

The Charter

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, To ALL TO WHOM these presents shall come, GREETING.

WHEREAS The Right Reverend Father in God, James Russell, Lord Bishop of Ely : The Very Reverend Edward Bickersteth, Dean of Lichfield, Doctor of Divinity : The Reverend Charles Old Goodford, Doctor of Divinity, Provost of Eton : The Reverend Brooke Foss Westcott, Regius Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge : The Reverend William Ince, Regius Professor of Divinity in the University of Oxford : The Right Honourable Edward James, Earl of Pawls : The Right Honourable William, Lord Bagot : The Right Reverend Father in God, Joseph Barber, Lord Bishop of Durham : The Right Reverend Bishop Edmund Hobhouse : The Right Reverend Bishop Charles John Abraham : Sir Henry Wilmot, Baronet : Sir Walter Rockcliff Farquhar, Baronet : The Venerable Edward Balston, Archdeacon of Derby : The Reverend William Selwyn, Vicar of Bromfield, in the County of Salop: The Reverend Vincent Henry Stanton, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge: and William Ford, of 4, South Square, Gray's Inn, in the County of Middlesex, Esquire HAVE presented their humble Petition to Us, setting forth that at a meeting held on the 21st day of April, 1878, of. divers of Our humble Petitioners, with others of Our loving subjects, for the purpose of establishing a public and permanent Memorial of the long and devoted services of the Right Reverend George Augustus Selwyn, D.D., some time Lord Bishop of New Zealand, and late Lord Bishop of Lichfield, deceased, to the Church of Christ, and in particular the Missionary development thereof, it was unanimously resolved "That the foundation of a College at Cambridge; to be called the 'Selwyn College,' should be submitted to the Church at large as a worthy object by which to perpetuate the noble name and labours of the late Lord Bishop of Lichfield, such College to include provision for the education of the sons of Clergymen and others to fill posts of Missionary work, whether at home or abroad." And that large sums of money had been contributed for carrying such resolution into effect, and for maintaining the College. And that by an Indenture, dated the 3rd day of November, 1879, and made between the Master or Keeper and Fellows of Corpus Christi College, in the University of Cambridge, of the one part, and our Petitioners, the said Edward Bickersteth, and Charles John Abraham, and the Rev. Frederick Thatcher, of the other part, a certain close or parcel of land, situate in the Parish of St. Giles, in the Borough of Cambridge, and in the same Indenture, and the map or plan drawn thereon, particularly described and delineated, with the appurtenances thereto, was granted and assured unto and to the use of the said Edward Bickersteth, Charles John Abraham, and Frederick Thatcher, and their heirs and assigns, in trust for the said proposed undertaking. And further setting forth that Our said Petitioners had been appointed a Council to manage the affairs of the said College ; and that they had elected and appointed the Honourable and Reverend Arthur Temple Lyttelton, MA., of Trinity College, Cambridge, to be the first Master thereof ; and that Our said Petitioners desired that the said proposed College should be a permanent Memorial of the said George Augustus Selwyn, and should bear the impress of his self-denying character and convictions, and should aim at training young men in simple and religious habits according to the principles of the Church of England. And that Our said Petitioners were assured that the objects of the said undertaking would be more certainly and securely attained if it were protected by Our Royal sanction by means of Our Charter of Incorporation. Our said Petitioners therefore must humbly supplicated Us to grant to them, and to the said Arthur Temple Lyttelton, as the first or present Master and Council of the said proposed College, and their successors, Our Royal Charter of

Incorporation, for the purpose of constituting them and their successors a Corporation for the purpose of more effectually carrying on and conducting the said undertaking, under such regulations and restrictions, and with such powers as to Us might seem right and expedient. Now KNOW YE that We, taking the premises into Our Royal consideration, of Our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion have granted, constituted, and appointed, and by these presents for Us, Our heirs, and successors, do grant, constitute, and appoint as follows (that is to say) :-

1. That for the purpose of establishing, carrying on, and maintaining a College at Cambridge, to be called "Selwyn College," Our said Petitioners and the said Arthur Temple Lyttelton, and their successors, Master and Council for the time being of the said College, shall be, and they are hereby, constituted a body politic and corporate by the name of "The Master and Council of Selwyn College," and shall by that name, and for the purposes herein mentioned, have perpetual succession and a Common Seal, with the power to break, alter, and renew the same, at their discretion, and shall by the same name sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, and answer and be answered in all Courts and before all Justices, of Us Our heirs and successors.

2. That by the same name they shall be able and capable in law to take, purchase, and hold to them and their successors any goods, chattels, or personal property whatsoever, and shall also be able and capable in law, notwithstanding the Statutes of Mort-main and Charitable Uses, and without any compliance with the provisions of such Statutes as to enrolment or otherwise, to take, purchase, and hold to them and their successors not only all such lands, hereditaments, and possessions as are comprised in and expressed to be assured by the hereinbefore-mentioned Indenture of the 3rd day of November, 1879, with all buildings erected thereon, and with such additions thereto as the Master and Council for the time being may deem expedient, or such as may be from time to time exclusively used and occupied for the immediate purposes of the said College, but also any other lands, buildings, hereditaments, and possessions whatsoever, situated within Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, not exceeding in the whole (exclusive of the hereditaments comprised in the said Indenture) the annual value of £5,000, such annual value to be calculated and ascertained at the period of taking, purchasing, or acquiring the _same, and that they and their successors shall be able and capable in law to grant, demise, alien, exchange, mortgage, or otherwise deal with or dispose of all or any of the property,• real or personal, belonging to the said College, upon such terms and in such manner as they shall think fit, and also to do all other matters incidental or appertaining to a body corporate. And We do hereby will, ordain, and declare that the said College is founded and constituted with the especial object and intent of providing persons desirous of academical education, and willing to live economically, with a College wherein sober living and high Culture of the mind may be combined with Christian training, based upon the principles of the Church of England.

3. The Archbishop of Canterbury for the time being shall, by virtue of his office, be Visitor of the College, with power to visit and originate inquiry as often as to him shall seem meet.

4. The Master shall always be a Clerk in Holy Orders.

5. The appointment of the said Hon. and Rev. Arthur Temple Lyttelton as the first or present Master shall be and is hereby confirmed, and every future vacancy in the Office arising from any cause whatever shall be filled by such person as the Council shall elect and appoint.
6. The Master, except when prevented by illness or other urgent cause, or when his absence shall be authorised by the Council, shall reside in the College during the Academical terms.
7. Subject to the Statutes or Regulations (if any) for the time being in force, the Master shall have the entire charge of and jurisdiction over the internal or domestic government of the College, and of its inmates, officers, and servants for the time being. The Bursar shall be subordinate to the Master of the College, but his appointment or removal shall rest with the Council, and to such appointment or removal the consent of the Master, if present, shall be necessary.
8. In case of the illness or absence of the Master, the Council may appoint a Vice Master with such of the powers of the Master as they may think fit to vest in the Vice-Master.
9. The Master shall be removable from his office only by and at the discretion of the Visitor, and such discretion shall be exercised only under the circumstances hereinafter specified (that is to say) : If it shall appear to a majority consisting of not less than two-thirds in number of not less than seven Members present at a Meeting of the Council, specially convened to consider the propriety of such removal, that the Master is from any cause whatever unfit for the duties of his office, it shall be competent for them to apply in writing to the Visitor to remove the Master, and the Visitor shall have power at his absolute discretion either to act upon or to reject such application.
10. The council shall consist of not more than sixteen Members, and shall not (except as a matter of temporary necessity) be allowed to be reduced in number to less than ten.
11. The council shall consist of the said Earl of Powis, the said Lord Bagot, the said Lord Bishop of Durham, the said James Russell or other the Lord Bishop of Ely for the time being (*ex officio*), the said Edward Bickersteth or other the Dean of Lichfield for the time being (*ex officio*), the said Charles Old Goodford or other. the Provost of Eton for the time being (*ex officio*), the said Brooke Foss Westcott or other the Regius Professor of Divinity; Cambridge, for the time being (*ex officio*), the said William Ince or other the Regius Professor of Divinity, Oxford, for the time being (*ex officio*), the said Edmund Hobhouse, the said Charles John Abraham, the said Sir Henry Wilmot, the said Sir Walter Rockcliff Farquhar, the said Edward Balston, the said William Selwyn, the said Vincent Henry Stanton, and the said William Ford.
12. Each elected Member of Council shall continue to be a Member, for his life, subject to the exceptions and provisions hereinafter contained; but he may, at any time by notice, in writing, addressed to the Master, resign his office.

13. If any Member of Council shall, during the period of three consecutive years, attend no Meeting of the Council, he shall, upon the expiration of such period, cease to be a Member of Council, but he shall be eligible for re-election, either at once or upon the occurrence of any subsequent vacancy.

14. The Visitor, if required in writing by not less than ten Members of Council for the time being so to do, shall have power, if he think fit, by writing under his hand, to remove any elected Member of Council, and the vacancy caused by any such removal of a Member shall be supplied by the election of a new Member.

15. Every vacancy in the Council shall be supplied by the Council ; and the Master, upon receiving notice of a vacancy having occurred, shall, as soon as conveniently may be, convene a Special Meeting of Council for the purpose of electing some fit and able person to supply such vacancy. He shall give twenty-one days' notice of such election, and no election shall take place except in Term time. If such vacancy shall not be supplied before the expiration of six calendar months from the date of its occurrence, it shall be lawful for the Visitor, if he think proper so to do, to supply the same within three calendar months next after the expiration of such period of six calendar months, or (upon the requisition in writing of a majority of the Members of Council for the time being) at any later period.

16. The Council shall meet for the dispatch of business at Cambridge or elsewhere once at least in every year, and on such other occasions (if any) as circumstances may render a meeting necessary or desirable.

17. The consent of the Master, if present, shall be necessary to all acts of the Council other than those which relate to the appointment or removal of the Master, Vice-Master, or Members of the Council. He shall preside over the Meetings of the Council, and have the same power as any Member of the Council to propose subjects for consideration by the Council, and in case of there being an equality of votes, shall have a casting vote. If the Master shall be absent, or shall refuse to take the chair, the Chairman shall be such one of the Members present as a majority of such Members shall select, or in default of a selection then the Senior Member according to standing present, and willing to take the chair, shall be Chairman. And in case of equality of votes, such Chairman shall have a second or casting vote in addition to his own vote as a Member of Council.

18. No question shall be decided at any Meeting of the Council, nor shall any business be there transacted, unless at least five Members of Council, or four Members of the Council and the Master, shall be present, or if such business consist in the election of a Master, unless at least seven Members of Council shall be present, or if such business consist in the election of a Member of Council, unless at least seven Members of Council or six Members of Council and the Master shall be present.

19. In all cases, not herein otherwise provided for, the Master and Council shall have the entire management, direction, superintendence, and control of and over the affairs, concerns, and property of the College, as well as receiving, issuing, investing, layout out, and disposing of all stock, effects, funds, moneys, and securities, as also in contracting for and purchasing messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments situated within Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and goods and chattels for the use of the College, and in selling, demising, aliening, mortgaging, exchanging, or otherwise disposing of or dealing with any property whatever, real or personal, belonging thereto, also in the obtaining the incorporation of the College with the University of Cambridge, and of all gifts, bequests, exhibitions, and endowments which they may deem desirable for the purposes of the said College. Also, in regard to the appointment and removal, number and rank, powers and duties, stipend and emolument of the Bursar, Tutors, and Lecturers, and of the several persons employed in the College, the terms and conditions upon which Scholars and students shall be admitted, and also touching the mode and time of convening Meetings of the Council, and also touching the mode of conducting the business to be transacted at such Meetings respectively, also touching the qualifications as regards age and other circumstances, nomination, and admission of Scholars and Students, and all other matters relating thereto, and in general touching all other matters whatsoever relating to the said College.

20. Moneys belonging to the College shall from time to time be invested in the names or under the legal control of the Master and Council, in or upon some or one of the Public Stocks, or Funds, or Government Securities of our United Kingdom, or any securities, the interest on which is or shall be guaranteed by Parliament, or in Stock of the Bank of England, or of the Metropolitan Board of Works, or upon freehold, copyhold, or chattel real or leasehold securities in England or Wales (but not in Ireland), or in or upon the debentures or debenture stock of any railway company in Our United Kingdom, or the shares or stock of any such railway company, a fixed or minimum rate of dividend on which is guaranteed by the same or any other company, or secured by means of a fixed rental payable by any other company, or in or upon the debentures, debenture stock, shares, or securities, or the guaranteed or preference stock or shares of any insurance, dock, or canal, or other commercial company in Our United Kingdom which shall have paid a dividend of not less than £3 per centum per annum on their ordinary capital for at least three years prior to the date of the investment, or upon charges created under the Improvement of Land Act, 1864, or any mortgages thereof, or debentures issued under the Mortgage Debenture Act, 1865, or in or upon the bonds, debentures, or securities, of or issued by any public, municipal', or local body or authority, in Our United Kingdom, or on the security of rates or tolls made or levied by any such body or authority, or in any other mode of investment in Our United Kingdom, which shall for the time being be authorised as an investment for trustees by Statute or by the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, and such investments may, in the discretion of the said Master and Council, be from time to time varied or transposed into or for any others of any nature hereinbefore mentioned.

21. The Master and Council shall have full power from time to time, with the consent of the Visitor, to make and also to alter or vary any Statutes touching the government of the College, the stipend or emoluments of the Master, and also touching any of the matters and things over or in relation to which a general power of management and control is hereby given to the Master and Council, and all other matters relating thereto, and in general touching all other matters whatsoever

relating to the College, so as such Statutes be not repugnant to the laws of Our realm, or the general design and spirit of this foundation. And all such Statutes, when reduced into writing, and after the Common Seal of the College hath been affixed thereto, shall be binding upon all persons members thereof.

22. It shall be lawful for the Master and Council for the time being, with the consent of the Visitor, to surrender this Charter, and to wind up the affairs of the Corporation, under and subject to such provisions and arrangements respecting the disposal of the property of the Corporation, and other matters, as the Master and Council shall deem expedient, and as the Visitor shall approve of, due regard being had to all then existing liabilities.

23. It shall be lawful for the Master and Council in all cases unprovided for by this Our Charter to 'act in such manner as shall appear to them best calculated to promote the welfare of the College.

24. And lastly, We do hereby for Us Our heirs and successors grant and declare that these Our Letters Patent, or the enrolment or exemplification thereof, shall be in all things valid and effectual in the Law according to the true intent and meaning of the same, and shall be construed and adjudged in the most favourable and beneficial sense for the best advantage of the said College, as well in all Our Courts as elsewhere, notwithstanding any recital, misrecital, uncertainty, or imperfection in these Our Letters Patent. In Witness thereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent. Witness Ourselves at Our Palace at Westminster, the thirteenth day of September, in the forty-sixth year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command.



CARDEW