

[STATUTES OF GREAT BRITAIN, 1725] [1]

**Anno Regni GEORGII REGIS
Magnæ Britannæ, Franciæ, & Hiberniæ,
UNDECIMO.**

At the Parliament Begun and Holden at *Westminster*, the Ninth Day of *October*, Anno Dom. 1722. In the Ninth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord *GEORGE*, by the Grace of God, of *Great Britain*, *France*, and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

And from thence Continued by several Prorogations to the Twelfth Day of *November*, 1724. Being the Third Session of this present Parliament.

London, Printed by *John Baskett*, Printer to the King's most Excellent Majesty,
And by the Assigns of *Henry Hills*, deceas'd. 1724.

[CHAP. XII.]

An Act for Incorporating the Executors of the Last Will and Testament of *Thomas Guy*, late of the City of *London*, Esq; Deceased, and others, in Order to the better Management and Disposition of the Charities given by his said Last Will.

**Preamble,
reciting the
Last Will of
Tho. Guy,
Esq; [1]**

WHEREAS *Thomas Guy*, late of the City of *London*, Esq; Deceased, having in his Life time, at his own Costs and Charges, erected in the Parish of *St. Thomas* in *Southwark*, One new large Building, consisting of Two Squares, with several other proper Edifices thereunto adjoining or belonging,

did, on the Twenty seventh Day of *December*, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and twenty four, depart this Life, having duly made and executed his Last Will and Testament, bearing Date the Fourth Day of *September* before the said Day of his Decease, and

in and by his said Last Will and Testament, did give, devise, and bequeath, all the rest and residue of his Estate, whatsoever and wheresoever,

both Real and Personal, after the payment of his Debts, Legacies, and Funeral Charges therein mentioned, and subject to the Payment of several Annuities and Yearly Sums therein bequeathed (which said residuary Part of the said Testator's Estate, is computed by the Executors of his said Will, to be of the Value of Two hundred thousand Pounds [2] and upwards) unto Sir *Gregory Page*, Baronet, *Charles Joye* and *William Clayton*, Esquires, Mr. *Thomas Hollis*, Senior, *John Kenrick* and *John Lade*, Esquires, Dr. *Richard Mead*, *Moses Raper*, Esquire, and Mr. *John Sprint*, Governors of the present Hospital of *St. Thomas*, their Heirs, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns respectively, upon the Trust, and for such Uses, Intents and Purposes, as are therein directed and appointed, and

did thereby likewise ordain, constitute and appoint the said Sir *Gregory Page*, Baronet, *Charles Joye* and *William Clayton*, Esquires,

[1][Source: a PDF copy of the original officially printed Act, downloaded from <https://wellcomecollection.org/works/j5y7bqe9/items>. The chapter number 12 is not shown in this source. This Act was passed (received royal assent) on 24 March 1725 but under the legal doctrine of the time it would have been deemed to have come into force retroactively on 12 November 1724, the date of commencement of the session. Note, however, that *Thomas Guy* died later on 27 December 1724 and his will was probated on 4 January 1725. Chapter, long title and preamble only in *Statutes at Large*, Ruffhead (1763) vol 5 pp 523-526; Pickering (1765) vol 15 pp 212-217; Raithby (1811) vol 8 pp 698-705. The Act is reprinted in *Copy of the Last Will and Testament of Thomas Guy Esq. with an Act for incorporating the Executors of the said Will* (London, printed for the Governors of Guy's Hospital, 1815).]

[2] [In 1725 the English pound represented 3.58 troy ounces of silver. The modern (2022) Canadian price of silver is \$28.33 per troy ounce. So that pound equates to Can\$101 in silver, and £200,000 would be like Can\$20M. A more elaborate comparison based on prevailing income levels (GDP per capita) in England in 1725 (£12.51) and in Canada in 2022 (about Can\$70,000) suggests this colossal sum would be comparable to Can\$1.1B today.]

Mr. *Thomas Hollis*, Senior, *John Kenrick* and *John Lade*, Esquires, Dr. *Richard Mead*, *Moses Raper*, Esquire, and Mr. *John Sprint*, Executors of his said Last Will, on Trust, as aforesaid, That until such Incorporation by Letters Patent, or Act of Parliament, as is therein directed, could be obtained and take Effect, his said Executors, and therein last mentioned Trustees, their Heirs, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, and afterwards such Corporation, should, out of the *Residuum* of his Estate, or the Rents, Interests, or other Profits thereof,

carry on, erect, finish, and fit up, the Two New Squares of Buildings in *Southwark*, by him then sometime since began, and intended for an Hospital for reception of such Sick Persons as are therein after mentioned, and such other Erections, Offices, and Buildings, as should, in the Opinion of his said Executors and Trustees, be for that Purpose further necessary; and

also provide and furnish the same with Beds, and all other Conveniencies, for the reception of, and

receive and entertain therein, Four hundred poor Persons, or upwards, labouring under any Distempers, Infirmities, or Disorders, thought capable of relief by Physick or Surgery, but who, by reason of the small hopes there might be of their Cure, or the length of Time, which for that Purpose might be required or thought necessary, were, or might be adjudged or called Incurable, and as such, not proper Objects to be received into, or continued in the present Hospital of *St. Thomas*, or other Hospitals, in and by which no Provision had been made for Distempers deemed or called Incurable, (of whom he declares his Mind to be, that they receive and entertain Lunatics, adjudged or called, as aforesaid, Incurable, not exceeding Twenty in Number at one time) such poor Persons to be chosen and appointed by his said Executors and Trustees, out of

such Patients and Persons, who shall be discharged out of the Hospital of *St. Thomas* or *Bethlehem*, or other Hospitals, on account of the small hopes of their Cure, or the great length of Time for that Purpose required or thought necessary, and on such, or any other Account, adjudged or called Incurable, and

not fit to be continued in the said Hospital of *St. Thomas* or *Bethlehem*, or other Hospitals, or

such other poor sick Persons or Lunatics, as under such, or the like Circumstances, should apply to his said Executors and Trustees for Relief, at the Discretion and Pleasure of his said Executors and Trustees, to whom he submits the several Species or Kinds of sick Persons deemed or called Incurable, who shall be admitted into the said intended Hospital; and

has further thereby directed, that his said Executors and Trustees should provide suitable and proper Diet, Physick, and all other Necessaries, for the Maintenance, Relief, or Cure of such sick Persons, during their Lives, or for so long time as his said Executors and Trustees should think fit to continue them under their Care, in the said intended Hospital; and

hath thereby further declared his Mind and Will to be, that such poor sick Persons received into, and entertained in the said intended Hospital, should be

subject at all Times to his said Executors and Trustees, and to such Rules and Orders as they should think fit to make for their Behaviour in the said intended Hospital, and

liable to be expelled from thence and removed at the pleasure of his said Executors and Trustees, and other like sick Persons admitted and entertained in their room; and

thereby further declares his Mind and Will to be, that, if his said Executors and Trustees should not find Cause, or should on any Account whatsoever not think fit to keep all, or great part of the Beds or Wards in the said intended Hospital, filled and supplied with sick Persons deemed or called Incurable, it should be lawful for them to cause any number of the said Beds or Wards to be filled and made use of in like manner, and with like Patients, as the Beds in the Hospital of *St. Thomas* are ordinarily used for;

all which Patients so to be received and taken in from Time to Time into the said intended Hospital, as Incurable, or otherwise, he hath declared his Mind to be, That his said Executors and Trustees should provide in all Things, as near as might be,

according to the Course, Customs, and Usage of late Years prevailing and practised in the said present Hospital of St. Thomas; and

he hath thereby further

declared his Mind and Will to be, and for the better and more regular Disposition and Management of the Affaires and Business of the said intended Hospital, and for perpetuating the Charity thereby intended, and the Provision for the same, he hath thereby ordered and appointed, and earnestly desired and entreated his said Executors and Trustees, forthwith after his Decease, by humble Application to His Majesty, or to the Legislature, to endeavour to obtain Letters Patent under the Great Seal, or an Act of Parliament, Incorporating his said Executors and last named Trustees, together with

Mr. *Benjamin Braine*, Senior, Mr. *Thomas Clark*, *William Cole*, Esquire, Doctor *Thomas Crow*, Doctor *Francis Fauquier*, Mr. *Joshua Gee*, Mr. *Mathew Howard*, Doctor *Edward Hulse*, Mr. *Samuel Leffingham*, Mr. *Henry Lovell*, Mr. *Samuel Monk*, Mr. *Joseph Paice*, Senior, Mr. *Daniel Powle*, Mr. *Thomas Styles*, Senior, and also *Robert Atwood*, *Robert Bristow*, and *Jonathan Blackwell*, Esquires, Mr. *James Brooks*, Deputy *Richard Chauncy*, *Richard Chiswell*, Esquire, Deputy *John Carbonnel*, *William Dawson* and *Richard Ducane*, Esquires, Sir *Peter Eaton* and Sir *Nathaniel Gould*, Kts. *Thomas Gearing* and *Peter Godfrey*, Esquires, Mr. *Nathaniel Garland*, Mr. *John Gunston*, *Edmund Halfey*, Esquire, Mr. *Henry Hankey*, Mr. *Thomas Hucks*, Mr. *William King*, Mr. *James Lamb*, Mr. *James Leaver*, Mr. *Percival Lewis*, Captain *Daniel Locke*, *John London*, Esquire, *Thomas Malyn*, Junior, and *Nathaniel Micklethwaite*, Esquires, Mr. *Samuel Mayo*, Mr. *Thomas Martin* Mr. *Francis Moulton*, Mr. *Josiah Nicholson*, Mr. *Nathaniel Newnham*, *Jeremiah Sambrooke*, Esquire, Mr. *Samuel Sheafe*, *John Smith*, Esquire, Sir *John Tash*, Knight, *Peter Theobalds*, Esquire, and Mr. *James Townshend*, of *Cheapside*, (the said Gentlemen being then all Governors of the present Hospital of St. Thomas) or so many of the said Gentlemen, as should be living at the Time of procuring such intended Corporation, and willing to become Members thereof, and

so many other Gentlemen, Governors, or reputed Governors of the present Hospital of St. Thomas, or others, by his said Executors, or the major Part of them to be appointed, as, together with his said Executors and other the Gentlemen abovenamed, shall make up the Number of Fifty at the least, and not exceed Sixty, and their Successors, in manner by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament directed and expressed, to be from Time to Time elected and admitted Members of such intended Corporation,

into one distinct and separate Body Politick or Corporate, with perpetual Succession, for the better managing and governing of the said intended Hospital, and for the better settling and applying the said Residue of his Estate for such Uses as aforesaid, and for such other and further Uses as are therein after appointed, with a President and Treasurer, and such other Officers of the said intended Corporation, as by his said Executors should be thought necessary or convenient in such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament to be named and appointed, and in manner therein directed,

to be from time to time for ever thereafter successively into such respective Offices elected and admitted by such Name or Names, as to His Majesty or the Legislature should seem proper, and

by such Name or Names to have perpetual Succession,

with Power to have and use a separate and distinct Common Seal for the necessary Affairs of the said intended Corporation, and

with Power by such Name or Names as aforesaid, to have, hold, take, enjoy, aliene, transfer, and dispose of the said thereby before devised Residuary Part of his Estate, and therewith or with any Part thereof, to purchase, take, and enjoy Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Fee-Farm Rents, or other Estates of Inheritance, for perpetuity or otherwise, and to the Value of the said Residuary Part of his Estate, or to such further or other yearly Value, as to His said Majesty or the Legislature should seem convenient, and

with Power and Capacity in Law to sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto by such Name or Names as aforesaid, in any Court or Courts of Record or elsewhere, and

with such other Powers, Privileges, and Capacities in Law, as to His Majesty or the Legislature should seem meet to be granted and

declared his Mind and Will to be, and further desired his said Executors and last named Trustees, by such humble Application as aforesaid, to His Majesty or the Legislature, to endeavour to obtain and procure that by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament, as aforesaid, a Committee be appointed of One and Twenty of the Members of such intended Corporation, for the more constant and ordinary Management and Application of the said Residuary Part of his Estate, and of the Charity thereby intended,

to which Committee, or to such Number of them as should be thought convenient, when convened and assembled, by and with the President and Treasurer of the said intended Corporation, or one of them he

hath declared his Will and Desire to be,

That his said Executors and Trustees, by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament as aforesaid, endeavour to have granted and appointed such Powers as may enable them in the most effectual Manner to manage, settle, and apply the said Residuary Part of his Estate, and the Rents, Interests, Dividends, or other Profits or Produce thereof, to such Uses as by his said last Will are directed and appointed; and

that by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament it might be Provided, That Seven of the said Committee of One and Twenty, or one third Part thereof at the least, may Yearly, and every Year go out of and be excluded their respective Places, as Members of the said Committee, by the Appointment of a General Court or Assembly of the Members of the said intended Corporation, to be assembled and convened by the President or Treasurer of such intended Corporation, Yearly and every Year, at a time or times in such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament to be appointed; and

that for that purpose at such General Court or Assembly as aforesaid, Fourteen of the Members of the said Committee, for the Year next preceding such General Court or Assembly, be first elected and chosen Members of the said Committee for the Year then next ensuing, and Seven other Persons out of Fourteen of the Members of the said intended Corporation, who were not Members of the said Committee for the Year then next preceding, to be first nominated by the said Committee for the Year next preceding, be by and at such General Court and Assembly, as aforesaid, elected and appointed Members of the said Committee, for the year then next ensuing such Election; and that in and by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament it be further Provided and Appointed, that the Management and Accounts of the said Committee of One and Twenty, be, from time to time, subject to the Approbation or Disallowance of a General Court or Assembly of the Members or Governors of such intended Corporation, to be from time to time convened and summoned by proper and convenient Notice, by the President or Treasurer of such intended Corporation for the time being; and

did further declare his Mind, Will and Desire to be, That his Executors, by like humble Application as aforesaid, should endeavour to procure and obtain,

that, by such Letters Patent or Act of Parliament as aforesaid, the said Sir *Gregory Page*, Baronet, be appointed the First President of the said intended Corporation, and the said *Charles Joye*, Esquire, the First Treasurer thereof, and the said *William Clayton*, Esquire, Mr. *Thomas Hollis*, Senior, *John Kenrick* and *John Lade*, Esquires, Doctor *Richard Mead*, *Moses Raper*, Esquire, and Mr. *John Sprint*, and the said Mr. *Benjamin Brain*, Senior, Mr. *Thomas Clark*, *William Cole*, Esquire, Doctor *Thomas Crow*, Doctor *Francis Fauquier*, Mr. *Joshua Gee*, Mr. *Matthew Howard*, Doctor *Edward Hulfe*, Mr. *Samuel Leffingham*, Mr. *Henry Lovell*, Mr. *Samuel Monk*, Mr. *Joseph Paice*, Mr. *Daniel Powle*, and Mr. *Thomas Styles*, be appointed the First Members of the said therein before mentioned and intended Committee, for the more constant and ordinary Management of the said Residuary Part of his

Estate, and Charity thereby intended; or in Case of the Death of any of the Gentlemen laft above named, or their Refusal to accept of the refpective Trufts thereby intended, as Prefident, Treafurer, or Members of the faid Committee, then fuch other fit and able Perfons to be named and appointed by his faid Executors, to be Prefident, Treafurer, and Members of the faid Committee, making up the faid Number of One and Twenty; and

that by fuch Letters Patent, or Act of Parliament, as aforefaid, it be Provided and Granted,

that the future Elections of the Prefident and Treafurer of the faid intended Corporation, and alfo the Election of the Phyficians and Surgeons, and of the Register, or Clerk and Solicitor, and of the Chaplain to be employed in and about the Charity thereby intended, be referred to and referved for the Members and Governors of the faid intended Corporation, or the major Part of them in General Court affembled as aforefaid, as alfo their removal, difplacing, and filling up; and

that the Offices of the Apothecary, Steward, Matron, Cook, Sifters, and all other Officers to be employed in and about the faid intended Hofpital and Charity, be referred to the Election of the faid intended Committee and their Succelfors, and by them, and at their Pleafure to be altered, and the refpective Officers to be removed, difplaced, fupplied, and filled up; and

he the faid Teftator

hath hereby declared his Mind and Will further to be, that, as foon as fuch intended Corporation can be obtained and take Effect, his faid Executors do forthwith pay, affign, transfer, and, in due form of Law, convey and make over all the faid Refiduary Part of his Estate therein before devifed to them, or fo much thereof as fhould not have been applied and expended in and about the Execution of his faid Will, to and for the Ufes thereby directed and appointed, fubject to the Payment of the feveral Annuities therein before devifed, to the faid thereby intended Corporation and their Succelfors, upon the Trufts, and to be by them applied, from time to time, to and for fuch Ufes, Intents, and Purpofes, as are in his

faid Will for that Purpofe directed and appointed; and

has declared his Will further to be,

that the faid Prefident, Treafurer, Committee, and Governors intended to be incorporated as aforefaid, do, as foon as the fame can be done conveniently, lay out the Surplus of the faid Refiduary Part of his Personal Estate, or fo much thereof, as fhall not be expended in building, furnifhing, and fitting up the faid two Squares of Building, or other the neceffary Charges and Difburfements for fuch Purpofes, in the Purchase of Meffuages, Lands, Ground-Rents, Fee-Farm Rents, or other Estates of Inheritance, or the Reverfion thereof in Fee-Simple, to the Intent that the Yearly and other Rents and Profits of fuch Purchafes, together with the Rents and Profits of the faid Refiduary Part of his Real Estate, be from time to time applied to, and become a perpetual Provision for the Maintenance and Cure of fuch poor fick Perfons, as are to be received into, and entertained in the faid intended Hofpital, and for defraying and anfwering all other the conftant neceffary Charges and Expences in and about the fame; and

that, until the faid Refiduary Part of his Personal Estate fhall be laid out in Purchafes, as aforefaid, the Intereft, Dividends, and other Income, or Profits thereof, be from time to time, applied to fuch Purpofes, as are before appointed for the Application of the Rents and Profits of fuch Purchafes; and

he hath declared his Mind and Will further to be, that, if it fhall appear to the Prefident, Treafurer, and Governors, to be incorporated, as aforefaid, that the Yearly, and other Rents and Profits of the faid Refiduary Part of his Real Estate, and of the Lands, Meffuages, or other Estates to be purchafed, as aforefaid, fhall be more than fufficient to provide for, and anfwer the Maintenance and Cure of fuch poor fick Perfons, as are thereby directed to be received into, and entertained in the faid two New Squares of Building, and other neceffary Charges and Expences upon or about the faid intended Hofpital, it fhould be lawful for the faid Prefident, Treafurer, and Governors, incorporated as aforefaid, in General Court, to be affembled, and convened, as aforefaid, or the Major Part

of them, to lay out, expend, and apply, or direct and empower the said Committee, to lay out, expend, and apply, such Surplus of the Rents, and Profits of the said Residuary Part of his Real Estate, and of other the Messuages, Lands, and other Estates to be purchased, as aforesaid, to and for the Relief of such other poor sick Persons, or such other proper objects of Compassion, as, from time to time, to the said President, Treasurer, and Governors incorporated, as aforesaid, should appear most worthy and deserving of Pity and Relief, or for such other Publick and Charitable Uses and Purposes, as they should think convenient, as in and by the said Last Will and Testament, relation being thereunto had, may more fully appear:

And whereas the said recited Last Will and Testament of the said *Thomas Guy*, deceased, hath been since duly proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, and the Administration thereof committed on their Application for that Purpose, under the Seal of that Court, to the said above-named *Charles Joye*, *John Lade*, and *John Kenrick*, Esquires;

And whereas the said Charity deserveth to be promoted and encouraged, and will greatly tend to the Honour and Good of the Publick, and the good and generous Intentions of the said Testator cannot be so well and fully effected as by an act of Parliament;

and therefore for the promoting, establishing, making Good and Effectual the said Pious and Charitable Intentions of the said above-named Testator, in his said last Will expressed;

May it please Your most Excellent Majesty, at the humble Petition of Your Majesty's most Dutiful Subjects, the said Sir *Gregory Page*, *Charles Joye*, *William Clayton*, *Thomas Hollis*, *John Kenrick*, *John Lade*, Doctor *Richard Mead*, *Moses Raper*, and *John Sprint*, Executors of the said above recited Last Will and Testament of the said *Thomas Guy* deceased; 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 the Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same,

that

the said abovenamed Sir *Gregory Page*, *Charles Joye*, *William Clayton*, *Thomas Hollis*, *John Kenrick*, *John Lade*, Doctor *Richard Mead*, *Moses Raper*, and *John Sprint*, together with the said *Benjamin Braine*, *Thomas Clark*, *William Cole*, *Thomas Crowe*, *John Francis Fauquier*, *Joshua Gee*, *Mathew Howard*, *Edward Hulfe*, *Samuel Lessingham*, *Samuel Monk*, and *John Osborn*, Citizen and Stationer of London, and the said *Joseph Paice*, *Daniel Powle*, *Thomas Styles*, *Robert Atwood*, *Robert Bristow*, *Jonathan Blackwell*, *James Brooke*, *Richard Chauncy*, *Richard Chifwell*, *John Carbunnell*, *Richard Ducane*, Sir *Peter Eaton*, and Sir *Joseph Eyles*, Knight, one of the present Sheriffs of the City of London, and the said Sir *Nathaniel Gould*, *Thomas Gearing*, *Nathaniel Garland*, *John Gunston*, *Edmund Halfey*, *Henry Hankey*, *Thomas Hucks*, *William King*, *James Lamb*, *James Leaver*, *Percival Lewis*, *Daniel Lock*, *John London*, *Thomas Malyn*, *Nathaniel Micklethwaite*, *Samuel Mayo*, *Thomas Martin*, *Francis Moulton*, *Josiah Nicholson*, *Nathaniel Newnham*, and *John Olimus* of the Old Jury in London, Esquire, and the said *Jeremiah Sambrooke*, *Samuel Sheafe*, *John Smith*, Sir *John Tash*, *Peter Theobalds*, and *James Townshend*, being the several Persons for that Purpose named, in and by the said Last Will and Testament of the said *Thomas Guy*, deceased, who are now Living, and willing to become Members of such Corporation, as is therein mentioned and intended, or otherwise, in pursuance of his said Will, by his said Executors, or a major part of them for that Purpose named, and their Successors, in Manner herein after directed and appointed to be elected and named Members or Governors of the same,

shall be and are hereby declared and adjudged to be one Body Corporate and Politick, in Deed, and in Name, by the Name of the President and Governors of the Hospital founded at the sole Costs and Charges of *Thomas Guy* Esquire, and that by the same Name of the President and Governors of the Hospital aforesaid, they shall have perpetual Succession, and a Common Seal, with Power to change, alter, break, and make

[1] The Governors of *Tho. Guy* Esq; Last Will constituted.

To be a Body Corporate.

and have a Common Seal.

and enabled to hold the Estate of Tho. Guy Esq; for the Use of the Hospital.

New the same, when, and as often as they shall judge Expedient, and

that they and their Successors, by the name aforesaid, shall be able and capable in Law, to have, hold, receive, enjoy, possess, and retain to them, and their Successors, all and every the Estate, or Estates, Real or Personal, by the said *Thomas Guy* bequeathed or devised, and in them vested and settled, for the Charitable Ends and Purposes mentioned in his said Will, and in this Act, and

that they and their Successors,

by the Name aforesaid, shall be able and capable in Law, by, with, or out of the said Real or Personal Estate, or the produce thereof, to purchase, receive, have, hold, enjoy, possess, and retain to them, and their Successors, in Perpetuity, or for any Term or Terms of Years, or other Estate, Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Rents, and Hereditaments, of what kind, nature, or quality soever, not exceeding in the whole Twelve thousand Pounds [3] *per Annum*, above Reprizes, and to sell, alien, or exchange, demise, or lease the same, or any Part thereof, as they shall think convenient, and,

may sue and be sued.

by the Name aforesaid to sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, in any Court or Courts of Record, and elsewhere, and to do and execute all and singular other Matters and Things, that to them shall appertain to do or be done in and about the Premises, in pursuance of the said herein before recited Last Will and Testament of the said *Thomas Guy*, deceased.

[2] There shall be one President and Treasurer and 21 Committees.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That there be, from time to time, and for ever hereafter, one President, one Treasurer, and one and Twenty Committees of the said hereby erected Corporation, who shall have the Management and Direction of the said Estate, by the said *Thomas Guy* devised or bequeathed, and hereby vested in the same Corporation, and all other the Estate, Revenues, and Affairs of the said hereby erected Corporation, and

that the several Persons herein after named, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be the President, Treasurer, and One and Twenty Committees of the hereby erected Corporation, being the several Persons in and by the said Last Will and Testament of the said *Thomas Guy*, deceased, or by his said Executors abovenamed, and in pursuance of his said Will, for that Purpose named and appointed, viz.

the said Sir *Gregory Page* Baronet, to be the President, and

the said *Charles Joye* Esquire, the Treasurer, and the said *William Clayton*, *Thomas Hollis*, *John Kenrick*, *John Lade*, *Richard Mead*, *Moses Raper*, *John Sprint*, *Benjamin Braine*, *Thomas Clarke*, *William Cole*, *Thomas Crowe*, *John Francis Fauquier*, *Joshua Gee*, *Mathew Howard*, *Edward Hulfe*, *Samuel Leffingham*, *Samuel Monk*, *John Osborn*, *Joseph Paice*, *Daniel Powle*, and *Thomas Styles*, the One and Twenty Committees.

The first president, Treasurer and 21 Committees.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said herein before named, or hereafter to be elected President, Treasurer, and Committees, shall continue for the several times herein after mentioned (that is to say) The President and Treasurer abovenamed, or hereafter to be elected,

[3] The President and Treasurer to continue till their Deaths or Removals.

until the several times of their Decease, or

until they shall be removed respectively by a General Court, or Assembly of the Members or Governors of the said hereby erected Corporation, to be convened and assembled by the President, Treasurer, or any Seven of the said Committees, for the time being, by Notice thereof, at the then usual Places of Abode of every of the Members or Governors of the said hereby erected Corporation, for the time being, then residing within the Cities of *London* or *Westminster*, or the Borough of *Southwark*, or within Five Miles Distance thereof, or

until they shall severally make their Election to resign ; and

[3] [£12,000: Can\$1.2M in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$67M.]

New ones to be elected by a General Court within 40 Days.

that in case of the Death, or Removal, or Resignation of the said herein above named President or Treasurer, or of any future President or Treasurer to be at any Time or Times hereafter elected, so to be respectively at a General Court or Assembly of the said Corporation, to be convened or assembled by the said President or Treasurer, or any Seven of the said Committees for the time being, by such Notice as aforesaid,

some other fit and able Person, being a Member of the said Corporation, shall be, within Forty Days next after such Death, Removal, or Resignation, elected and chosen to be President and Treasurer of the said hereby erected Corporation, in the Room of the President or Treasurer so deceased or removed, or who shall have made his Election to resign as aforesaid; and

the Person who shall be so elected, shall be the President or Treasurer accordingly; and

The Committees above named to continue till 2 Nov. next, and for a Year after.

that the said several Persons, Committees, above named, shall continue and remain so to be, until the Second Day of *November* now next ensuing, and from thenceforth for the Space of One Year then next following, and until the said Second Day of *November*, in the Year of our Lord, One thousand seven hundred and twenty six;

Committees to be chosen Annually, whereof 7 to be new ones.

on which said last mentioned Second Day of *November*, and so on the Second Day of *November* in every Year, Yearly for ever thereafter, or within Fourteen Days next after, by a General Court or Assembly to be then convened and summoned by the President or Treasurer, or any Three of the Committees aforesaid, for the time being, by such Notice as aforesaid, One and twenty Members or Governors of the said hereby erected Corporation, of whom Seven, or One Third part at the least, shall not have been Committees for the Year then next preceding, shall be appointed and chosen Committees for the Year then next following, who, after such Election, shall continue and remain such, until the next General Court or Assembly, to be Annually held for the Election of Committees as aforesaid.

[4] The Powers of the Court of Committees.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the President or Treasurer, or either of them, with any Seven or more of the said Committees for the time being, when convened and assembled for that Purpose by proper and

convenient Notice thereof given by the said President or Treasurer, for the time being, to every of the said Committees then residing in the Cities of *London* or *Westminster*, or the Borough of *Southwark*, or within Five Miles Distance thereof, shall make a full Court of Committees, and shall be called a Court of Committees, and shall have full Power, when convened and assembled as aforesaid, in the Name of the said President and Governors of the Hospital aforesaid, and on their Account, to sell, alien, demise, lend out, or otherwise dispose of, all and every, or any Part of the Estate of the said *Thomas Guy* deceased, devised, or bequeathed, and hereby vested in the said Corporation, and all other the Monies and Estates of or belonging to the said President and Governors hereby incorporated, and therewith, or with any Part thereof, to purchase any Lands, Messuages, Tenements, or other Estates whatsoever, not exceeding, in the Yearly Value thereof, the said aforementioned Sum of Twelve thousand Pounds [3] above Reprizes, for the Use of the said Corporation and their Successors, and with and under their Common Seal, to enter into any Covenants or Contracts for the Purposes aforesaid, as they shall think fit, for the better effecting and carrying on such good and charitable Purposes as are herein mentioned and intended, and to appoint and choose, and at their Pleasure to remove, displace, and supply such Officers, Servants, and other Person or Persons to be employed for the Purposes herein mentioned and intended, or other the Affairs of the said Corporation (other than and except such Officers or Persons, as are herein after directed to be appointed and chosen at a General Court or Assembly of the said hereby erected Corporation) and to appoint and determine such Salaries, Perquisites, or other Rewards for their Labour or Service therein, as they shall approve of and think fit, and to take in such poor, sick, maimed, or wounded Persons under their Care, as they shall judge proper Objects of the Charity hereby intended, and to make such Provision for their Maintenance and Cure as they shall think necessary and convenient, and to do, manage, transact, and determine all such other Matters and Things, as shall to them appear necessary or convenient for the effecting or carrying on the Purposes hereby intended; and, for the necessary Dispatch of any the Affairs aforesaid, to depute and appoint any Person or Persons, Members or Gov-

ernors of the said hereby erected Corporation, for the Management or Transaction thereof in their Place and Stead:

Provided nevertheless, that the Management, Transactions, and Accounts of the said President, Treasurer, and Committees, and all and every other Person or Persons by them to be appointed or deputed as aforesaid, be, from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, subject and liable to such Audit and Inspection, Allowance, Disallowance, and Controul, of all or such of the Members or Governors of the said hereby erected Corporation, as by any By-Laws or Ordinances of the same Corporation shall be for that Purpose constituted and appointed.

[5] If any Sale of Lands, &c. be made by the Corporation, the same to be laid out in some other Purchase.

Provided also, and be it further Enacted and Declared, That if any Sale or Sales shall at any time hereafter be made by the said Corporation or their Successors, of all or any the Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments hereafter to be purchased by them in pursuance of this Act, then, and in every or any such Case, all the Money arising by any such Sale or Sales shall, with all convenient Speed, be reinvested or laid out in some other Purchase of Lands or Tenements of Inheritance, for the Use of the said Corporation and their Successors for ever, for the Charitable Purposes aforesaid.

And to the Intent that there never may be wanting a competent Number of Members or Governors of the said hereby erected Corporation, for perpetuating the Succession thereof, and for supplying and filling up the several Places of President, Treasurer, and Committees above mentioned,

[6] At a full Court new Governors may be elected, but not to exceed 60.

Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for a full Court or Court of Committees of the said hereby erected Corporation, in such Manner, as is herein before mentioned, to be convened and held, from Time to Time, and as often as they shall think convenient, to elect and choose some other fit and able Person or Persons, to be a Member or Governor, or Members or Governors of the said hereby erected Corporation, in the Room and Place of such of the Persons above named, or to be, from Time to Time, elected Members or Governors as aforesaid, who shall happen to depart this Life, or shall refuse

to accept of, or continue and remain to be a Member or Governor as aforesaid, so as the Number of all the Members or Governors of the said hereby erected Corporation (such new elected Members, and the President, Treasurer, and Committees for the time being, therein being included) do never, at any one Time, exceed Sixty; and

and that in case at any Time or Times hereafter, and as often as it shall happen that the Number of all the Members or Governors aforesaid (the President, Treasurer, and Committees for the time being, always being included) shall not amount to Forty Persons, it shall be lawful for the Lord High Chancellor of *Great Britain*, or Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, or Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal, the Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, for the time being, or any Two of them, at the Request of any Five or more of the Members or Governors of the said Corporation, to nominate and appoint such and so many fit and able Persons, to be Members or Governors, as shall, together with other the Members or Governors aforesaid, make up such Number Fifty;

which said Persons, to be so nominated and appointed as aforesaid, shall, from and immediately after such Nomination and Appointment, and Notice thereof given to the Clerk or Register of the said hereby erected Corporation, for the time being, be adjudged and deemed Members and Governors of the said hereby erected Corporation, and as such admitted to vote and act as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purposes, as if they had been thereunto elected and chosen in Manner, as aforesaid.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said President and Governors, in a General Court to be assembled and convened in such Manner, and by such Notice, as aforesaid, to make, ordain, and constitute such and so many reasonable By-Laws, Constitutions, and Ordinances, as to them, or the greater part of them then and there present, shall seem necessary and convenient, for the better Government of the said hereby erected Corporation, and of the Officers, Servants, and Persons, by them, and in and about their Affairs to be employed, and of the Sick Persons or Patients to be

If the Governors at any Time shall not amount to 40, the Lord Chancellor, &c. to nominate fit Persons to make up the Number to 50.

[7] They may make By-Laws.

taken in under their Care, and the same By-Laws, Orders, Ordinances, and Constitutions so made, to put in use accordingly, and at their Will and Pleasure to revoke, change, and alter the same; which said By-Laws, Orders, and Ordinances so, as aforesaid made, shall be duly kept and observed, so always as the said Constitutions, By-Laws, Orders, and Ordinances be reasonable, and not contrary or repugnant to the Statutes or Customs of this Kingdom, or any of the express Regulations contained in this Act.

[8] **President or Treasurer to have Voices at Courts; and**

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That at all and every of the General Courts or Assemblies of the said President and Governors, and at the several full Courts, or Courts of Committees herein before appointed to be from time to time hereafter convened and held, as aforesaid, the said President and Treasurer for the time being, shall have Voices, and shall vote and act as Members of such General Courts, or Courts of Committees, and,

on Equality of Votes, a casting Voice.

in case of an Equality of Votes, the said President for the time being, and, in his Absence the said Treasurer shall have and exercise a Casting Voice.

[9] **Physicians, &c. to be chosen by a General Court.**

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, in pursuance of the said Last Will and Testament of the said *Thomas Guy* deceased, That the several Person and Persons to be employed as Physicians, Chaplain, Surgeons, and as Register or Clerk of or belonging to the said hereby erected Corporation, shall be, from time to time, appointed and chosen into such their respective Stations or Employments by the said President and Governors in a General Court to be convened and assembled by such Notice and in such Manner, as aforesaid, and by the said President and Governors in such General Court, as aforesaid, to be assembled at their Will and Pleasure, shall and may be displaced and removed from their respective Stations and Employments, and other fit and able Persons thereunto appointed and chosen in their Room.

And in pursuance of the Design, and more effectually to answer and fulfil the true Intent and Meaning of the said recited last Will and Testament;

Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all such Estate and Estates, both Real and Personal, Rights of Action or Entry, and other Rights, Titles, Trusts, Powers and Authorities, Claims and Demands whatsoever, to them the said Sir *Gregory Page*, *Charles Joye*, *William Clayton*, *Thomas Hollis*, *John Kenrick*, *John Lade*, *Richard Mead*, *Moses Raper*, and *John Sprint*, by the said Will devised, given, or appointed, or in them, or any of them, any ways vested by Virtue of the said Will as Executors and Trustees or Devisees therein named, or of the Probate thereof by the said *Charles Joye*, *John Kenrick*, and *John Lade*, out of the Prerogative Court of *Canterbury* obtained, as aforesaid, except such part of the said Testator's Estate as hath been before, or at the time of the passing of this Act by the said Executors, or any of them, expended or paid in Discharge of any Debts or Legacies, or in Discharge of the said Funeral Expences of the said *Thomas Guy* the Testator, or in defraying the Charges of preparing and procuring this present Act, or any other Charge by them or any of them sustained, by reason of the Trusts in them reposed by the said recited Will, are and shall be, by Virtue of this present Act, from the time of passing thereof, fully and absolutely vested and settled in the said President and Governors hereby incorporated, and their Successors for ever, to and for such Pious and Charitable Uses, as are hereby or by the said recited Will directed and appointed, subject nevertheless, and liable to the Payment of such Debts, Legacies, and Yearly, and other Sums, in such Manner and Form, and at such times, as is and are in and by the said recited Will bequeathed, given, or directed, or such thereof as at the time of passing this Act hath or have not been paid or discharged by the said above mentioned Executors and Trustees, or any of them.

[10] **All his Estate Real and Personal vested in the President and Governors.**

Provided always, and it is hereby further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the several Terms and other Securities heretofore assigned to, and vested or intended so to be in the said *John Lade*, or any others in Trust for the said *Thomas Guy* the Testator, and to Protect his Real Estate, or any other Estate, or any part thereof, from Mesne Incumbrances, or to wait and attend upon the Inheritance thereof, shall still separately subsist, remain, and continue in the said *John Lade*, or such others his or their Executors, Administrators and

[11] **The Terms and other Securities vested in John Lade, &c. still to subsist in Trust for the Corporation.**

Assigns, in Trust nevertheless for the said Corporation hereby created, and their Successors, to the same Intents and Purposes, as aforesaid; Any thing in the said recited Will or this present Act to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

[12] Executors to state their Accounts, and lay them before a full Court, &c.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the abovenamed Executors and Trustees of the said *Thomas Guy* the Testator, who have possessed any part of his Estate since his decease, shall forthwith, or as soon as convenient may be, state their Accounts in Writing of what they or any of them have possessed and paid, expended or disposed of, out of the said Testator's Estate so to them given and bequeathed, as aforesaid, in pursuance of the Trust reposed in them by the said recited Will, and produce and lay such Accounts before a full Court, or Court of Committees of the Corporation hereby erected,

who are hereby required and directed to audit and inspect the same; and

that upon the passing and allowance of the said Accounts, so stated and produced as aforesaid, by a full Court, or Court of Committees, they the said Executors and Trustees, and every of them, their and every of their Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, shall be fully and absolutely discharged from the several Trusts in them reposed, as aforesaid, and of and from all Actions, Accounts, Complaints, Inquiries and Demands whatsoever, for or on account of the Trusts aforesaid, as Executors or Trustees appointed by the said Will of the said *Thomas Guy*, or otherwise howsoever, other than as Members of the said hereby erected Corporation.

[13] President, and Governors may set up a Monument for *Tho. Guy* Esq;

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said President and Governors, so incorporated as aforesaid, to procure, set up, and erect such Portrait or Picture, and such Statue or Statues, and Monument, of or for the said *Thomas Guy* the Testator, for perpetuating the Memory of his said Generous and Charitable Actions and Intentions, in such Manner, and in such Place or Places, as they shall think fit, and to defray the Expences thereof out of the Estate in them by this present Act vested, so as such Expences do not exceed in the whole the Sum of Two thousand Pounds. [4]

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Publick Act, and Notice shall be taken thereof as such in all Courts of Justice, and elsewhere, and shall and may be given in Evidence on the Trial or Hearing of any Issue or Cause whatsoever, without Special Pleading of the same.

[14] Publick Act.

Saving always to the King's most Excellent Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and all and every other Person and Persons, Bodies Politick and Corporate, and to their several Heirs, Successors, Executors, and Assigns, (other than and except the Executors and Administrators of the said *Thomas Guy* the Testator as such, and as Trustees and Devisees under the said Will) all such Right, Title, Estate, Interest, Power and Powers of Redemption, Claim and Demand in Law or Equity, as he, she, or they, or any of them, have, hath, or shall or may have of, in, to, or out of the Premises, or any part thereof, as if this present Act had never been made.

[15] Saving Clause.

FINIS.

[Note: This 1724 Act has not been repealed, although it was amended by a local or private Act, *Guy's Hospital Act 1898*, 61-62 Vict c vi. However, both these Acts seem to have been heavily superseded from 1948 on by the legislation establishing the UK's National Health Service (NHS). Guy's Hospital along with Saint Thomas' Hospital and other originally charitable health care institutions have been taken over by government (i.e. nationalized) and are still carried on as very prestigious hospitals in a departmental conglomeration called "Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust". That is technically not a charity under English law, but there remain about a dozen charities associated with it, providing supplemental health care beyond the NHS mandate.]

[4] [£2,000: Can\$200,000 in silver today; but based on relative incomes more like Can\$11M.]