ANNO QUINTO

GEORGII IV. REGIS.

****

C A P. XXXIX.

An Act for amending former Acts relative to the *British Museum*. [17th *May* 1824.]

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Second, intituled *An Act for the Purchase of the Museum or Collection of Sir* Hans Sloane, *and of the* Harleian *Collection of Manuscripts, and for providing one general Repository for the better Reception and more convenient Use of the said Collections, and of the* Cottonian *Library, and of the Additions thereto;* it was amongst other things enacted, that the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and other Persons therein named and described, should be Trustees for putting the said Act into Execution; and that they, or the major Part of them, in a General Meeting assembled, whereof the said Archbishop of *Canterbury*, the Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper, and the Speaker of the House of Commons, should be Three, should in such Manner as they should think fit elect and nominate Fifteen other Persons to be associated to them in the Execution of the Trusts thereby in them reposed, which Fifteen Persons so elected and nominated should be and continue for the Term of their natural Lives Trustees for putting the said Act into Execution, with the like Power in all respects as thereby was given to the Trustees therein-before first appointed; and it was by the said Act further enacted, that the said Trustees thereby appointed should be a Body Corporate, and have Succession for ever, by the Name of "The Trustees of the *British Museum;*" and should also have Power, Capacity, and Ability to purchase, take, hold, and

26 G. 2. c. 22.

enjoy,

enjoy, for the Purposes of the said Act, as well Goods and Chattels, as Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, so as the yearly Value of such Lands should not exceed Five hundred Pounds above all Charges and Reprizes: And whereas an Act was passed in the Twenty-seventh Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Second, 27 G. 2. c. 16. intituled *An Act for making perpetual the several Laws therein mentioned, and to empower a certain Number of the Trustees of the* British Museum *to do certain Acts:* And whereas an Act was passed in the Forty-fifth Year of the Reign of His late Majesty King *George* the Third, 45 G. 3. c. 127. intituled *An Act to vest the* Townleian *Collection of ancient Sculpture in the Trustees of the* British Museum, *for the Use of the Public:* And whereas an Act was passed in the Fifty-sixth Year of the Reign of 56 G. 3. c. 99. His said late Majesty King *George* the Third, intituled *An Act to vest the* Elgin *Collection of ancient Marbles and Sculpture in the Trustees of the* British Museum, *for the Use of the Public:* And whereas the said *British Museum* hath been, since its Foundation, greatly extended in various Departments of Literature, Science, and Art, as well by Royal Munificence as by Parliamentary Grants and the Donations of Individuals, and splendid Additions have been recently made thereto in the Departments of Antiquities and Paintings; and it is therefore expedient that the President of the Society of Antiquaries of *London* for the Time being, and the President of the Royal Academy for the Time being, should be added to the Number of Trustees thereof: And whereas it is expedient that any of the Trustees elected at a General Meeting, and also that the several Family Trustees in the said recited Acts or any of them mentioned, should have Power to resign their Trust, and that the Places of Trustees so resigning should be filled up as in case of Death: And whereas Gifts, Devises, and Bequests of Lands, or Monies arising out of Lands, might be made by munificent Individuals for the Support and Extension of the said Museum, if the Trustees thereof were enabled by Law to accept and hold the same; and it is expedient that they should be enabled so to do: May it therefore please Your 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 the President of the Society of Antiquaries of *London* for the Time being, and the President of the Royal Academy for the Time being, shall from henceforth be Trustees of the *British Museum*, in addition to the Trustees mentioned in the said recited Acts or any of them, and with the like Powers in all respects as are vested in the Trustees first appointed by the said Act of the Twenty-sixth Year of the Reign of His said late Majesty King *George* the Second, and their Successors.

Additional Trustees.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any of the Trustees for the Time being of the *British Museum*, who shall have been or may hereafter be elected or nominated a Trustee thereof, by any Writing under his Hand to be presented at any General Meeting of the said Trustees, to signify his Resignation of the Trusts in him reposed, and that such Resignation shall be accepted at such General Meeting; and thereupon, and after every such Resignation,

Resignation of Trustees to be accepted, and others chosen.

the like Proceeding shall be had and taken for electing or nominating, as the Case may require, a Person to supply the Place of the Person having so resigned, as under the said recited Acts, or any of them, would or ought to have been had and taken, if such resigning Trustee had died.

Trustees may accept Lands, &c.

III. And be it further enacted, That the Trustees of the *British Museum* shall, for the Purposes of the several Acts relating to the same, and for the Enlargement, Improvement, and better Endowment of the said Museum, and for any Purposes connected with the said Museum, have full Power, Capacity, and Ability to purchase, take, hold, and enjoy any Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments, and to accept any Gifts, Grants, Devises, and Bequests of Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, and of any Interest therein, and of any Money issuing out of or charged upon, or to arise from the Sale of Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments of and to any Value and Amount whatever; the Statutes of Mortmain, or any other Statute or Law to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE EYRE and ANDREW STRAHAN, Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty. 1824.