

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 of sickness, within the City of Cambridge.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City
of Cambridge, as follows:—

1. The Mayor and Aldermen for the time being
are hereby appointed and constituted the Board of
Health of the City of Cambridge, and shall have power
to carry into execution all laws of the Commonwealth,
and ordinances of the City Council, made for the preserva-
tion 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;
and no person shall suffer any waste or stagnant wa-
ter to remain in any cellar or on any lot of land or
vacant ground owned or occupied by him, so as to be-
come a nuisance, or offensive, or dangerous to the public health.

3. Every tenement in the City, used as a dwell-
ing house, shall be furnished with a privy, the vault
of which shall be under ground, and of sufficient ca-
pacity, regard being had to the number of persons
occupying such tenement. Every such vault shall
be so constructed, that the contents thereof shall in
no case escape therefrom, or ooze out upon the ad-
joining 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 or 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.

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 cleansed, whenever the same shall become offensive; but no vault shall be opened for the purpose of being cleansed, 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, nor before ten o'clock at night; and the contents of such vaults, when removed from the premises upon which such vault may be, 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 noti-

-fied by the Mayor and Aldermen, or one of the Marshals 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.

7. No person shall put or leave any dead animal substance, fish offal, contents of any vault, decayed vegetable or other matter, in any public street, or place, or near any inhabited dwelling, whereby any offensive or noxious stench or effluvia shall be created, and the health or comfort of the citizens be injuriously affected; and no person shall throw any dead animal or 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.

8. No person shall bring into the city for sale, or offer for sale, any diseased, putrid, 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 in those cases wherein a different penalty is prescribed.

In Common Council,

July 28. 1846.

Passed to be ordained

Charles Emmitt

Pres. Pro Tem

In Board of Aldermen

July 28. 1846

Passed to be ordained.

James D. Green, Mayor.

Ordinance 39
for the removal of
nuisances, &c.

Correctly enrolled
Wm. L. Whitney
for the committee