

Bishop had and in fact still has (Burn's Eccl. Law, vol. ii., p. 17) the right to assemble the Clergy of his Diocese in Synod or Council to transact ecclesiastical affairs.

THE CONSTITUTION OF VESTRIES FOR FREE CHURCHES.

Whereas there are many churches in the country, in which, by reason of there being no pews or sittings held by the members of the congregation thereof, no vestry can be legally formed for the direction of said churches, the management of their property, or other necessary matters; and whereas by the act of Victoria, entitled, "An Act to enable the members of the United Church of England and Ireland, in Canada, to meet in Synod," authority is given to the Bishops, Clergy and Laity, members of the said United Church of England and Ireland, meeting in Synod, to "frame constitutions and make regulations * * * for the convenient and orderly management of the property, affairs and interests of the Church: Be it enacted that in all such churches in this Diocese where by reason of the seats being free no vestry can be formed, the members of the congregation of each said church shall have power and authority to constitute and form a vestry. And such vestry shall consist of such members, being of the full age of twenty-one years, as shall declare themselves in writing, in a book to be procured for that purpose by the congregation, to be members of the United Church of England and Ireland and habitually attending worship in such Church. And being so formed and constituted, such vestry shall have the same power and authority, and do and perform such matters and things as are possessed and done by vestries formed of holders of pews or sittings in other churches.

Provided always, that such vestry shall have no power or authority to interfere with, alter or change any right, rule or custom existing in such church by virtue of any gift, endow-