

Freehold of Churches, &c. to vest in the Parson or Incumbent.

Proviso.

other Incumbent thereof, for the time being ; and the Church-wardens to be appointed as hereinafter is mentioned, by whatever title the same may now be held, whether vested in Trustees for the use of the Church, or whether the legal Estate remains in the Crown by reason of no Patent having been issued, though set apart for the purposes of such Church, Church Yard or Burying Ground : Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall extend to affect the rights of any Parsonage or Rectory now established by Letters Patent, or of any Proprietary Chapel or any other Church or Body of Christians, to any landed property or Church now erected, but that the same shall be as if this Act had not been passed.

Pew-holders to form a Vestry.

II. And be it enacted, that all Pew-holders in such Churches, whether holding the same by purchase or lease, and all persons holding sittings therein, by the same being let to them by Church-wardens, and holding a certificate from the Church-wardens of such sitting, shall form a Vestry for the purposes in this Act mentioned and declared.

Ordinary meetings and proceedings of Vestry.

III. And be it enacted, that a meeting of such Vestry shall be holden on Monday, in Easter week, in each and every year, after due notice thereof, given during Divine Service on the morning of Easter Sunday, for the purpose of appointing Church-wardens for the ensuing year, and that at such meeting, one Church-warden shall be nominated by the Rector or other Incumbent of the said Church, and the other shall be elected by a majority of those present and entitled to vote at such Vestry meeting as aforesaid : Provided nevertheless, that in case of such Rector or Incumbent declining or neglecting to nominate a Church-warden, then both of the said Church-wardens shall, for the current year, be elected in the manner aforesaid, and in case the members of such Vestry shall neglect to elect a Church-warden, then both of such Church-wardens shall, for the current year, be nominated by the Rector or Incumbent : Provided always, that if, from any cause, a Vestry meeting shall not take place at the time aforesaid, such appointment of Church-wardens may take place at any subsequent Vestry meeting, to be called in manner hereinafter provided ; and in case of the death or change of residence to twenty miles or more from any such Church, of either of the said Church-wardens, a Vestry meeting shall be thereupon called for the election, by the said Vestry, of a new Church-warden, in case the one deceased or removed had been elected by the Vestry, or for the nomination of a new Church-warden by the Rector or Incumbent, in case the one deceased or removed had been nominated by the Incumbent.

Church-wardens.

IV. And be it enacted, that no person shall be eligible to the office of Church-warden, except members of the said Church of the full age of twenty-one years, and who shall also be members of such Vestry.

V.