

RULES and ORDERS

Agreed to be observed by the UNION FIRE-CLUB,

Instituted at Boston, September 11th, 1772.

I THAT in case it shall please Almighty GOD to permit the breaking out of Fire in Boston, where we dwell, we will be helpful to each other in extinguishing the Fire, and in saving and taking the utmost Care of each others Goods, by carefully conveying them to some convenient Place of Security, at the Direction of the Owner if present, or otherwise according to the best of our Judgment, putting them under Lock and Key, watching or standing by them till secured or delivered to the Owner; and that if any of us shall see our Brethren's Goods conveying away by any suspicious Person not able to give the Watch Word, or some satisfactory Account, we will take the same into our Possession, or see them conveyed to some Place of Security; and any Charge they shall be at, shall be defrayed by the Society.

II. That we will each of us provide, and always keep ready, two good Leather Buckets, and two strong Bags which will contain three Bushels at least each, and all of them marked with the first Letter of the Owner's Christian Name, and the whole of his Surname, with Strings at the Mouth of the Bags in order to draw them close with greater Dispatch and Conveniency, and one good mill'd Cap, and one Bed Wrench; the Buckets to be kept hanging in a convenient Place, with the Bags, Cap, and Bed-Wrench in them: Every Person failing in either of the above respects, shall pay the Clerk for the Time being, the Sum of *One Shilling* for the Use of the Society.

III. That we will meet together at some convenient Place determined upon by a Vote of the Society on the first Thursday of *January, April, July, and October*, annually, at Six o'Clock in the Evening; and whosoever shall omit to come till after the List is called over, which shall be at Seven o'Clock, shall pay a Fine of *Eight Pence*, and *One Shilling* if he come not the whole Evening, besides paying his Club of what may be spent; and if the Clerk be absent at the Time fixed for calling over the List, he shall pay *One Shilling and six Pence*, and *three Shillings* if absent the whole Evening, and pay his Club of what may be spent.

IV. That to the End we may be better acquainted with each others Houses, Shops, &c. and to view the Buckets, &c. belonging to the Society, two of the Members in turns, as they stand on the List, shall on the Wednesday before each Quarterly Meeting, attend on the Clerk to visit the Houses, Shops, &c. of each Member, and at the same Time warn of the Time and Place of said Meeting, when they shall make Report thereon; the Clerk to give reasonable Notice to the said two Persons when and where they shall meet to go about

said Business, on Penalty of *three Shillings* in Case of Failure; either of the said two Members also that are delinquent in said Business, shall pay *three Shillings* for the Use of the Society.

V. That a Moderator shall be chosen at the *January Meeting* annually, and a Clerk likewise, to keep the Society's Books, and a Record of all Fines and Disbursements, and Money which shall be raised in the Society: The method of choosing the Clerk shall be by a Lot, the Member who draws No. 1. shall serve in that Office for the Year, on Penalty of a Fine of *Two Shillings*, which if he pays, the Lot to be renewed till he be drawn who shall accept; no Member that has drawn Lot No. 1. shall be put into the Box again till all the Members have drawn it in their turns.

VI. That the number of Members shall not exceed *Twenty Persons* exclusive of Mariners; and whosoever shall slight or neglect due Attendance when warned, and refuse to pay the Fines laid on them, shall be expelled the Society.

VII. That whosoever shall be missing at a Time of Fire, and neglect to give his Attendance unto the Member that is most in Danger (except he give a sufficient reason) shall pay a fine of *Two Shillings*.

VIII. That if any of the Members Buckets, &c. are lost in Use at a Fire, the Society shall make good the same to the Owner, provided he makes personal and other reasonable Search for them in *Twenty-four Hours* after the Fire is extinguished, and makes Report of the same to the Clerk in one Month after.

IX. That each Member shall be supplied with a printed Copy of these Articles, with the Members Names and their Places of Abode, he paying for the same, and when lost or worn out, to be supplied by the Clerk with another, paying for the same as aforesaid: And each Member that does not produce and show his printed Articles at each Meeting, shall pay a fine of *Eight Pence*.

X. The Society agree to have a Watch-Word, to be alter'd at their Pleasure; any Member being able to tell the Watch-Word when demanded by the Clerk, shall pay *eight Pence* for the Use aforesaid.

XI. Lastly, That no Person shall be admitted into the Society without the unanimous Vote of the Members present at the Time of the Choice: the deciding of differences, of voting Fines, &c. to be determined by the major Vote of the Society.

For the Performance of which Articles we mutually agree to and with each other, as Witness our Hands;

	Places of Abode.	Shops and Stores.
* Ephraim May,	Orange Street	
* John Lucas,	ditto	ditto
* Benjamin Bats,	Orange Street	Long Wharfe
Ebenezer Dorr, junr.	ditto	
Thomas Bayley,	North Street	Long Wharfe
Samuel Bathwoodh		
Calch Davis,		
Ebenezer Sever,		
Carsthus Feltow,		
James Thompson,	Essex Street	
William Cunningham,		
Phillip Freeman, junr.		
Richard Gridley,	Orange Street	ditto
Joseph Dorr,		
William Davico,	Orange Street	ditto
Benjamin Cobb,	ditto	
Edward Tuckerman,		
James Cunningham, junr.	Orange Street	ditto
Imara Davis	ditto	
Math' Curtis	ditto	ditto
Davis Sears	Beacon Street	State Street.
John T. Williams	Quaker Lane	
* Cornelius Feltow.	Beacon Street	