

ANNO TERTIO

GULIELMI IV. REGIS

Cap. 4

An Act for settling and preserving Sir John Soane's Museum, Library, and Works of Art, in Lincoln's Inn Fields in the County of Middlesex, for the Benefit of the Public, and for establishing a sufficient Endowment for the due Maintenance of the same.

[20th April 1833.]

WHEREAS Sir John Soane of Chelsea in the County of Middlesex, Knight, hath for many years past been at great labour and expense in collecting and establishing a Museum, comprising, among other valuable Effects, the Belzoni Sarcophagus, a Library of Books and Manuscripts, Prints, Drawings, Pictures, Models, and various Works of Art, all of which are deposited and arranged in a House and Offices in the Occupation of the said Sir John Soane, built and expressly adapted for the Purposes of the said Museum, situate and being No.13 on the North Side of Lincoln's Inn Fields in the County of Middlesex, of which the said Sir John Soane claims to have the power of absolutely disposing; And whereas the said Sir John Soane claims to be seised in fee simple of another house and offices situate and being Number 12 in Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid: And whereas the said Sir John Soane is desirous that such Museum and Library and Works of Art should be kept together and preserved and maintained for public use and advantage, and that a sufficient endowment should be established for the preservation and maintenance thereof, and for other purposes immediately connected therewith; but he is unable, without the aid of Parliament to carry such his Intentions into effect: Therefore to the end that the said Museum or Collection, Library and Works of Art may be preserved and maintained for the public benefit, according to the Intention of the said Sir John Soane, may it please your most excellent Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from and immediately after the decease of the said Sir John Soane all that the before-mentioned messuage or tenement being Number 13 on the north side of Lincoln's Inn Fields in the County of Middlesex, together with the offices, buildings, rights, members and appurtenances thereunto belonging, and also all the messuage or tenement adjoining on the said last-mentioned messuage or tenement, and being Number 12 on the said north side of Lincoln's Inn Fields, together with the offices, buildings, rights, members, and appurtenances thereunto belonging, shall, in as full and ample a manner, in case he shall have power to dispose of the same in fee simple, and for the like estate and interest, and with the like right and title, as the said Sir John Soane shall at the time of his decease hold, possess and enjoy the same, become and be settled, limited, and vested, and the same are hereby declared to be so settled, limited and vested, in the Trustees herein-after by this Act named, and their successors, for the purposes hereinafter by this Act declared; and further, that all the said Museum, Library, Books, Prints, Manuscripts, Drawings, Pictures, Models, Plans, Works of Art, and all other the Collection contained in the said first-mentioned house, offices, and premises, (being

Number 13 on the said north side of Lincoln's Inn Fields,) together with the furniture and all household and other articles and things belonging to the said Sir John Soane, which shall be in the said House in which the said Museum is deposited at the time of the decease of the said Sir John Soane, either connected with the said Museum, or with the use, occupation, , or enjoyment of the said house, (except jewels, plate, linen, and china,) shall be and the same are hereby declared to be settled, limited and vested in the Trustees hereafter named, to have, hold, and enjoy all the aforesaid premises to them and their successors for ever, to the uses, intents, and purposes following; that is to say, upon trust and confidence that the said Trustees and their successors shall and will, from time to time and all times thereafter, as occasion shall require, inspect and exercise a due control over the said Museum, Library, Books, Prints, Manuscripts, Drawings, Maps, Models, Plans, and Works of Art, and the house and offices in which the same are deposited, and provide for the due preservation of the same in the said house being Number 13 in Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid, so that free access shall be given at least on two days in every week, throughout the months of April, May and June, and at such other times in the same or in any other months as the said Trustees shall direct, to Amateurs and Students in Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture, and to such other persons as shall apply for and obtain admission thereto, at such hours and in such manner and under such regulations, for consulting and inspecting and benefiting by the said Collection, as the said Sir John Soane shall have established previous to his decease, or as the said Trustees shall establish relating thereto; and that the said Trustees and their successors shall not (except in cases of absolute necessity) suffer the arrangement in which the said Museum or Collection or Library shall respectively be left by the said Sir John Soane at the time of his decease to be altered.

II. And whereas it is the Intention of the said Sir John Soane to invest the sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities in the names of himself and one or more of the Trustees hereinafter by this Act appointed, in order that the interest and dividends arising from the said sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities, together with the rents of the said house being Number 12 on the north side of Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid, may at his decease be applied in maintaining and preserving the said Museum or Collection, Library, Books, Prints, Manuscripts, Drawings, Pictures, Models, Plans, and Works of Art; be it further enacted and declared, that it shall be lawful for the said Sir John Soane, to invest or cause to be invested, or direct by his Will in writing or any codicil thereto duly executed in the presence of two witnesses, that there shall be invested, out of his personal estate, the sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities, or any other monies, stocks, or funds in lieu thereof, not in the whole exceeding the said Sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds, for the purposes of this Act; and that the said Sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities, or other sum to be invested for the said purposes, and whether the same shall have been invested for the purposes of this Act before the passing thereof, or after, when so invested in the names of the said Sir John Soane and any one or more of the said Trustees, for the purposes aforesaid, or in the name of any of the said Trustees alone, shall be so vested in them upon trust that the said Sir John Soane and his assigns shall and may receive the dividends of the said Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities, or other sum so to be invested for the purposes aforesaid, during his life; and after the decease of the said Sir John Soane, upon trust that the said sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities or other sum so to be invested as aforesaid, shall be transferred into or invested in the names of the Trustees hereinafter named, or their successors, upon trust, out of the dividends or

interest from time to time to accrue thereon, and out of the rents and profits of the said house being Number 12 in Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid, to make the several annual and other reservations, allowances, and payments hereinafter particularly mentioned and declared; that is to say, that the said Trustees shall, in the first place, from and out of the dividends and Interest to accrue from the said sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities, or other sum so to be invested as aforesaid, and the rents and profits of the said house being No.12. in Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid, apply yearly and every year any sum or sums, not exceeding in the whole the sum of Five Hundred Pounds, in the payment of all such rates, taxes, and other Parliamentary or parochial charges as shall be from time to time assessed or charged upon the said house being No.13 in Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid, and other the offices and appurtenances thereto belonging, or upon or on account of the said Museum or Collection, or in anywise relating thereto, and also in the payment of such rates, taxes, and other charges, which from time to time shall be assessed or charged upon the said house, being No.12 in Lincoln's Inn Fields, which shall not be paid or payable by the tenant or lessee thereof for the time being, and also in paying and providing for the properly lighting and warming the said house and premises containing the said Museum, and for the annual and board wages of the servants employed in the said house, and in defraying all other necessary and incidental expenses relating to the keeping up and preserving the said houses and Museum, including the expense of insuring against damage by fire; and that the said Trustees shall apply a further sum of One Hundred Pounds, other part of the said dividends or interest, rents, and profits, in creating and continuing a fund, to be placed in the Bank of England in the name of the said Trustees, for the purpose of keeping the said house, offices and premises comprising the said Museum in repair; and if at any time necessary, in rebuilding the same or any part thereof; and keeping up and preserving the said house being No.12 in Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid, except as to such repairs thereof as shall be done by the tenants or lessees thereof for the time being, with power to the said Trustees for the time being to accumulate the said annual sum of One Hundred Pounds, and also any surplus income which may remain in their hands after making all the payments hereinbefore directed to be made, in the way of compound interest, by investing the same, and all the resulting income and produce thereof, from time to time, in their names, in the purchase of Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities, for such general purposes relating to the same Museum as to the said Trustees shall seem expedient; and further to apply the yearly sum of Three Hundred Pounds, other part of the dividends or interest, rents or profits, in payment of the salary of the Curator of the said Museum and premises, to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned; and the yearly sum of One Hundred Pounds, other part of the said dividends or interest, rents or profits, in payment of the salary of the Inspectress of the said Museum, to be also appointed in manner hereinafter mentioned; which salaries of the said Curator and Inspectress for the time being of the said house and Museum and premises shall be paid half-yearly, clear of all deductions.

III. And be it enacted, that every Curator of the said Museum for the time being shall (subject to the inspection and control of the said Trustees) have the immediate care, charge, and custody of the said house being No.13 in Lincon's Inn Fields aforesaid, and of the offices used therewith, and of the said Museum, Library, Books, Paintings, Manuscripts, Drawings, Pictures, Plans, and Works of Art, and other effects therein, and shall keep the said house, offices, and Museum, at all times, as nearly as circumstances will admit, in the state and condition in which the same shall be left as the decease of the said Sir John Soane; and the said Curator shall reside in the said house, for which purpose the said Trustees shall assign and appropriate to the said Curator one sitting-room and one bed-room, in

order that he may the more conveniently and effectually perform the duties of his said office; and the said Curator shall always be in attendance at the said house and Museum on such days as the said house and Museum shall be open for public inspection, or persons shall be admitted thereto by the said Trustees, and at all other times necessary for the due preservation of the said house, offices, and Museum; and the said Curator shall take care that the house, offices, Museum, and premises, be kept properly cleaned, warmed, ventilated, and in thorough repair; and in order thereto shall report to the said Trustees yearly, or oftener if requisite or expedient, what is necessary to be done for the due keeping up and preserving the said house, offices, Museum, and premises, together with the estimate expense thereof, to the end that the said Trustees may direct whatever repairs they may, in consequence of such report or otherwise, consider necessary and expedient to be done; and the said Curator shall collect the rents of the said house being No.12 in Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid, and shall, twice at least in every year, pay the amount so received by him into the hands of the said Trustees, or to the account to be kept at the Bank of England in their names as Trustees of the said fund.

IV. And be it enacted, that every person who shall be appointed the Curator of the said Museum shall, within one month from his nomination and appointment thereto, and before he shall enter upon the said office of Curator, give satisfactory security to the said Trustees, by a joint and several bond from himself and two sufficient sureties, in the sum of One Thousand Pounds, that no part of the said Museum, or any of the Books, Manuscripts, Paintings, Drawings, Pictures, Models, Works of Art, or effects, in the said Museum, or offices shall be taken away from the said Museum, or lost or embezzled, and shall, upon being admitted into the said office of Curator, make out and subscribe with his own names a full and complete catalogue or schedule of all such Books, Manuscripts, Prints, Drawings, Pictures, Models, and various Works of Art, and other things, as shall be placed under his charge as such Curator as aforesaid, and shall deliver the same to the said Trustees, or one of them, and shall keep one other copy thereof, likewise subscribed by him, in the principal room of the said Museum for general reference.

V. And be it further enacted, that every such Curator shall be removable from his office of Curator by the said Trustees at pleasure, except the person who shall be appointed Curator by the said Sir John Soane as hereinafter mentioned, who shall be removable by the said Trustees with the consent of the President of the Royal Academy.

VI. And be it enacted, that the Inspectress of the said house and Museum for the time being (who is not to reside in the said house) shall have the entire arrangement of the domestic concerns of the house and offices appropriated to the said Museum, and shall from time to time provide all such things as shall be necessary and proper for the same, and which shall be paid for by the said Trustees as incidental expenses; and the said Inspectress shall have the sole power and duty of hiring and discharging one man-servant and two female servants, who shall be constantly kept and employed as domestic servants, on board wages, in and about the said Museum and offices, one of which said female servants may act as the domestic servant of the Curator for the time being, so far as he shall require her services.

VII. And be it further enacted, that every Inspectress shall be removable from her office by the said Trustees at pleasure.

VIII. And be it enacted, that the first Curator of the said Museum, and the first Inspectress of the said Museum, house, and offices, shall be such persons respectively as the said Sir John Soane, by his last Will and Testament in writing, or by any Codicil to his last Will and Testament in writing, may have nominated or appointed, or shall nominate and appoint respectively, as such Curator and Inspectress.

IX. And be it enacted, that in the event of the said Sir John Soane departing this life without having by Will or Codicil nominated or appointed any person to be the Curator of the said Museum; or in the event of any Curator so nominated and appointed by the Will or Codicil of the said Sir John Soane, departing this life before he shall have been admitted to or taken upon himself the office of Curator; or in the event of any Curator so nominated and appointed by the Will or Codicil of the said Sir John Soane, or any future Curator to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned, dying, or resigning the said office of Curator, or being removed from the said office as hereinbefore is mentioned, it shall be lawful for the President and Council of the Royal Academy for the time being, within three months from such vacancy occurring, to select and nominate and appoint as such Curator as aforesaid and English Architect who may have distinguished himself or gained any Academical Prize, being at the least of the age of twenty-five years, whom they may deem the most competent to discharge the duties of the said office; and upon such appointment being duly certified to the Trustees of the said Museum, the said Curator so nominated and appointed shall be by the said Trustees instituted into the said office of Curator, and charged with the same duties, and entitled to the same salary, as is hereinbefore by this Act declared and provided; and during all such time as the said office or appointment of Curator shall be vacant, the Trustees of the said Museum shall place a proper person in temporary charge of the said house, Museum, and offices, and shall pay to such person such reasonable sum of money, by way of compensation for his services, as the said Trustees shall in their discretion think fit.

X. And be it enacted, that in the event of the said Sir John Soane departing this life without having by Will or Codicil names or appointed any person to be the Inspectress of the said Museum, house and offices; or in the event of any Inspectress so nominated and appointed by the Will or Codicil of the said Sir John Soane departing this life before she shall have taken upon herself the said office of Inspectress; or in the event of any Inspectress so nominated and appointed by the Will or Codicil of the said Sir John Soane, or any future Inspectress to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned, dying, or resigning the said office of Inspectress, or being removed from the said office as hereinbefore is mentioned, it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustee of the said Museum, within one month of such vacancy occurring, to select and nominate and appoint as such Inspectress, with the like salary as aforesaid, any other proper person to be Inspectress of the said house and offices.

XI. And be it enacted, that Samuel Thornton, of Chobham, in the county of Surrey, Esquire; Francis Chantrey, of Belgrave Place, in the county of Middlesex, Esquire; Samuel Higham, of the National Debt Redemption Office, Esquire; and John Laurens Bicknell, of Abingdon Street, in the county of Middlesex Esquire, shall be, and they are hereby constituted and appointed, the Trustees for life for the purposes of this Act; and that they and their successors to be appointed as hereinafter is mentioned, together with the persons who shall be respectively elected additional Trustees, in manner and for the purposed hereinafter mentioned, shall be and be called "The Trustees of Sir John Soane's Museum," and may sue and be sued by that name or title.

XII. And be it enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the said Sir John Soane, and his is hereby authorised and empowered, by any deed or instrument under his hand and seal duly executed by him in the presence of two or more credible witnesses, or by his last Will and Testament in writing, or by any Codicil to his Will or Testament in writing, duly executed by him in the presence of three or more creditable witnesses, to nominate and appoint any other person or persons to be a Trustee or Trustees of the said Museum and premises, in the place or stead of any one or more of the said Trustees in and by this Act named and appointed; and upon such appointment being so made as aforesaid, the person or persons so named and appointed in the place or stead of any one or more of the said Trustees, shall, immediately after the decease of the said Sir John Soane, be a Trustee or Trustees of the said Museum and premises, and shall have all the trusts, powers, duties, and authorities of a Trustee or Trustees of the said Museum and premises, as if such person or persons had been originally named in and by this Act; and it is hereby declared that the appropriation and trusts of and with respect to the said Museum, hereditaments, and premises, and the investment and appropriation by the said Sir John Soane of the said sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities, or of any other monies, stocks, or funds in lieu thereof, for the purpose of this Act, not in the whole exceeding the said sum of Thirty Thousand Pounds, shall be and be construed and taken to be good, valid, and effectual, to all intents and purposes, the statute made and passed in the ninth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Second, intituled "An Act to restrain the Disposition of Lands whereby the same become unalienable," or any of the Statutes of Mortmain, or other disabling statutes, in anywise notwithstanding.

XIII. And be it enacted, that from and after the decease of the said Sir John Soane, when and as often as any of the said Trustees names in this Act, or any future Trustees to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned, in the place or stead of any Trustee or Trustees named in this Act, shall die, or resign his or their said offices, it shall and may be lawful for the surviving or continuing Trustees or Trustee so named and appointed, or the majority of such surviving or continuing Trustees (if more than one), and they are hereby required, by appointment under hand and seal, within one month, to nominate and appoint any other proper persons or person to be a Trustee or Trustees in the place or stead of him or them so dying or resigning; and the person or persons so appointed shall immediately thereupon be, to all intents and purposes, a Trustee or Trustees of the said Museum, houses, and premises hereinbefore mentioned, which are by this Act vested in the Trustees or Trustee for the time being, and shall have the same powers and authorities respectively as if he or they had been originally named and appointed in and by this present Act; and that upon every change of such Trustees, the said sum or Thirty Thousand Pounds Three Pounds per Centum Consolidated Bank Annuities, and all other the trust stocks for the time being belonging to the said Trustees for the purposes of this Act, or any of them, shall with all convenient speed be transferred to the books of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England into the names of the said Trustees and their successors for the time being.

XIV. And be it enacted, that in the event of John Soane, the eldest son of John and Maria Soane, of Chelsea aforesaid, and the grandson of the said Sir John Soane, attaining the age of twenty-five years, and being then desirous of residing in the said house in Lincoln's Inn Fields, in which the said Museum is now arranged and is to be preserved, and applying to the said Trustees for authority to reside therein, it shall and may be lawful for the said Trustees, and they are hereby required, to permit the said John Soane, upon attaining such his age of twenty-five years, with any wife and

children he may have, but no other person whatsoever except the said John Soane, his wife and children, to reside in the said house (without payment of any rent or rates or taxes for the same) during such time as he shall personally continue to dwell therein, and to make the said house his principal residence, and give sufficient security, or undertaking, to the satisfaction of the said Trustees, to preserve the said Museum, Library, Books, Manuscripts, Prints, Drawings, Pictures, and Works of Art, for the public purposes hereinbefore declared and specified concerning the same; and during the whole of the time in which the said John Soane shall reside in the said house, the office and duties of Inspectress shall continue, and the Curator of the said Museum shall also continue in the use and occupancy of the apartments and offices belonging to the said house as hereinbefore mentioned: provided always, that the said Trustees for the time being shall not be answerable or accountable in any manner for any loss or damage which may happen to the said Museum, Library, Books, Manuscripts, Prints, Drawings, Pictures, and Works of Art, or any of them, by the act or default of the said John Soane, or by reason of the inefficiency or failure of any security of undertaking given or entered into in pursuance of the provisions of this Act, and shall or may reimburse themselves any expenses necessarily incurred in carrying its provisions into execution: provided nevertheless, that the said house and Museum, Library, Books, Manuscripts, Prints, Drawings, Pictures, and Works of Art of every description, shall be upheld and preserved and kept open for view and inspection during the time that the said John Soane shall reside in the said house, precisely in the same manner as hereinbefore is provided; and the office of Curator of the said Museum, and all the duties and authorities hereby given to or imposed upon such Curator, and to or upon the said Inspectress, and to and upon the said Trustees, shall continue and be exercised and enforced by them respectively, precisely in the same manner, while the said John Soane shall reside in the said house, as at any time previously thereto; and in the event of the said John Soane following the profession of an Architect, but not otherwise, the said Trustees shall give him the use of the Library, with all the Books, Drawings, Manuscripts, and Papers, relating to Architecture and the Fine Arts, which shall be comprised in the said Museum.

XV. And be it enacted, that the said Trustees named in this Act, and their successors, after the decease of the said Sir John Soane, shall have full power to demise and lease the said messuage or tenement and premises being No.12, adjoining to the said Museum, in like manner as the said Sir John Soane would have had power to lease the same, for such term of years as they may deem expedient, reserving the best annual rent they can reasonably obtain for the said house and premises.

XVI. And be it further enacted, that at the expiration of three months from the decease of the said Sir John Soane, it shall and may be lawful for the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the city of London to elect by ballot one fit and proper person to be an additional Trustee of the said Museum, which said additional Trustee shall continue to be a Trustee of the said Museum for the term of five years next ensuing his said election; at the expiration of which said term of five years, or if the said Trustees so elected shall happen to die previously to the expiration of such term, then, immediately after the decease of such Trustee, the said Lord Mayor and Aldermen shall elect by ballot a successor to the said Trustee whose term shall have expired, or who shall have so died previous to the expiration thereof as aforesaid, and so on for ever; and the President and Council of the Royal Academy shall, at the expiration of the like period, in like manner and for the like term, elect another fit and proper person to be an additional Trustee of the said Museum, with like power in like manner, to elect a successor to such additional Trustee for ever; and the President and Council of the Royal Society

shall, at the expiration of the like period, and in like manner, and for the like term, elect another fit and proper person to be an additional Trustee of the said Museum, with like power, in like manner, to elect a successor to such additional Trustee for ever; and the President and Council of the Society of Antiquaries shall, at the expiration of the like period, and in like manner, and for the like term, elect another fit and proper person to be an additional Trustee of the said Museum, with like power, in like manner, to elect a successor to such additional Trustee for ever; and the President, Vice-President, and Chairman of Committees of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce in the Adelphi shall, at the expiration of the like period, and in like manner, and for the like term, elect another fit and proper person to be an additional Trustee of the said Museum, with like power in like manner to elect a successor to such additional Trustee for ever; all which said elections shall be made at the annual meetings to be holden by the said respective bodies or societies for the election of their officers; and the said five additional Trustees shall have like powers and authorities during the time they shall respectively so continue Trustees as the Trustees named and appointed by this Act and their successors; save and except that the stocks, funds, and monies of and belonging to the said Museum shall be kept in the Bank of England in the names of the four Trustees named and appointed by this Act and their successors; and all monies required for the purposes of this Act shall and may be thence drawn out upon cheques or drafts signed by any three or more of them; and that all leases which shall be made or granted of or relating to the said hereinbefore-mentioned house and offices, being No.12 in Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid, shall be made and executed by any three of the said Trustees named in this Act and their successors, without the concurrence of the said additional Trustees, or any of them, being necessary to the validity of the same.

XVII. And be it enacted, that the said Trustees named in this Act and their successors, shall annually, within six weeks after the meeting of Parliament, lay before both Houses of Parliament a detailed statement or account in writing of the funds of the said Museum at the time of making up such statement, and of the receipts and payments of the year ending on the quarter day immediately preceding the rendering of such account.

XVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, that in case the said Sir John Soane shall, at any time after the passing of this Act, desire to alter the disposition by this Act made of his said Museum, Library, Books, Prints, Manuscripts, Drawings, Maps, Models, Plans, and Works of Art, by giving or leaving the same to the Trustees of the British Museum, for the purpose of being by them separately and distinctly preserved at the British Museum, and to be there called "The Soane Collection," it shall and may be lawful for the said Sir John Soane, by any deed or instrument in writing, signed, sealed, and delivered by him in the presence of and attested by two or more credible witnesses, or by his Will or any Codicil thereto duly made and published by him in the presence of and attested by three or more credible witnesses, to give, grant, or bequeath the said Museum, Library, Books, Prints, Manuscripts, Drawings, Maps, Models, Plans, and Works of Art, unto the Trustees of the British Museum, subject to such conditions, rules, and regulations, as the said Sir John Soane shall and may declare or direct concerning the same; and upon such gift, grant, or bequest to the said Trustees of the British Museum being so made as aforesaid, all the trusts, provisions, matters, and things hereinbefore contained concerning the said Museum, shall be void and incapable of taking effect; and thereupon the said two messuages or tenements in Lincoln's Inn Fields aforesaid, and any sum of money invested or appropriated to the purposes of the said Museum or of this Act, shall be considered to be and shall form a part of the estate of the said Sir John Soane, in the same manner

as if this Act had not been made; but in the event of no such gift or bequest being so as aforesaid made by the said Sir John Soane to the Trustees of the British Museum, then this Act, and every trust and provision thereof, shall continue and remain in full force, operation, and virtue.

XIX. Saving always to the King's most excellent Majesty, his heirs and successors, and all and every person and persons, bodies politic and corporate, his, her, and their heirs, successor, executors, and administrators, other than and except the said Sir John Soane, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, and all persons claiming by, from, through, under, or in trust for him, them, or any of them, (whose several and respective estates and rights and interests in the said premises shall be, and are hereby intended and declared to be, vested in the said Trustees and their successors, at the time and in manner hereinbefore mentioned, for the purposes of this Act,) all such estate, right, title, interest, claim, or demand whatsoever as they or any of them had before the passing of this Act, or could or might have had, held, or enjoyed, in, to, or out of the said messuages or tenements, hereditaments, and premises, if this Act had not been made.

XX. And be it further enacted, that this Act shall be printed by the several Printers to the King's most excellent Majesty duly authorised to print the Statutes of the United Kingdom; and a copy thereof so printed by any of them shall be admitted as evidence thereof by all judges, justices, and others.