



CONSTITUTION

AND

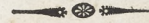
**Laws**

OF THE

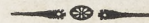
**SUN FIRE COMPANY,**

OF THE

**CITY OF LANCASTER.**



**Instituted December 10, A. D. 1763.**



LANCASTER:

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.....  
1833.

**CONSTITUTION**

OF THE

**SUN FIRE COMPANY.**



**PREAMBLE.**

We, the undersigned citizens of Lancaster, being well convinced of the great utility to be derived from well regulated fire companies, and being desirous to render our assistance, in order to preserve the property of our fellow citizens from the ravages of that destructive element, have formed ourselves into an association, under the name and title of "THE SUN FIRE COMPANY," and for the good government thereof, have adopted a constitution and by-laws, for the support of which we mutually pledge ourselves.

**LAW I.**

**OF OFFICERS.**

The Officers of the Company shall consist of a President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Engineers; who shall be annually elected, viva voce, or in such other manner as a majority of the Company may direct.

## LAW II.

## OF THE PRESIDENT.

*Sect. 1.*—The President shall preside at the meetings of the company, maintain order during the transaction of business; put motions to vote, when seconded; draw orders on the Treasurer, for such monies as may have been sanctioned by the company; and levy such fines as may be required by the laws, or by a vote of the Company.

*Sect. 2.*—He shall, at the written request of six members, call special meetings of the Company, and instruct the Secretary to issue notices to the Agent thereof.

*Sect. 3.*—He shall nominate all committees, unless in cases where a ballot may be required by the Company.

*Sect. 4.*—He shall have power to fine any member, during a meeting, for disorderly behaviour, in a sum not exceeding fifty cents.

*Sect. 5.*—He shall be fined, for absence from roll call, twelve and a half cents; for absence from a meeting, twenty-five cents; and for neglecting, or refusing to perform any duty assigned him, fifty cents.

## LAW III.

## OF THE SECRETARY.

*Sect. 1.*—The Secretary shall keep fair and regular minutes of the proceedings of the Company, for which purpose, he shall be furnished with a book, for correct minutes.

*Sect. 2.*—He shall attend each meeting of the Company, with the requisite books and papers, or, if unable so to do, shall cause them to be conveyed to the meeting.

*Sect. 3.*—He shall keep a list of members, which, at the appointed time, he shall call over, noting thereon

the absentees; perform all necessary readings, and execute such writings as the Company may require.

*Sect. 4.*—He shall, within ten days after the election of a member, inform him officially thereof.

*Sect. 5.*—He shall call over the roll of members, after a Fire, (or in his absence, it shall be the duty of the Chief Engineer,) noting thereon, the absentees, and report the same at the next meeting of the Company.

*Sect. 6.*—He shall deliver to the Agent, notices of the time and place of meeting, at least forty-eight hours previous thereto.

*Sect. 7.*—He shall, if practicable, give written notice to a member, who has been absent from twenty-four stated meetings in succession, and inform him, that unless he attends the next stated meeting, or furnishes a reasonable excuse for his absence, his name will be rendered liable to be stricken from the list of members.

*Sect. 8.*—He shall attest all orders drawn on the Treasurer, that may have been sanctioned by the Company, and signed by the President.

*Sect. 9.*—He shall have all the books, papers, and other documents of the Company, appertaining to his office, under his particular care; and shall transfer them to his successor in office, clear of incumbrance.

*Sect. 10.*—He shall be fined, for absence from roll call, twelve and a half cents; for absence from a meeting, twenty-five cents; and for neglecting, or refusing to perform any duty incumbent on him, fifty cents.

## LAW IV.

## OF THE TREASURER.

*Sect. 1.*—He shall keep in a book to be provided for that purpose, an account with himself, as Treasurer, in which he shall keep a regular and authentic record of his receipts and payments, and in such

condition, that the funds of the Company may be at any time ascertained.

*Sect. 2.*—He shall collect from the members, their dues; hold in trust all monies belonging to the Company, and appropriate the same agreeably to the orders of the President, attested by the Secretary.

*Sect. 3.*—He shall exhibit an account current, as Treasurer, balanced on the first stated meeting in January, and report to the Company the situation of the Treasury.

*Sect. 4.*—He shall, at all times, when required, submit his books and papers to the inspection of the Company.

*Sect. 5.*—He shall nominate a member to act in his place, during his absence from the City, or in case of sickness, and notify the Company thereof; and in his absence the Secretary shall receive the fines.

*Sect. 6.*—He shall attend each meeting of the Company, with his books and papers; or if unable to attend himself, shall cause them to be conveyed to the meeting.

*Sect. 7.*—On leaving the office, he shall deliver to his successor, the funds, books, papers, &c. committed to his trust by the Company, within ten days after the latter shall have been elected.

*Sect. 8.*—For absence from roll call, he shall be fined twelve and a half cents; from a meeting, twenty-five cents; and for a refusal or neglect of any duty herein imposed, fifty cents.

#### LAW V.

##### OF THE ENGINEERS.

*Sect. 1.*—The Engineers shall have charge of the Engine and Apparatus, and of the House, provided for its reception; repair the same when necessary; have command of the company, during the absence of the Engine from the House, in time of fire; and report to

each stated meeting, the condition of the Engine, and Apparatus, with such other information or remarks as the interest of the Institution may require.

*Sect. 2.*—The expenses incurred by them, in the repair, and preservation of the Engine and Apparatus, and in executing such other duties as may devolve on them, shall be repaid from the funds of the Company.

*Sect. 3.*—They shall make no alteration in the construction of the Engine and Apparatus, but when specially instructed by the Company for that purpose.

*Sect. 4.*—They shall report the name of a member, who refuses compliance with their reasonable injunctions, whilst subject to their directions, with an impartial statement of the case. And in the event of any altercation between members in time of fire, they shall report the same at the following meeting of the Company, if practicable, when a committee shall be appointed to inquire into the alledged grievances, and, if the Company approve of their decision, the parties shall abide implicitly thereby, under the penalty of expulsion.

*Sect. 5.*—Each Engineer shall furnish himself with a speaking trumpet, made of tin, painted or japanned; which shall be considered a badge of office; and a brass trumpet shall be provided at the expense of the Company, and attached to the Engine; and, the Engineer first arriving at the Engine on an alarm of fire, and, who shall be denominated "*The Chief Engineer,*" shall be entitled thereto, and have command of the other Engineers, during the absence of the Engine from the House.

*Sect. 6.*—The Engine or Apparatus shall not be used, for any purpose, not provided for by the Constitution, without the consent of "The Board of Engineers," under a penalty of fifty cents for each offence.

*Sect. 7.*—Each Engineer shall be fined for not keeping the Engine and Apparatus in proper order, fifty cents; and, for refusing or neglecting any other duty imposed on them, twelve and a half cents.



For withdrawing from a meeting, without the permission of the President, .....	25
For absence from the Engine, in time of fire	12½
For leaving the Engine, without the consent of the Chief Engineer, .....	25
For not assisting, when present, in the return of the Engine to the House, after an alarm of fire,	25
For non-observance of the reasonable injunctions of an Engineer, .....	25

## LAW VIII.

## OF MEETINGS.

*Sect. 1.*—There shall be stated meetings of the Company held on the Evenings of the third Saturday in every month; and adjourned and special meetings at such other times as circumstances may require.

*Sect. 2.*—Seven members shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of the votes of those convened shall govern, except in an alteration or amendment of the Laws of the Constitution, and in the election, or expulsion of a member; when it shall require the concurrence of two-thirds, and be proposed at a preceding stated meeting; no motion to amend or alter the Laws of the Constitution shall lie over for consideration, unless sanctioned by a majority of the members present.

*Sect. 3.*—The meetings of the company shall begin as follows, viz. during the months, of January, November and December, at half past six o'clock: during the months of February, September and October at seven o'clock: during the months of March, April and August, at half past seven o'clock: and during the months of May, June and July, at eight o'clock.

*Sect. 4.*—At the appointed hour of meeting, the roll shall be called, and on a quorum being formed, business shall proceed in the following order, viz:

*First*—Minutes of the preceding Meetings read.

*Second*—Reports from Officers and Committees.

*Third*—Election of Members.

*Fourth*—Candidates for Membership proposed.

*Fifth*—Deferred business.

*Sixth*—New business.

*Seventh*—Fines answered by members.

*Sect. 5.*—At special meetings, the business for which the Company was convened, shall be first considered.

*Sect. 6.*—In case of a quorum not being formed within half an hour after the appointed time of meeting, those present having noted their attendance, may adjourn.

*Sect. 7.*—Conversations, unconnected with the business before a meeting, shall be avoided; and a member, on entering the place of meeting, after business has commenced, shall take his seat without ceremony.

*Sect. 8.*—A member wishing to speak on any business of the Company, shall arise and address the President, and not be interrupted, but by a call to order.

*Sect. 9.*—On an appeal made by a member, from the decision of the President, provided it be agreed to by the Company, the President shall leave the chair, and a chairman *pro tempore*, be appointed, until a decision be obtained.

*Sect. 10.*—A motion for re-consideration, shall be made and seconded by members in the majority: it shall be at all times in order, to move an adjournment, and two-thirds of those present may decide on taking the previous question.

*Sect. 11.*—The ayes and nays, upon any question, shall be inserted on the minutes, at the request of five members.

*Sect. 12.*—No personal reflections or animadversions, on the conduct of a member, shall be allowed in the Company, and secrecy shall be particularly observed, with respect to such transactions or discussions as tend to implicate a member.

*Sect. 13.*—Upon an alarm of fire, during a meeting of the Company, the President may declare the meet-

ing temporarily adjourned. A member, leaving it however, on a false alarm, shall return immediately upon the alarm having ceased, under a penalty of twelve and a half cents; but should the alarm prove otherwise, the meeting shall be considered adjourned, to such other evening, as the President may subsequently appoint; of which he shall give due notice to the Secretary.

*Sect. 14.*—At each meeting of the Company, the Secretary shall call over the fire and meeting rolls, unless otherwise ordered by the Company, when the President shall be authorized to remit fines, if incurred by absence from the City, or by indisposition, or if a reasonable excuse be offered; an appeal from his decision may be made to the meeting.

#### LAW IX.

##### OF ELECTIONS.

*Sect. 1.*—The Election of candidates for membership, shall be by ballot, but the election of a member shall not be deemed complete until he shall have signed the Constitution, and paid his entrance money, which, should he neglect for two months after his election, without a reasonable excuse being offered, the privilege of his election shall be forfeited.

*Sect. 2.*—The election for officers shall be held annually, at the stated meeting in January, but should the said election, from any cause be prevented, the members in office shall be continued until an election takes place.

*Sect. 3.*—The resignation, or removal of Officers, shall be supplied by a special election, held for that purpose; and for the temporary absence of the President or Secretary from duty, a substitute shall be appointed.

#### LAW X.

##### OF COMMITTEES.

*Sect. 1.*—Each member of a committee shall be fined twelve and a half-cents for neglecting to perform the duties required.

*Sect. 2.*—All Committees shall report, at each stated meeting, under a penalty of twelve and a half cents each.

*Sect. 3.*—The first named member shall be the Chairman of the Committee; unless in such cases where the President of the Company is one of the Committee, when he shall act in that capacity.

#### LAW XI.

##### OF HONORARY MEMBERS.

*Sect. 1.*—The Company reserves to itself the right of bestowing on such members, as they may think proper, the privilege of Honorary Membership.

*Sect. 2.*—They shall, in their attendance of meetings or fires, enjoy all the privileges of other members.

*Sect. 4.*—They shall not be subject to any contributions levied by the Company, nor to any fines or penalties, except for disorder, and for neglect of duty, when serving as officers of the Company, or upon committees.

*Sect. 5.*—They shall have the privilege of resuming their right of membership, with their rank on the roll, by making application in writing.

#### LAW XII.

##### FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP.

*Sect. 1.*—On the removal of a member from the City, for the purpose of residence; or, on absenting himself



from 24 stated meetings in succession, without an excuse being offered for his absence, his name shall be liable to be erased from the list of members; should he afterwards be proposed, and admitted into membership, he shall assume the amount due from him at the time his name was stricken from the list.

*Sect. 2.*—Any officer, member, or honorary member of the Company, may be removed from office, or expelled, on a complaint being preferred against him, signed by three members, for violation of the laws of the Constitution; for breach of trust, relative to any duties assigned him, or for other improper conduct; provided an opportunity be afforded him for making his defence, and a copy of said charge be forwarded to him. An officer shall be suspended from the exercise of the duties of his office, until a decision has been obtained.

*Sect. 3.*—A member being in arrears to the Company, and failing to discharge them within two months after they shall have been demanded, shall render himself liable to expulsion.

### LIST OF MEMBERS.

1 *Samuel Humes	30 James Donnelly
2 *John Light	31 Jacob Gable
3 *Peter Protzman	32 Henry Pinkerton, Sr.
4 *John Risdell	33 Whiteman Benner
5 *Anthony Hook	34 Jacob Forney
6 Frederick Hambright	35 Thomas Logan
7 Thomas Lynch	36 John Brandt
8 George King, ( <i>Cooper</i> )	37 Peter Reed, Jr.
9 Michael Hambright	38 Daniel Herr
10 George Louis Mayer	39 Thomas Feran
11 James Humes	40 John Baker
12 William Hambright	41 William Demuth
13 Jacob Demuth	42 John Swartz
14 Samuel Dale	43 Daniel Fagan
15 George H. Bomberger	44 Abraham N. Breneman
16 John L. Atlee	45 Christian Kieffer
17 Henry Pinkerton, Jr.	46 George Withers
18 George Daley	47 David Longenecker
19 *Luke Brown	48 John Lappan
20 Amos Ellmaker	49 John Stehman, Jr.
21 Bernard M'Gonigle	50 Timothy Rogers
22 Christopher Hager	51 Richard Waters
23 Charles Gillespie	52 Robert M'Clure
24 Peter Speaker	53 George B. Withers
25 Zephaniah M'Lenegan	54 Thomas Eisenbeiss
26 Emanuel Carpenter	55 Michael Trissler
27 Henry Kepple	56 William Pennell
28 Matthias Hensler	57 John Rohrer
29 John Craig	

Those marked thus, \* are Honorary Members.

Geo Thru man  
439 E King St  
Lancaster  
Penns<sup>a</sup>

