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The Order and Forme for Church Government by Bishops and the Clergie of This Kingdome. Voted in the House of Commons on Friday. Iuly 16. 1641. Whereunto Is Added Mr. Grimstons and Mr. Seldens Arguments Concerning Episcopacie

England and Wales. Parliament (1641). House of Commons

Grimston, Harbottle, 1603-1685

Selden, John, 1584-1654

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THE
ORDER
AND
FORME

FOR
CHURCH GOVERNMENT
By Bishops and the Clergie of
this Kingdome.

Voted in the House of Commons
on Friday, JULY 16. 1641.

Whereunto is added
Mr. GRIMSTONS and Mr.
SELDEN'S Arguments
concerning
EPISCOPACIE.



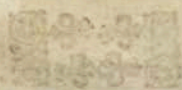
Printed Anno, 1641.

THE
ORDER
AND
FORM

FOR
CHURCH GOVERNMENT
By Bishops and the Clergy of
the Kingdom.

Voted in the House of Commons
on Friday, July 16, 1641.

Whereunto is added
Mr. GRIMSTON'S and Mr.
SELDEN'S Arguments
concerning
EPISCOPACY.



Printed Anno 1641.



THE
ORDER

For Church-Government in the
House of COMMONS, Saturday 17th

July, 1641.

Imprimis.

E Very severall Shire of *England* and *Wales*,
to be a severall Circuite or Diocesse, for
the Ecclesiastick Jurisdiction, excepting
Torkeshire which is to be divided into three.

II.

■ A Constant Presbyterie of Twelve choise
Divines to be selected in every Shire or Diocesse.

III.

A Constant President to be established as a
Bishop over this Presbyterie.

IV.

This Bishop in each Diocesse to ordaine, sus-
pend, deprive, degrade, Excommunicate by : and
with the consent and assistance of seaven Divines of
his Presbyterie then present and not otherwise.

V.

The times of Ordination throughout the land to
be

be foure times every yeere, viz. the 1. of *May*, the
the 1 of *August*, the 1 of *November*, and the 1 of
February.

VI.

Every Bishop constantly to reside within his
Diocesse, in some one prime, or chiefe City or
Towne within his *Diocesse*, as in particular.

VII.

Every Bishop to have one speciall particular
Congregation, to be chosen out of the most conveni-
ent for distance of place, from his chiefe residence,
and the richest in value that may be had: where he
shall duely preach, unlesse he be lawfully hindred,
and then shall take care that his Cure be well sup-
plied by another.

VIII.

No Bishop shall remove or bee translated from
the Bishopricke which he shall first undertake.

IX.

Upon every death, or other avoidance of a Bishop,
the King to grant a *Congè d'elire* to the whole
Clergie of that *Diocesse*, and they to present three
of the *Presbyters* aforesaid, and the King to choose
and nominate whom he please of them.

X.

The first *Presbyters* of every shire to bee named
by the *Parliament*, and afterwards upon the death,
or other avoidance of any *Presbyter*, the remaining
Presbyters to choose another out of the *Parish*
Ministers

[3]

Ministers of that shire, and this to bee done within one month next after such death or avoidance.

XI.

No Bishop or Clergie-man to exercise or have any *Temporall Office*, or *secular employment*, but onely, for the present, to hold and keepe the probate of wills, untill the *Parliament* shall otherwise resolve.

XII.

The Bishop once a yeare (at Midsummer) to summon a *Diocesan Synod*, there to heare, and by generall vote, to determine all such matter of scandall in Life and Doctrine among the Clergie-men, as shall be presented unto them.

XIII.

Every three yeares, a *Nationall Synod* to be, which for persons shall consist of all the Bishops in the Land, and of two *Presbyters* to be chosen by the rest out of each *Presbytery*, and of two *Clarkes* to be chosen out of every *Diocesse*, by the *Clergie* thereof.

XIV.

This *Nationall Synod* to make and ordaine *Canons* of the *Government* of the Church, but they not to bind untill they be confirmed by *Parliament*.

XV.

Every Bishop to have over and above the Benefice aforesaid, a certaine constant Rent allowed

and allotted proportionall to the Diocesse where
in he is to Officiate, that is to say, every *Presbyter*
to have a constant yearly profit above his Be-
nefice.

XVI.

As for the Revenue of the Bishops, Deanes, and
Chapters, &c. a strict Survey to be taken of all
their rents and profits, and the same to be represen-
ted at the beginning of our next Convention, and in
the meane time no Lease to be renewed, nor Tim-
ber to be felled.

XVII.

Every three years a Matrimoniall Synod to be which
shall consist of all the Bishops of the Province
out of each Province and of two Clergy to be cho-
sen out of every Diocesse by the Clergy themselves.

XIV.

Mr.

This Matrimoniall Synod to make and ordaine Cer-
emonies of the Government of the Church, but they not
to bind unlesse they be confirmed by Parliament.

Every Bishop to have over and above the Be-
nefice a certain constant Rent allowed



Mr. GRIMSTONS

Argument concerning Bishops.

I.
That Bishops *Jure Divino*, is of question.

II.
 That *Arch-bishops* are not *Jure Divino*, is out of question.

III.
 That *Ministers* are *Jure Divino*, there is no question.

Now if Bishops which are questioned, whether *Jure Divino*, and Arch-bishops which out of question are not *Jure Divino*, suspend Ministers that are *Jure Divino*, I leave it to you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SELDENS Answer.

I.
That the Convocation is *Jure Divino*, is a question.

II.
 That Parliaments are not *Jure Divino*, is out of question.

3. That

That Religion is Jure Divino, there is no question.

Now Mr. Speaker, that the Convocation, which is questioned, whether *Jure Divino*, and Parliaments, which out of question are not *Jure Divino*, should meddle with Religion, which questionlesse, is *Jure Divino*, I leave to you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. GRIMSTONS Reply.

But Arch-Bishops are no Bishops.

Mr. SELDENS Answer,

That's no otherwise true, then that Judges are not Lawyers, and Aldermen not Citizens.

FINIS.



Beare witness, dissonant
 Shall live and flourish, crown'd with lasting Fame.
 In Times to come, the honour of his name,
 None more deserves, none hath more general love;
 Inquir'd with Heavenly wisdom from above
 Great Brittaines Friend, Venues Epitomy.
 For Reader here presented to thine eye,
 Not in Devotion.
 John Pym, Eldere, Burgess for Taver-



John Pymm, Esquire, Burgesse for *Tav-*
stock in Devonshire.

Loe Reader here presented to thine eye,
Great *Brittaines* Friend, Vertues Epitomy.
Inspir'd with Heavenly wisdom from above
None more deserves, none hath more generall love :
In Times to come, the honour of his name,
Shall live and flourish, crown'd with lasting Fame.

Bene vivere, bis vivere est.