



Art Unions Act 1846

1846 CHAPTER 48

An Act for legalizing Art Unions.

[13th August 1846]

WHEREAS certain voluntary Associations have been and may hereafter be formed in various Parts of the United Kingdom, under the Name of Art Unions, for the Purchase of Paintings, Drawings, or other Works of Art, to be afterwards allotted and distributed, by Chance or otherwise, among the several Members, Subscribers, or Contributors forming Part of such Associations, or for raising Sums of Money by Subscription or Contribution to be allotted and distributed, by Chance or otherwise, as Prizes, amongst the Members, Subscribers, or Contributors forming Part of such Associations, on the Condition nevertheless that such Sums of Money so allotted and distributed be expended solely and entirely in the Purchase of Paintings, Drawings, or other Works of Art: And whereas such Allotment and Distribution of Paintings, Drawings, or other Works of Art, or of Sums of Money for their Purchase, and the Proceedings taken to carry the same into effect, may be deemed and taken to come within the Provisions of the several Acts of Parliament passed for the Prevention of Lotteries, Littlegoes, and unlawful Games, whereby the Members, Subscribers, or Contributors of such Associations as aforesaid, or Persons acting under their Authority or on their Behalf, may be liable or subjected to certain Pains and Penalties imposed by Law on Persons concerned in Lotteries, Little goes, and unlawful Games : And whereas it is expedient that all Members of and Subscribers and Contributors to such voluntary Associations as aforesaid, and all Persons acting under their Authority or on their Behalf, so long only as their Proceedings are carried on in good Faith for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts, shall be discharged and protected from any Pains and Penalties to which they may have rendered themselves liable, or may hereafter render themselves liable, by reason of any such their Proceedings as aforesaid:

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,