

# **BY-LAWS**

OF THE

## **COMPANY**

**ATTACHED TO THE CONGRESS,**

**ENGINE No. 2.**

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**ADOPTED APRIL 17th, 1826.**

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**Boston :**  
**CLARK AND HOMER, PRINTERS.**  
**1826.**

BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
The Committee appointed to draft  
a Code of By-Laws for the govern-  
ment of the Company attached to  
Engine No. 2, have attended to that  
duty, and beg leave to submit the  
following, as the result of their delib-  
erations.

JOSEPH BASSETT,  
DAVID PARKER,  
BENJAMIN DODD,  
JOHN FOSTER,  
ISAAC PIERCE.

} Committee.

*Boston, 17th April, 1826.*



## BY-LAWS.

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**THE UNDERSIGNED**, with a view to aid more effectually in carrying into effect, an act establishing a Fire Department in the City of Boston, and an Ordinance for preventing and extinguishing of fires, and establishing a Fire Department, have (under the Appointment of the Mayor and Aldermen,) associated and formed a Company for Engine No. 2, called the CONGRESS, and have adopted the following Rules and Regulations for the internal government of said Company :

### ARTICLE I.

The Company shall consist of a Foreman, two Assistant Foremen, Clerk, Treasurer and of Members not exceeding forty-five, including the officers—and they shall meet at the Engine House on the first Monday of April, annually, at 6 o'clock, P. M. for the choice of officers, and shall at the same time choose four Members, who, together with the Foreman of the Company, (as Chairman) shall constitute a Standing Committee, to superintend the general concerns of the Company—all of whom shall be chosen by written ballot.



**ARTICLE II.**

The Foreman shall command the Company when assembled, preside over their deliberations, and give the casting vote in all equal divisions of the Company, collect and pay to the Treasurer all premiums from the Insurance Offices, and allowances from the City that may be due the Company. In the absence of the Foreman his various duties shall be performed by the Senior Assistant present, and it shall be the duty of the Assistants at all times to aid and assist the Foreman in the discharge of his various duties.

**ARTICLE III.**

The Clerk shall keep a fair record of the proceedings of the Company, in a Book provided for that purpose, notify the members of their being appointed on Committees, have charge of all the records and papers of the Company—notify Members by written or printed notifications of all special meetings of the Company when ordered by the Foreman; keep a correct list of the fines incurred, and keep fair accounts between the Company and its Members. He shall call the Roll at the hour stated for the meeting; and after all fires, as soon as the Engine is returned to the House,—collect all fines and assessments due from the Members, and pay the amount into the hands of the Treasurer,



taking his receipt therefor—he shall make out returns of the state of the Engine and Company, when directed by the Foreman,—keep a true and exact copy of the Roll in some conspicuous place, in the Engine House, and on a Member's being discharged from the Company, the Clerk shall receive his brass, number 2, and any other regalia belonging to the Company or Engine, that may be in his possession, and for his services shall be exempt from all assessments. In the absence of the Clerk, his duty shall be performed by any other member appointed by the presiding officer.

#### ARTICLE IV.

The Treasurer shall receive all monies from the hands of the Clerk ; keep regular entries thereof, disburse the same as the Company may direct, pay all demands against the company approved by the Standing Committee, if he has funds sufficient in his hands belonging to the Company, and render in his accounts when requested by the Foreman or Standing Committee.

#### ARTICLE V.

On the expiration of their term of service, or on resigning their offices, the Clerk and Treasurer shall deliver into the hands of their successors all monies, books or other effects belonging to the Company, which they may have in their possession.



**ARTICLE VI.**

The Foreman and Assistants, and in their absence the senior Member of the Standing Committee present, under the direction of the Chief or other Engineer, shall have the entire command of the Engine and Members of the Company going to, at, and coming from a fire; it shall be their duty to procure an eligible and proper situation for the Engine at fires, and to direct each member to a proper station, which he shall not leave without a sufficient excuse; they shall also see that the Engine is kept in effective order.

**ARTICLE VII.**

The Standing Committee shall provide all entertainments for the Company—the necessary expense of which shall be paid by the Company—judge of all excuses of absence from fires and meetings, when requested by the Foreman—of all matters between Members of the Company, each having the right of appeal—examine and approve all bills against the Company before they are paid by the Treasurer—Inspect the Clerk and Treasurer's books and accounts at any time they may deem it necessary, receive all applications for membership, and if they approve of the candidate, report him to the company, and generally to attend to the interests of the Company.

**ARTICLE VIII.**

Candidates for membership must make ap-



plication to the Standing Committee, and if they recommend the candidate, he may be balloted for at any monthly meeting of the Company; and if voted for by three fourths of the Members present, shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Company, by subscribing the By-Laws, (a copy of which shall be given him by the Clerk,) and paying fifty cents; on receipt of which, the Clerk shall give him a certificate of his election, to enable him to procure from the Mayor and Aldermen a warrant according to the provision of the 4th section of the Fire Ordinance.

#### ARTICLE IX.

Any person who has been a Member of the Company one year, may apply for a discharge at either of the monthly meetings, and if he has faithfully done his duty while a Member, and produces a certificate from the Clerk, that he has paid all demands against him, he shall be honourably discharged by a vote of the Company, and the Clerk shall so record him. But no Member shall be discharged without the Clerk's certificate, nor until he has faithfully served one year, unless by the provisions of the 10th Article.

#### ARTICLE X.

If any Member shall behave in such a manner as to disgrace himself, and disgust the Company, either by riotous and disorderly conduct, disrespect or disobedience to officers,



drunkenness or gross vulgarity, the Foreman shall, on the complaint of any two Members, and being satisfied of the justice of such complaint, appoint any two Members he may select, (except the complainant, or either of them) who shall wait as a Committee on the offending Member, and reprove him in becoming terms, and warn him of the consequences of a second offence. Should the same Member commit a second offence, the Foreman shall call the Company together, and if found guilty by the vote of three fourths of the Members present, his name shall be reported to the Mayor and Aldermen, to be dealt with as provided in the 17th section of the Fire Ordinance.

#### ARTICLE XI.

The Stated meetings of the Company shall be on the first Monday of each month of the year (excepting June and July, when they shall meet on the second Monday) at the Engine-House, at 6 o'clock, P. M. in April—7 o'clock in May, June, July and August—5 o'clock in September and October—4 o'clock in November—7 o'clock in December, January, February and March ; which meetings must be attended without any particular notification—The Foreman shall have authority to call the Company together at such times and for such purposes as he may see fit, and it shall be his duty so to do on application made to him in writing, signed by



any five Members, in either of which cases the Company must be notified by printed or written notifications, signed by the Clerk, at least twenty four hours before the time of meeting.

### ARTICLE XII.

Any Member who shall be absent at Roll call, from any monthly meeting of the Company, shall pay a fine of twenty-five cents; from Special meetings, fifty cents; from Fires, provided the Bells ring and the Engine has played, fifty cents; and no Member shall leave the Engine, or any meeting of the Company, without permission of the presiding officer.

### ARTICLE XIII.

All excuses, for non-attendance at the meetings of the Company, and at fires, must be made to the Foreman within ten days after said meeting or fire, and none will be deemed sufficient to save a Member from a fine, except absence from the City, personal sickness, or sickness or death in his family; and when the Foreman does not think proper to determine on the sufficiency of any excuse, he may submit the subject to the Standing Committee; and all fines must be paid within three months from the time they are incurred.

### ARTICLE XIV.

No political or religious subject shall be introduced into the Company. Smoking



pipes or cigars shall in no case be allowed in the Engine House; and no liquors or refreshments of any kind shall be introduced there, except under the direction of the Foreman or senior officer present.

#### ARTICLE XV.

Every Member shall, on signing the By-Laws, notify the Clerk of his residence or place of business at which his notifications may be left, and in case he should change his residence he must inform the Clerk immediately.

#### ARTICLE XVI.

Each member shall be supplied with the number of the Engine, 2, made of Brass, and wear it on his hat or cap, at all fires and meetings of the Company for exercise; (should the same be lost, he must procure another at his own expense,) and when he is discharged from the Company, must return it to the Clerk, together with any other article in his possession, belonging to the Company.

#### ARTICLE XVII.

The Standing Committee shall employ a person or persons to shovel the snow and ice, from the door of the Engine House, in strict conformity to the laws and regulations of the City; also to grease the Hose, collect the Buckets after a fire, see that the Engine is kept in perfect order, and the House neat and clean.



**ARTICLE XVIII.**

Each Member shall be supplied by the Clerk, with a printed Copy of the By-Laws, (the expense of printing to be paid by the Company) with a correct list of the names of each Member inserted therein, and he shall correct the same by the roll posted up in the Engine House, whenever it shall be necessary.

**ARTICLE XIX.**

The Clerk shall read the By-Laws at the annual meeting in April, before the Company proceeds to the choice of officers, and at any other meeting when directed by the presiding Officer.

**ARTICLE XX.**

These Rules and Regulations shall not be altered or amended in any respect, at the meeting in which the amendment or alteration may be proposed, but the subject shall be submitted to a Committee to report at the next meeting of the Company, when the alteration may be made by a vote of three fourths of the Members present.



JOSEPH BASSETT, *Foreman.*

DAVID PARKER, *1st Assistant.*

ISAAC PIERCE, *2d do.*

CHARLES GEYER, *Clerk.*

BENJAMIN DODD, *Treasurer.*

EBEN'R H. LITTLE.

MOSES MILLER.

TAPPING KENISON.

ELISHA MERIAM.

JOHN H. PITMAN.

JOHN W. BAXTER.

BENJAMIN CLAPP.

JABEZ FISHER, *2d.*

THOMAS COBURN.

EDWIN BRADLEY.

JAMES VANNEVAR.

BENSON LEAVITT.

MARTIN MARSH.

BENJAMIN SWEATT.

DEXTER DICKINSON.

JOSEPH SNOW.

SAMUEL FITCHUM.

GAMALIEL HARDING.

CHARLES COGSWELL.

ELI H. HOLT.

REUBEN M. HANNAFORD

JONATHAN TIBBETS.

JOHN FOSTER.

SAM'L N. CUSHING.

JOHN PRATT, *Jun'r.*

WILLIAM LOW.

DANIEL LILLIE.

WILLIAM H. HILER.

JOHN NEAT.

JOSEPH WEBBER.

PETER MAIR.

GEORGE GREEN.

PAUL S. TURNER.

RICHARD SWEETSER.

CONSTANT T. BENSON.

FREDERICK TOWER.

NATHANIEL SERVIS.

MARK CLARK.

NODIAH L. HOLTON.

JOSEPH WATTS.