of their correctness and shall forward them to the Bishop together with all certificates subscriptions and lists which have 50 been laid before the said Meeting and a certificate of the names callings and addresses of the persons chosen to be laid before the Synod at the opening thereof Provided that no Rule-or Ordinance of the Synod shall

be vitiated by reason of the non election or any error or informality in the election of any Representative.

13. If the Cure be vacant or the Clergyman be absent or unable vacancy in Cure or from any other cause to act the Bishop shall appoint a person to absence of Clergyman. perform all the functions devolving on such Clergyman under any of the five preceding sections of this Act.

St. Paul's College to be Sydney.

14. The Warden of St. Paul's College within the University of represented in the Synod for the Diocese of Synod for the Diocese of Sydney as a Clerical Member thereof and two other Members of the Church to be elected by the Council of the said College from amongst themselves shall likewise always be summoned to such Synod as 5 Representative Members thereof and the said Warden shall cause to be delivered to each such other Member of the said Council so elected and shall also forward to the Bishop a certificate of such election.

15. No Rule or Ordinance of the Synod nor anything done under Defects and errors as to elections &c. not to this Act shall be vitiated by reason of the non-election of any Repre- 10 sentative or of the non-summoning of any person entitled to be summoned thereto or of any informality in or respecting any such election or summoning.

Declaration to be

13. 16. Each Representative shall before taking part in or voting at the Synod sign and deliver to the President the following Declaration :- 15 "I the undersigned A B do declare that I am a Communicant of the United Church of England and Ireland."

Synod may establish a Tribunal.

14. 17. The Synod shall have power to establish a Tribunal for the trial of offences against Laws Ecclesiastical by Clergymen licensed by the Bishop within the Diocese as well those involving breaches of 20 discipline as questions of doctrine and the ritual of the Church and may frame Rules and Ordinances for the initiation and conduct of trials before and the mode of proceeding under such Tribunal And every Witness who shall appear before such Tribunal may be examined on oath by any Judge or Commissioner thereof Provided that no such Tribunal shall have any 25 jurisdiction over persons who are not Clergymen or Office bearers of the Church and that nothing in this Act contained nor anything to be done-by the Synod under the power hereby given shall affect the right of appeal of any Clergyman or Office bearer and no sentence shall be pronounced by such Tribunal other than that of suspension or deprivation of license 30 or office and of the rights and emoluments thereto appertaining and President of Tribunal the said Synod shall appoint some fit and proper person to be the President of the said Tribunal being a Barrister-at-law of not less than five years standing Provided that in every case involving a question of doctrine or the ritual of the Church such Tribunal shall with the 35 exception of the President thereof be entirely composed of Clergymen and the President shall in no case have any other than a casting vote and there shall be the same right of appeal from the decisions of such Tribunal to her Majesty in Council or to the Archbishop of Canterbury or the Metropolitan Bishop of Australia as now exists from the decisions 40 of the Bishop of the Diocese.

Limitation of sen-

Proviso

15. 18. The License of a Clergyman shall not be withdrawn cancelled or revoked unless at his own request or as the consequence of a sentence pronounced under the provisions of this Act or by some other Court of competent Jurisdiction Provided that until a Tribunal shall 45 have been established as hereinbefore mentioned nothing in this Act shall affect any of the powers now vested in the Bishop.

may be convened.

Clergyman's License when to be with-

16. It shall be lawful for the Bishop of Sydney as the Metropolitan Bishop of Australia from time to time to hold a Provincial Synod of the Bishops of Australia whose Dioceses are or shall be within the 50 Colony of New South Wales and of the Members of the several Diocesan Synods within the Colony or of such Representatives of the said Diocesan Synods as shall her eafter by any Provincial Synods be determined And it shall be lawful for the Bishop of Sydney as such Metropolitan as aforesaid And for the purpose of holding such Provincial Synod by writing under 55 his hand and seal to convene the several Bishops of Australia within the Colony and to require them severally to convene the Members or Representatives of their several Diocesan Synods at such times and places as the Bishop of Sydn ey may deem fit to consider of and determine upon all matters and things concerning the affairs of the United Church of England 60 and Ireland in New South Wales And the first Provincial Synod shall be convened

convened and holden within three years after the passing of this Act if there shall be three or more Dioceses within the Colony but if there shall not be three Dioces es within the Colony then within twelve months after a third Diocese shall be formed within the Colony subsequently to the said 5 period of three years And such Synod shall be there after convened and holden once in every three years And the Bishop of Sydney as such Metropolitan as afor esaid or such one of the Bishops of Australia within the Colony as he may appoint his Commissary under his hand and seal for the Colony as he may appoint his Commissary under his hand and sear for that purpose shall be President of the Synod. And the Metropolitan and Bishops attending such Synod shall sit and vote as one House and the Members of the said Diocesan Synods or their Representatives shall sit and vote as another House And no Rule or Ordinance or other determination of such Synod shall be valid unless it be made with the concurrence of both Houses And on every division of the House representatives the Diocesary Synods the voting shall be by Dioceses, and, in the 15 senting the Diocesa a Synods the voting shall be by Dioceses and in the case of any Diocese represented by both Clergy and Lay Members of the Church no vote shall be taken as the vote of such Diocese unless assented to by a majority both of the Clergy and of the Lay Members present and representing such Diocese And such Provincial Synod may make Rules 20 and Ordinances for the uniform conduct of and mode of proceeding in all Provincial Synods by any Provincial Synod shall be made with the concurrence of both Houses as aforesaid hereinbefore contain ed respecting the Rules and Ordinances of Diocesan

25 Synods so far as the same are applicable thereto. 19. So soon as there shall be three Dioceses within the Colony Provincial Synod each having a Diocesan Synod under the provisions hereof it shall be may be held. lawful for the members of the said Church in the said Colony to meet

in Provincial Synod as herein provided.

20. The first Provincial Synod shall be convened and holden Time of holding Prowithin eighteen months after a third Diocese shall be formed within vincial Synod. the Colony having a Diocesan Synod under the provisions hereof and such first Provincial Synod and all subsequent Provincial Synods shall be convened in the manner hereinafter provided save in so far as the 35 same may be altered by any Provincial Synod acting under the powers hereinafter in that behalf given And such Provincial Synod shall be convened and holden once in every three years And for the purpose of holding such Provincial Synod the Bishop of Sydney as the Metropolitan Bishop of Australia shall by writing under his hand and seal summon the Bishop of each Diocese within the Colony having a Diocesan Synod under the provisions hereof and require each such Bishop to convene the members of the Synod of his Diocese or their Representatives at such time and place as the said Bishop of Sydney may deem fit and the Metropolitan and other Bishops attending such House of Bishops. 45 Synod shall sit and vote as one house And the members of the said House of Representa-Diocesan Synods or their Representatives shall sit and vote as another tives of Diocesan house and the Bishop of Sydney as such Metropolitan as aforesaid or in his absence such one of the other Bishops of Australia within the

Colony as he may appoint his Commissary under his hand and seal for Bishops.

50 that purpose shall be President of the said House of Bishops and the members of the House representing the Diocesan Synods shall before Representatives of otherwise proceeding to business elect one of themselves to be President Diocesan Synods. thereof And the President of the said House of Bishops may with the concurrence of both Houses of the said Provincial Synod prorogue 55 and dissolve the same And it shall be lawful for the President of each House to vote on any question or matter arising therein and each such

President shall in case of an equality of votes have also a casting vote. 21. Each House of the Provincial Synod shall have power to Power to make rulesmake rules for the conduct of all business coming before it And the

60 House representing the Diocesan Synods shall also have power to make rules for trying the validity of the election or appointment of any

person claiming to be a Member thereof and for supplying any vacancy therein which may be occasioned by death resignation or any other cause.

Power of Provincial Synod generally.

22. The Provincial Synod shall have power to make ordinances and determinations upon all matters and things concerning the affairs 5 of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Colony Any provision in the said Act of Council eight William Fourth number five or the said Act twenty-one Victoria number four passed for amending the same or any ordinance of any Diocesan Synod in any such case notwithstanding And all ordinances and determinations of such Pro-10 vincial Synod shall be binding on the Bishops of Australia and their successors and all other Members of the Church within the Colony and on none others and on such Members only so far as the same may concern their respective rights duties and liabilities as holding any office in the Church within the Colony.

Mode of voting and

23. Every ordinance or other determination of the Provincial Synod shall be made by a majority of both Houses thereof and in every division of the House representing the Diocesan Synods the voting shall be by Dioceses and no vote shall be taken as the vote of any Diocese unless assented to by a majority both of the Clergy and of the 20 Representative Members present and representing such Diocese and the presence of three Members of the House of Bishops shall be necessary to form a quorum therein and the presence of the Members or Representatives of three Diocesan Synods shall be necessary to form a quorum in the House representing the Diocesan Synods Provided that each 25 Diocesan Synod shall be deemed present or duly represented if three Clerical and six Representative Members of such Diocesan Synod be present.

Power of Provincial Synod to alter Constitution.

24. It shall be lawful for the Provincial Synod to make rules for altering the manner in which subsequent Provincial Synods shall be 30 convened and the mode of electing or otherwise appointing Members of the House representing the Diocesan Synods and for restricting the number of Clergy and Representative Members to be respectively summoned to any future Provincial Synod as Members of the House representing Diocesan Synods therein and the manner in which such 35 restriction shall be effected Provided that the number of Representative Members of the House representing the Diocesan Synods shall never be more than thrice nor less than twice the number of Clerical Members thereof.

Defects and errors as Provincial Synod.

25. No ordinance or determination of the Provincial Synod nor 40 any rule thereof or of either House thereof shall be vitiated by reason of the non-election or non-appointment or non-summoning of any Defects and errors as to election &c. not to person necessary to be elected or appointed or summoned thereto vitiate proceedings of respectively or of any informality in or respecting any such election Provincial Sympol. appointment or summoning.

26. No Rule or Ordinance of any such Diocesan or Provincial Synod shall make any fundamental alteration in the Articles Liturgy Prohibition in respect or formularies of the said Church except in conformity with any alteration which may be made therein by any competent authority of the United Church of England and Ireland in the United Kingdom. Church Doctrines and

Majesty.

to alterations of

27. A copy of all Ordinances passed by any such Provincial Synod shall be sent by the Bishop of Sydney as the Metropolitan Bishop of the Province and a copy of all Ordinances passed by any transmitted to Arch-such Diocesan Synod shall be sent by the Bishop of the Diocese to the bishop of Canterbury Archbishop of Canterbury to be submitted for the consideration of Her 55 and laid before Her Archbishop of Canterbury to be submitted for the consideration of Her Privy Majesty in Council And Her Majesty by the advice of Her Privy Council may allow or disallow the same as to Her Majesty shall seem fit And a notification of such allowance or disallowance of all such Ordinances allowed or disallowed when communicated by the Archbishop to the said Metropolitan or other Bishop shall by him be forth-60 with published.

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28. Any Ordinance disallowed by Her Majesty shall after the Acts done under dispublication of such disallowance cease to be in force but anything done allowed Ordinances. under such Ordinance before such publication shall have the same

validity as if such Ordinance had been allowed.

5 17. 29. In case of the absence from the Colony death or resignation Death &c., of Bishop. of the any Bishop the powers by this Act vested in him may be exercised by a Commissary appointed by the Bishop him and in case no such Commissary shall have been appointed or the See shall be vacant such powers may be exercised by the person who shall then be the next in Ecclesiastical rank 10 or degree in the Diocese and resident therein until the return of the Bishop or the assumption of office by his successor.

18. 30. Nothing herein contained shall affect the right of Her Royal Prerogative Majesty to appoint any Metropolitan or other Bishop of the United Church not interfered with.

of England and Ireland in New South Wales or shall affect any other right 15 or prerogative of Her Majesty save so far only as the same may be expressly affected by this Act.

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