ANNO DUODECIMO & DECIMO TERTIO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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Cap. 1.

An Act to enable the Trustees of a Society called or known by the Name of "The Society for the Prosecution of Felons and Receivers of Stolen Goods" to distribute the Monies and Funds of the said Society amongst certain charitable Institutions. [26th *June* 1849.]

WHEREAS in or about the Year One thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven certain Calico Printers, Bleachers, Dyers, and others, Traders in and about the Towns of *Manchester* and *Salford*, formed themselves into a Society for the Protection of their Property and Effects, under the Name of "The Society for the Prosecution of Felons and Receivers of Stolen Goods," and divers Persons subscribed various Sums of Money to form a Fund to be applied for the Purposes of the said Society: And whereas a Code of Rules or Laws was made for the Government of the said Society, and the Management and Regulation of the Funds and Affairs thereof, and in pursuance of the said Rules or Laws Three Persons were appointed Trustees, in whom the Money raised by Subscription for the Purposes of the said Society was vested, and *Oswald Milne* of *Manchester* in the said County of *Lancaster*, *William Woolley* of *Oldfield Road* in *Salford* in the County of *Lancaster*, and *James Hall* of *Salford* in the County of *Lancaster*, are the present Trustees of the said

said Society; and in pursuance of the same Rules or Laws a Committee, consisting of Seven of the Members of the said Society, was annually chosen and appointed, who held periodical Meetings for the Management of its Affairs, and the said *William Woolley*, *Matthew Newton* of *Manchester* aforesaid, the said *James Hall*, *James Worrall* of *Acton Square* in *Salford* aforesaid, *Charles Bradbury* of *Salford* aforesaid, *George Whyatt* of *Openshaw* in the Parish of *Manchester* in the said County of *Lancaster*, and *Jonathan Statham* of *Ardwick* in the said Parish of *Manchester*, are the present Members of the Committee last chosen and appointed for the Purposes aforesaid: And whereas, although for a considerable Number of Years the said Society was found to be beneficial to the Members thereof, and useful for the Protection of their Property, by providing a Fund to defray the Expenses of the Prosecution of Felons and Receivers of Stolen Goods belonging to them, yet these Advantages have gradually fallen away, and since the Costs of Prosecutions are by Law now provided to be paid out of the Consolidated Fund the Object for which the said Society was formed has ceased to exist, and the Claims upon the Funds of the said Society have altogether ceased: And whereas nearly the whole of the original Subscribers, whether consisting of Mercantile Firms or Individuals, have departed this Life, or have ceased to take any Interest in the said Society, and very few Claims have been made by the Representatives of such of the original Members as are dead to whom the original Subscribers might by the said Rules have devised their Interest in the said Funds, or who might have any Claim thereto on the Decease of any such Subscriber, to have their Names enrolled as Members of the said Society in the Place of the deceased Members, and there have not for a long Time past been any new Subscribers to the Funds of the said Society: And whereas the Funds of the said Society at present consist of a Sum of One thousand five hundred and seventy-five Pounds New Three Pounds and Five Shillings *per Centum* Annuities standing in the Names of the said Trustees, a Sum of One thousand five hundred Pounds advanced and lent on a Mortgage Security to the Directors of the Gasworks of *Manchester*, a Sum of One thousand Pounds lent and advanced on a Mortgage Security to the Company of Proprietors of the *Manchester and Salford* Waterworks, and a Sum of One thousand five hundred and twenty-two Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Seven-pence in the Hands of Messieurs *Loyd* and Company, Bankers at *Manchester*, and some small Sums for Interest on the said Securities, and the whole of such Property and Securities are now vested in the said *Oswald Milne*, *William Woolley*, and *James Hall*, as the present Trustees of the said Society, but no Part of the said Monies and Funds, or of the Income arising therefrom, is now or has for many Years past been applied for the Purposes for which the said Society was originally formed, *videlicet*, for the defraying of the Expenses of the Prosecution of Felons and Receivers of Stolen Goods, such Expenses having been provided for by such other Means as herein-before mentioned: And whereas the Purposes for which the said Society was formed, and to which the said Monies and Funds belonging thereto were intended to be applied, have wholly failed, and it being utterly impracticable to ascertain to what individual Parties the Funds now belong, or to discover the Representatives

Representatives of the original Subscribers, and even if it were practicable so to do the Sum to be paid to each such Party would be extremely small and almost nominal, and it is therefore very desirable that the said Monies and Funds should be devoted to useful Purposes of Charity within the District where the first Subscriptions were raised: And whereas the following charitable Institutions, *videlicet*, the *Manchester* Royal Infirmary, the *Manchester* Royal Lunatic Hospital or Asylum, the *Manchester* Fever Ward or House of Recovery, and the *Salford* Royal Dispensary, are most valuable and useful charitable Institutions within the District aforesaid, and the Objects of such Institutions would be greatly promoted by the Distribution of the said Monies and Funds amongst them in the following Shares and Proportions, *videlicet*, Four Tenth Parts thereof to the *Manchester* Royal Infirmary, Three Tenth Parts thereof to the *Manchester* Royal Lunatic Hospital or Asylum, One Tenth Part thereof to the *Manchester* Fever Ward or House of Recovery, and the remaining Two Tenth Parts thereof to the *Salford* Royal Dispensary; but the Objects aforesaid cannot be carried into effect without the Authority of Parliament: Wherefore Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the said *Oswald Milne*, *William Woolley*, *James Hall*, *Matthew Newton*, *James Worrall*, *Charles Bradbury*, *George Whyatt*, and *Jonathan Statham* do most humbly beseech Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the Queen'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 it shall be lawful for the said *Oswald Milne*, *William Woolley*, and *James Hall*, and the Survivors and Survivor of them, or other the Trustees or Trustee for the Time being of the said Society called "The Society for the Prosecution of Felons and Receivers of Stolen Goods," and they and each and every of them are hereby authorized and empowered, immediately, or so soon as conveniently may be after the passing of this Act, to call in and convert into Money all such Parts of the Funds and Property of the said Society as do not or shall not consist of Money, and to pay, apply, and distribute the Monies to arise thereby, together with such Part of the Property of the said Society as does or shall consist of Money (after providing for the Costs herein-after mentioned), to and amongst the several Persons for the several Purposes and in the Proportions following; (that is to say,) Four Tenth Parts thereof to the Treasurer for the Time being of the said *Manchester* Royal Infirmary, to be applied to the general Purposes thereof; Three Tenth Parts thereof to the Treasurer for the Time being of the said *Manchester* Royal Lunatic Hospital or Asylum, to be applied to the general Purposes thereof; One Tenth Part thereof to the Treasurer for the Time being of the said *Manchester* Fever Ward or House of Recovery, to be applied to the general Purposes thereof; and the remaining Two Tenth Parts thereof to the Treasurer for the Time being of the said *Salford* Royal Dispensary, to be applied to the general Purposes thereof.

Power to distribute Funds among Institutions named.

II. And be it enacted, That the Receipt or Receipts in Writing of the Treasurer for the Time being of the said *Manchester* Royal Infirmary,

Treasurer's Receipts to be effectual Discharges.

Infirmary, *Manchester* Royal Lunatic Hospital or Asylum, *Manchester* Fever Ward or House of Recovery, and *Salford* Royal Dispensary respectively, for any Sum or Sums of Money paid to him under or by virtue of this Act, shall be and be deemed and taken to be an effectual Discharge or effectual Discharges to the said *Oswald Milne*, *William Woolley*, and *James Hall*, and the Survivors and Survivor of them, their and each of their Heirs, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, for the same Sum or Sums of Money respectively, and that the Person or Persons to whom such Receipt or Receipts shall be given, his or their Heirs, Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, shall not afterwards be answerable or accountable for the same or any Part thereof to any Persons or Person whomsoever, nor for any Loss or Misapplication thereof.

Expenses of Act.

III. And be it enacted, That the Costs, Charges, and Expenses attending on or incident to the applying for, obtaining, and passing of this Act shall be paid and defrayed by the said *Oswald Milne*, *William Woolley*, and *James Hall*, or other the Trustees or Trustee for the Time being of the said Society, out of any Monies already vested in or received by them or any of them, or hereafter to be vested in or received by them or any of them, as Trustees or Trustee of the said Society, in priority to the Distribution thereof in manner aforesaid.

Act printed by Queen's Printers to be Evidence.

IV. And be it enacted, That this Act shall be printed by the several Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty duly authorized 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.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1849.