

meeting, if they think fit, to elect one representative for each number of fifty persons so voting, provided that no parish or district shall return more than four such representatives.

*Voting at Meeting for Election of Lay Representatives.*

X. And provided, that in case at the meeting the number of persons proposed for election exceed the number which the meeting is authorised to elect, the Chairman shall take in writing, or in a poll-book, the votes of the qualified persons present and enumerated as aforesaid, and every such person may give one vote for each of such of the persons proposed, not exceeding the number which the meeting is authorised to elect, as he may think fit, and the chairman shall declare the number of the votes given for each of the persons proposed; and the chairman, if he be not a Clerk, shall be entitled to vote at and may be elected by such meeting, and where the votes for two or more persons are equal, the chairman, if not a clerk, may give a double vote for any such person, and if the chairman be a clerk, he may, notwithstanding, where such votes are equal as aforesaid, give a casting vote for any such person.

*Names of Lay Representatives elected, &c., to be delivered to Bishop, and laid before Assembly.*

XI. And provided, that the chairman shall deliver or cause to be delivered to each person elected a certificate of his election, and shall sign the minutes of the meeting in token of their correctness, and, unless he be the clergyman of the parish or district, shall deliver them to such clergyman, together with all certificates, subscriptions, and lists which had been laid before the said meeting, and a certificate of the names, callings, and addresses of the persons chosen, and the clergyman shall cause all such documents to be delivered to the Bishop, to be by him laid before the assembly at the meeting thereof.

*Certain Regulations to be made at first Meeting of Assembly.*

XII. And provided, that every assembly first convened in any diocese under this Act shall at its first meeting, or at some adjournment or adjournments thereof, make such regulations as shall seem fit for its own proceedings and government, and for the proceedings and government of future assemblies, without prejudice to the right of any future assembly to vary or repeal the same, and especially for the adjournment or prorogation of such assembly, and the calling of future assemblies, and election of the lay members thereof, but so that every lay member of such future assembly shall be a communicant of the Church as aforesaid.

*Provisions for convening and holding First Assembly to apply to subsequent Assemblies until otherwise provided by the Regulations.*

XIII. And provided, that the provisions of this Act for and in relation to the first convening and holding of an assembly in a diocese, and for and in relation to and consequent on the election of the lay members thereof, shall, unless and until the first or any subsequent assembly shall otherwise provide, remain in force and be acted upon for and in relation to any subsequent assembly in such diocese, and the elections of the lay members thereof; and in every case not provided for by this Act, or by the regulations for the time being in force of his diocesan assembly, the bishop of the diocese may provide for and regulate the convening of such assembly, and the form and manner of all proceedings preparatory thereto, as he may think fit.

*Copy of such Regulations to be sent to Archbishop of Canterbury, and to be submitted for Allowance by Her Majesty in Council.*

XIV. And provided, that a copy of the regulations passed at the first assembly to be called in any diocese, and from time to time of any alterations of such regulations, shall be sent by the Bishop, duly certified under his hand and seal as having been made with his assent by an assembly of his diocese, to the Archbishop of

Canterbury, and the Archbishop shall, within six months of his receipt of the same, submit the same, with such observations thereon as he may see fit to make, for the consideration of Her Majesty in Council, and Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, may allow or disallow the same as to Her Majesty, with such advice, shall seem fit; and the regulations so allowed, and a notification of the disallowance of such regulations as may be disallowed, shall be forthwith transmitted by the said Archbishop to the Bishop of the diocese, and shall by him be published in the said diocese.

*Regulations disallowed to have no Force after Receipt of the Notification by the Bishop, but Acts done in the meantime to be valid.*

XV. And provided, that any regulation disallowed by Her Majesty as aforesaid, shall, after the notification of the disallowance thereof shall have been received by the Bishop of the diocese, cease to be in force, but any act, matter, or thing done under or in accordance with any such regulation, before such receipt of the notification of the disallowance thereof, shall have the same validity and effect as if such regulation had been allowed.

*After allowance of the Regulations of an Assembly, no irregularity in relation to such Assembly to affect the validity of its Acts.*

XVI. And provided, that after the regulations certified by the Bishop of any diocese as the regulations made with his assent by an assembly in his diocese under this Act, or any of such regulations, shall have been allowed by Her Majesty in Council, no such regulations, nor any matter done thereunder, nor any proceeding of any subsequent assembly, shall be in any wise invalidated or affected by or on account of any error or irregularity in convening or otherwise in relation to the assembly of which the regulations shall have been so certified, or in relation to the proceedings preparatory to the meeting of such assembly.

*Provincial Assemblies may be held.*

XVII. And provided, that in any province where, for the purpose of promoting agreement between the rules and regulations of the several dioceses thereof, it shall be thought fit to hold any meeting for such dioceses jointly, the Archbishop or Metropolitan of such province for the time being shall convene the Bishops of such province, and require them to convene the members of their several diocesan assemblies, or such representatives of the same as shall hereafter by any such provincial assembly be determined, at such time and place as he may deem fit, to consider of and determine upon all such things and matters as may concern the Church in the same province; and of every such provincial Assembly the said Archbishop or Metropolitan shall be the president, and shall always preside therein personally, or by such Bishop or Bishops of his province as he shall appoint his commissary or commissaries under his hand and seal for that purpose; and the Archbishop and Bishops attending such assembly shall sit and vote as one house, and the clergy and lay members shall sit and vote as another house, and no act or resolution shall be valid to which both houses shall not have assented; and on every division of the house of clergy and lay members nothing shall be held to be carried by a majority of such house but that to which a majority of both the clergy and laity, voting by dioceses, shall have assented, the vote of the majority of the clergy present and representing each diocese being taken as the vote of the clergy of such diocese, and the vote of the majority of the laymen present and representing the laity of such diocese being taken as the vote of the laity of such diocese; and all rules and regulations so passed shall be valid, subject to such provisions and restrictions, and to such allowance or disallowance, as has been hereinbefore provided with regard to the regulations of such diocesan assemblies as aforesaid.