

City of Cambridge

in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty six,

An Ordinance

for the removal of nuisances sources of filth and causes <sup>of</sup> sickness within the City of Cambridge

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Cambridge as follows.

1. The Mayor and Alderman for the time being are hereby appointed and constituted the board of health of the City of Cambridge and shall have ~~the~~ power to carry into execution all laws of the Commonwealth ~~and~~ and ordinances of the City Council made for the preservation of the health of the inhabitants of said City.
2. Every tenement in the City, used as a dwelling house shall be furnished, when it can be done without unreasonable expense with a sufficient drain to carry off the waste water into a common sewer or reservoir, which drain and reservoir shall be under ground <sup>no</sup> and ~~no~~ person shall suffer

any waste or stagnant water to remain in any cellar or on any lot of land or vacant ground owned or occupied by him so as to become a nuisance or offensive - or dangerous to the <sup>public</sup> health -

3. Every tenement in the City used as a dwelling house shall be furnished with a privy the vault of which shall be underground and of sufficient capacity - regard being had to the number of persons occupying such tenement - <sup>Every</sup> Such vault shall be so constructed that the contents thereof shall in no case escape therefrom or ooze out upon the adjoining grounds, nor shall the contents of any such vault be suffered to remain within less than eighteen inches of the even surface of the ground -

4. The owner <sup>or</sup> ~~occupant~~ occupant of any tenement which shall be used as a dwelling house without being furnished with a privy and vault as provided in the preceding section, shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding twenty dollars for each and every week, during which such tenement or any part thereof shall be so used -

When removed from the premises upon which such vault may be  
the contents of such vaults shall in all  
cases be removed in water-tight carts.  
And if any such owner or occupant shall  
neglect or refuse to cleanse his vault, after  
being notified by the Mayor and Aldermen  
or one of the marshalls of the city - that the same  
has become offensive - he shall forfeit and  
pay a sum not exceeding ten dollars  
for every week he shall neglect or  
refuse to cleanse the same -

8<sup>th</sup>. No person shall put or leave any dead animal <sup>substance</sup> ~~matter~~ fish offal,  
contents of any vault, decayed vegetable or other matter, whereby any  
offensive or noxious stench or effluvia shall be created, <sup>in any public street or place or near any inhabited dwelling</sup> of the health or  
comfort of the citizenry be injuriously affected. and any person offending  
in this particular and no person shall throw any dead animal <sup>or</sup> the  
contents of any vault into the river adjoining the city; and any person  
offending in these particulars, shall be punishable as for a nuisance.

Stale or unwholesome meat or other provisions  
nor any fish - except smelts and other small  
fish - unless the same shall have been cleansed  
of their entrails and refuse parts.

9. Every person who shall offend against  
any of the provisions of this ordinance shall  
forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding ten  
dollars. ~~except~~ except in those cases wherein a  
different penalty is prescribed.

In Board of Aldermen July 14. 1846.

Passed to be enrolled.

Lucius R. Paige, clerk

In common council July 21. 1846

amended in the fourth section first line by striking out the word "and"  
& inserting the word "or" in the sixth section after the word  
vaults; insert "when removed from the premises <sup>upon</sup> which ~~the~~ such vault  
may be." Passed to be enrolled as amended.

le S. Russell, Clerk

In Board of Aldermen July 21. 1846.

Concurred.

Lucius R. Paige, clerk

5 The vaults of all privies in the City shall be so constructed, that the inside thereof shall be not less than two feet distant from the line of every adjoining lot of land without the consent of the owner of such adjoining lot or by permission of the Mayor and Aldermen; and also from every street, lane, alley, court, public place and private way in the City. There shall be no communication between any such vault and any common sewer or drain, by which the solid contents of any such vault can pass into such sewer or drain; but the fluid contents may be conveyed under ground into a common sewer or drain in such manner and under such restrictions as the Mayor and Aldermen shall prescribe.

6. The owner or occupant of any land in which any vault may be situated shall cause the same to be cleared, whenever the same shall become offensive; but no vault shall be opened for the purpose of being cleared between the twentieth day of June and the first day of October in each year except by the special permission of the Mayor and Aldermen, ~~or~~ ~~or~~ nor before ten o'clock at night, and

Ordinance 19  
concerning nuisances &c

Board of Aldermen July 7. 1846  
Read & referred to Alderman Fay.  
H. R. Paige, Clerk

The Common Council July 14. 1846  
Read & passed on the table  
C. S. Prentiss, Clerk

on the table

Correctly drawn,

J. P. Hamill & Co. Town & City  
in 2<sup>d</sup> Reading.