

City of Cambridge.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-Eight.

AN ORDINANCE

IN RELATION TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

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

SECTION 1. The Fire Department shall consist of a Chief Engineer, four Assistant Engineers, and of as many Engine-men, Hose-men, and Hook-and-ladder-men, to be divided into companies, as the number of engines and other fire apparatus belonging to the city shall from time to time require.

SECT. 2. There shall be appointed annually, in the month of April, by the Mayor, with the approval of the Board of Aldermen and the concurrence of the Common Council, — or in default thereof, afterward, by concurrent vote of the City Council, either branch acting first, — a Chief Engineer, and four Assistant Engineers, who shall hold their offices for the term of one year, and until others are elected in their places: *provided, however,* that the City Council may, by concurrent vote, at any time remove from office the Chief Engineer or any Assistant Engineer.

Council }
Enrolled }
Ordinance }

Nathan G. Good }
Charles C. Hancock }
Wm. C. Doyle }

In Common Council Dec. 4, 1878. Attest
Correctly Enrolled,

SECT. 3. The Chief and Assistant Engineers, on their appointment, shall receive a warrant, in the words following, to wit: "This certifies that—— is appointed Chief Engineer [or Assistant Engineer] of the Fire Department of the City of Cambridge, and is entitled to all the immunities, and invested with all the powers, belonging to said office. Given under my hand, this — day of ——, A. D. 18—. ——, Mayor. ——, City Clerk." And the respective rank of the Engineers shall be determined by the Mayor and Aldermen at the time of their appointment.

SECT. 4. The Engineers so chosen shall meet and organize themselves into a Board of Engineers, a majority of whom shall form a quorum, and of which, in the absence of the Chief Engineer, the senior Engineer present shall be presiding officer; and they may appoint such Secretary or other officers, without pay, and make such rules and regulations for their own government, as they may see fit. They shall be responsible for the discipline, good order, and proper conduct of the whole department, both officers and men, and for the care of all houses, engines, horses, hose-carriages, and other furniture and apparatus thereto belonging. They shall have the superintendence and control of all the reservoirs and hydrants belonging to the city. They shall certify all bills, except those authorized by special order of the City Council, the Joint Committee on the Fire Department or the Committee on Fuel, and those contracted by the Committee on Public Property for repairs on buildings, and submit the same, monthly, indorsed by the Secretary of the Board, to the Committee on the Fire Department. They shall have the superintendence and control of all the engine and other houses used for the purposes of the Fire Department, and of all fur-

niture and apparatus thereto belonging, and of the engines and all other fire apparatus belonging to the city, and over the officers and members of the several companies attached to the Fire Department; and they may make such rules and regulations for the better government, discipline, and good order of the department, and for the extinguishing of fires, as they may from time to time think expedient, the same not being repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth, or to any ordinance of the city, but subject to the approbation of the Mayor and Aldermen. The Assistant Engineers shall report their absences from fires, with the reasons therefor, to the Chief Engineer, who shall keep a record thereof, and of his own absences, and incorporate the same, stating all the facts, into his annual report to the City Council.

SECT. 5. It shall be the duty of said Engineers, whenever a fire shall break out in their respective districts, immediately to repair to the place of such fire, wearing the badge of their office; to require and compel assistance from all persons, in extinguishing the fire, removing furniture, goods, or other merchandise from any building on fire, or in danger thereof, and also in pulling down and demolishing any house or building if occasion require; and, further, to suppress all tumults and disorders.

SECT. 6. The Chief Engineer shall have daily office hours from 9 to 10 o'clock A.M., and shall have the sole command at fires over all the other Engineers, all members of the Fire Department, and all other persons who may be present, and shall direct all proper measures for extinguishing fires, protecting property, preserving order, and enforcing the laws, ordinances, and regulations respecting fires; and it shall be the duty of said Engineer

to examine into the condition of the engines and all other fire apparatus, and of the engine and other houses belonging to the city and used for the Department, and by the companies thereto attached, severally, as often as once a week, and whenever directed so to do by the City Council, or by the Joint Standing Committee on the Fire Department, and to report the same annually, in the month of December, and oftener if so directed, to the City Council ; also, to cause a full description of the same, together with the names of the officers and members of the Fire Department, to be published in his annual report ; and whenever the engines or other fire apparatus require repairs, the Chief Engineer shall cause the same to be made, under direction of the aforesaid Committee. And it shall also be the duty of the Chief Engineer, so far as practicable, to examine into the location and condition of fire apparatus belonging to corporations or private individuals within the limits of the city. He shall also, under the direction of the Joint Standing Committee on the Fire Department, require the permanent men, when not otherwise engaged, to perform such other duties and do such other work as, in his judgment or that of the Committee, may be deemed proper : *provided*, no alterations shall be made in any building except by order and under the direction of the Committee on Public Property. And it shall be, further, the duty of the Chief Engineer to receive and transmit to the City Council all returns of officers, members, and fire apparatus made by the respective companies as hereinafter prescribed, and all other communications relating to the affairs of the Fire Department ; to keep fair and exact rolls of the respective companies, specifying the time of admission and discharge, and the age of each member ; to report an-

nually, or oftener, if directed, all accidents by fire which may happen within the city, with the causes thereof, as well as can be ascertained, the number and description of the buildings destroyed or injured, and the amount of loss and insurance on the same, together with the names of the owners or occupants.

SECT. 7. In case of the absence of the Chief Engineer, the Engineer next in rank shall execute the duties of his office, with full powers.

SECT. 8. No person who is not a legal voter in the City of Cambridge shall be appointed an officer or member of the Fire Department.

SECT. 9. Each steam fire-engine company appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen shall consist of a Foreman, Assistant Foreman, Engineer, Fireman, Driver of the engine, Driver of the hose-carriage, and six Hosemen. The Foreman and Assistant Foreman shall be nominated by the Board of Engineers for appointment by the Mayor and Aldermen, and any person rejected shall not be renominated. The Engineer and the two Drivers shall be constantly employed, and shall at all times be in or about the engine-house, except when unavoidably absent, or excused from duty by the Chief or an Assistant Engineer. There shall also be appointed one Engineer, at large, who shall be employed in place of any Engineer or Driver who may be absent, or excused from duty.

SECT. 10. The Foreman of each steam fire-engine company shall at fires have charge and direction of his company.

SECT. 11. The Assistant Foreman of each steam-engine company shall assist the Foreman in the discharge of his duties, and also act as Clerk of said company.

SECT. 12. The Engineer of each steam-engine com-

pany shall, under the direction of the Board of Engineers, have the sole care of the engine-house and all the property therein belonging to the city. He shall make requisitions on the Chief Engineer for all supplies required for his company. He shall be held personally responsible for the care and condition of the engine, and have it at all times ready for immediate use. He shall be accountable for the proper performance of all duties required of the Drivers, and make report to the Chief Engineer of any neglect on their part.

SECT. 13. The Driver of each steam-engine and the Driver of the hose-carriage shall drive and have the charge of the horses of the engine and hose-carriage, respectively, and have the same at all times ready for immediate use, and the stable kept neat and clean. They shall also assist the Engineer in keeping the house and apparatus clean, and they and the engineer shall perform such other duty as may be required of them by the Chief Engineer.

SECT. 14. Each hook-and-ladder company appointed by the Mayor and Aldermen, shall consist of a Foreman, Assistant Foreman, Driver, and eleven Ladder-men. The Foreman and Assistant Foreman shall be nominated by the Board of Engineers for appointment by the Mayor and Aldermen, and any person rejected shall not be renominated. The Foreman shall at fires have charge and direction of his company. The Assistant Foreman shall assist the Foreman in the discharge of his duties, and also act as Clerk of the company. The Driver shall be constantly employed, and at all times be in or about the hook-and-ladder house, except when unavoidably absent, or excused from duty by the Chief or an Assistant-Engineer. He shall, under the direction of the Board of Engineers, have the sole care of

the house, and all the property therein belonging to the city, and shall be held personally responsible for the care and condition of the same, shall drive and have charge of the horses, shall keep the stable neat and clean, and perform such other duty as may be required of him by the Chief Engineer.

SECT. 15. The Mayor and Aldermen shall, in the month of January in each year, and whenever vacancies occur, appoint the several engine, hose, and hook-and-ladder companies, whose term of service shall continue one year, and until others are appointed, and the members thereof shall receive a warrant, in form substantially like that prescribed for the Engineers, and shall be held to perform all the duties of the office to which they shall be respectively appointed.

SECT. 16. The foreman shall keep, or cause to be kept by the Clerks of their respective companies, fair and exact rolls, specifying the time of admission, discharge, and age of each member, and accounts of all city property intrusted to the care of the several members, and of all absences and tardiness among the same, in a book provided for that purpose by the city, which rolls or record-books are always to be subject to the order of the Board of Engineers and the Mayor and Aldermen. They shall also make, or cause to be made, to the Chief Engineer, true and accurate returns of all the members, with their ages, and the apparatus intrusted to their care, whenever called upon so to do.

SECT. 17. It shall be the duty of the officers and members of the several companies, whenever a fire shall break out in the city, to repair forthwith to their respective engines, hose, and hook-and-ladder carriages, and, in conformity with the directions of the Chief or other Engineer, exert themselves, in the most orderly manner

possible, in extinguishing the fire, and in performing any duty that they may be called upon to do by any Engineer; and, upon permission of the Chief or other Engineer, shall in an orderly and quiet manner, return said engines, hose, and hook-and-ladder carriages to their respective places of deposit: *provided*, that, in the absence of all the Engineers, such direction and permission may be given by their respective Foremen.

SECT. 18. Any officer or member may be removed from the Fire Department by a vote of a majority of the Board of Engineers; and said vote shall be final, unless, in case of officers and permanent members, the same shall be reversed by the Mayor and Aldermen within fourteen days after it shall have passed; and the Board of Engineers shall have power to transfer members from one company to another, whenever the interests of the department shall require.

SECT. 19. In all cases of removal from office or from the department, by the Engineers, the name of the person removed, with a statement of the reasons therefor, shall be entered on their records, and a copy of the same shall be transmitted to the Board of Aldermen, before their next regular meeting.

SECT. 20. No officer removed from the Fire Department shall be reinstated therein, unless by a vote of the majority of the Board of Engineers; and in such case, said vote shall not take effect until confirmed by the Board of Aldermen; and no member shall be reinstated, except on nomination by the Mayor, confirmed by the Board of Aldermen.

SECT. 21. The Foreman of each company, immediately on his arrival at any fire, shall report himself to an Engineer, and shall remain by his company, and the apparatus of which he has charge, during the

fire, preserve order, direct their operations, and protect them from being interrupted in the discharge of their duty.

SECT. 22. In the absence of the Foreman of any company, the officer next in rank, who is present, shall take the command, and be clothed with all the powers and responsibilities of Foreman.

SECT. 23. No company shall be allowed to impose fines upon its members; but it shall be the duty of the Clerk of each company to enter in the roll-book provided by the city, all absences of each officer or member of said company from all fires and alarms of fire, and from the monthly, and special meetings authorized by the Chief Engineer, and to make a monthly return of the same to the Board of Engineers. And for every such absence, except in case of sickness, there shall be deducted from the pay of such officer or member, the sum of one dollar. And if any officer or member shall have been absent from more than one third of the fires, or alarms of fire, occurring during the quarter, if the same are more than five in number, except in case of sickness, such absence shall be considered good cause for his discharge from the Department.

SECT. 24. Every member of the Department shall wear, at all fires, such badge as the Engineers shall prescribe; and no person without such badge, excepting members of the City Council and those having permission, shall enter within the lines formed at any fire.

SECT. 25. No intoxicating liquors of any kind shall be carried into any of the houses used by the Fire Department; nor shall any gambling be permitted therein.

SECT. 26. No company shall leave the city in case

of fire in the neighboring towns, except by the consent of the Chief Engineer, or one of the Assistant Engineers; and no company shall leave the city on an excursion, unless by the permission of the Mayor and Aldermen, and such permission shall in no case be deemed to include the apparatus.

SECT. 27. The Board of Engineers shall, from time to time, make such rules and regulations as in their judgment shall, as far as possible, prevent refreshments being furnished to any persons except members of the Fire Department; and no bill or charge for intoxicating liquors furnished at fires shall be approved by the Committee on the Fire Department, or paid by the City.

SECT. 28. No person shall burn out or set fire to his chimney, stove-pipe, or flue, at any time except between sunrise and two o'clock in the afternoon, or unless the roof of his own and the neighboring houses and buildings are at the time well wet, or covered with snow.

SECT. 29. No person shall set on fire by night any straw, shavings, or other combustible materials, in any street, lane, or alley, or other public place in the city.

SECT. 30. The Board of Engineers shall examine into all places where shavings and other combustible materials may be deposited or collected, and shall cause the same to be removed by the owners or occupants of any such places, and at their expense, whenever the security of the city against fire shall require it.

SECT. 31. The members of the Fire Department shall be paid monthly at such rates as the City Council shall from time to time determine.

SECT. 32. The Joint Standing Committee on the Fire Department shall have the care and management of the rooms, apparatus, and machinery connected with

the Fire Alarm Telegraph; and shall have power to appoint an Assistant Superintendent, an operator and such other assistants as may be required from time to time, and to discharge them. The compensation of the Assistant Superintendent shall be the same as that of an engineer of a Steamer Company, and the compensation of the operator shall be the same as that of a driver of a Steamer Company. The said Committee shall have power to determine the persons to whom shall be intrusted the keys of the signal boxes connected with the said Fire Alarm Telegraph; and generally shall have the charge and management of the same, subject to the order of the City Council.

SECT. 33. The Committee on the Fire Department shall make rules for giving alarms of fire by telegraph, and may alter the same from time to time, and they shall be placed on file in the office of the Engineers of the Fire Department, and with the City Clerk, who shall publish the same in one or more newspapers in the City of Cambridge.

SECT. 34. No person shall open any of the signal boxes connected with the Fire Alarm Telegraph, except in case of fire; or interfere in any way with said boxes by breaking, cutting, injuring, or defacing the same; or tamper or meddle with said boxes, or any part thereof; nor shall any person interfere with the poles by which the wires of the Fire Alarm Telegraph are supported, by breaking, cutting, injuring, or defacing the same, by the posting of placards or bills upon them, or in any other manner.

SECT. 35. Whoever violates any provision of the preceding section shall forfeit and pay a fine of not less than five dollars, nor more than twenty dollars for each offence.

SECT. 36. The Chief Engineer shall, by virtue of his office, be the Superintendent of the Fire Alarm Telegraph, and the Board of Engineers shall have the control of all instruments, wire, machinery and other property and apparatus connected therewith, under direction of the Joint Standing Committee on the Fire Department. It shall be the duty of said Superintendent and said Board to see that the Telegraph is at all times in complete working order, and in case any alterations or repairs are necessary, to cause the same to be made immediately. Said Board shall have power to make such rules for the regulation and government of the Telegraph and the Telegraph Corps as it may deem necessary, subject to the approval of the Joint Standing Committee on the Fire Department.

SECT. 37. All ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

In Common Council
Dec. 4, 1878.

Passed to be ordained

Geo. S. Saunders President

In Board of Aldermen, Dec. 4, 1878.

Passed to be ordained.

Saml L. Montague, *clerk.*