

matters, or any of them, as" they, "or any ten or more of" them, "may think fit to recommend."

We, your Majesty's Commissioners, have, in accordance with the terms of your Majesty's Commission, directed our first attention to the question of the vestments worn by the ministers of the said United Church at the time of their ministration, and especially to those the use of which has been lately introduced into certain churches.

We find that while these vestments are regarded by some witnesses as symbolical of doctrine, and by others as a distinctive venture whereby they desire to do honour to the Holy Communion as the highest act of Christian worship, they are by none regarded as essential, and they give grave offence to many.

We are of opinion that it is expedient to restrain in the public service of the United Church of England and Ireland all variations in respect of vesture from that which has been the established usage of the United Church, and we think that this may be best secured by providing aggrieved parishioners with an easy and effectual process for complaint and redress.

We are not yet prepared to recommend to your Majesty the best mode of giving effect to these conclusions, with a view at once to secure the objects proposed, and to promote the peace of the Church; but we have thought it our duty in a matter to which great interest is attached not to delay the communication to your majesty of the results at which we have already arrived.

We have placed in the appendix the evidence of the witnesses examined, the documents referred to in the evidence or produced before the Commissioners, the cases which had been submitted to eminent counsel on either side of the question, together with the opinions thereupon; also the report on the subject made by the Committee of the Lower House of the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury, and the resolutions passed by the Upper as well as the Lower House of that Convocation, and the resolution passed by the Convocation of the Province of York.

All which we humbly beg leave to submit to your Majesty.

C. T. CANTUAR.	(L.S.)	*ROBERT J. PHILLIMORE.	(L.S.)
M. G. ARMAGH.	(L.S.)	TRAVERS TWISS.	(L.S.)
STANHOPE.	(L.S.)	JOHN DUKE COLLERIDGE.	(L.S.)
HARROWBY.	(L.S.)	JOHN ABEL SMITH.	(L.S.)
BEAUCHAMP.	(L.S.)	*A. J. B. BERESFORD HOPE	(L.S.)
A. C. LONDON.	(L.S.)	J. G. HUBBARD.	(L.S.)
C. ST. DAVID'S.	(L.S.)	ARTHUR PENRHYN STANLEY.	(L.S.)
S. OXON.	(L.S.)	H. GOODWIN.	(L.T.)
C. J. GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.	(L.S.)	J. A. JEREMIE.	(L.S.)
PORTMAN.	(L.S.)	R. PAYNE SMITH.	(L.S.)
EBURY.	(L.S.)	HENRY VENN.	(L.S.)
SPENCER H. WALPOLE.	(L.S.)	W. G. HUMPHREY.	(L.S.)
EDWARD CARDWELL.	(L.S.)	ROBERT GREGORY.	(L.S.)
JOSEPH NAPIER.	(L.S.)	†THOMAS WALTER PERRY.	(L.S.)
WILLIAM PAGE WOOD.	(L.S.)		

19th August, 1867.

W. F. KEMPT. Secretary.

\* We agree to the main proposition contained in this report, and have therefore signed it, upon the understanding that it does not exclude the consideration of cases in which the authority of the bishop and the rights of the parishioners and congregation are carefully guarded.

ROBERT J. PHILLIMORE,  
A. J. B. BERESFORD HOPE.

† In signing this report, I think it right to express my conviction that any power to "restrain" the "variations in respect of vesture," to which the report refers, ought to be limited to cases in which "grave offence" is likely to be given by introducing such "vesture" into churches against the mind of the people; and also to state that by "aggrieved parishioners" I understand to be meant those who, being *bona fide* members and communicants of the Church of England, have a reasonable ground for complaint and redress.

THOMAS W. PERRY.