

shall not exceed the sum of five hundred pounds gold or silver money of the present value thereof within this commonwealth exclusive of the money arising from the letting of the pews of said church or for opening the grounds for burial in the church yard belonging to the said congregation, and also exclusive of the voluntary contributions of the members for the support of the ministers duly officiating in the said congregation and also exclusive of other free contributions belonging to the aforesaid congregation, which said money shall be received by the said corporation and disposed of by them for the purposes hereinbefore described and directed.

Passed September 29, 1787. Recorded L. B. No. 3, p. 263, etc.

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#### CHAPTER MCCCXVIII.

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AN ACT FOR REGULATING CHIMNEY SWEEPERS WITHIN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, THE DISTRICT OF SOUTHWARK AND TOWNSHIP OF THE NORTHERN LIBERTIES IN THE COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA.

(Section I. P. L.) Whereas the houses and estates of the inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia and of the district of Southwark, and the township of the Northern Liberties in the county of Philadelphia are frequently endangered by chimneys taking fire and blazing out at the top, and it is necessary that such abuses should be [remedied] by law and a proper regulation made among those who undertake the sweeping of chimneys.

[Section I.] (Section II. P. L.) Be it therefore enacted and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met and by the authority of the same, That no person or persons from and after the passing of this act shall follow the business or occupation of a chimney sweeper either by himself, his servants, negroes and others within the city of Philadelphia, the district of Southwark or the township of the Northern Liberties aforesaid, without first having made application to the officer

hereinafter directed to be appointed and having registered or caused to be registered his or their name or names and the name or names of his or their servants, negroes or other persons aforesaid with a number affixed to each and every such name in a book by the said officer to be kept for that purpose and without procuring and receiving from the said officer a certificate of every such registry containing the name and the number of every person so entered under the penalty of ten shillings for every day he shall follow by himself or cause to be followed by his servants, negroes or others the said business, which said certificates the said officer is hereby enjoined and required to make out under his hand and to deliver to the person or persons who shall apply for the same and for every such registry and certificate he shall receive the sum of seven shillings and six pence and no more.

[Section II.] (Section III. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every person following the business aforesaid within the said city, district and liberties shall (if he follows the employment himself) wear or (if he employs his servants, negroes [or] others) cause to be worn on the front of their caps in full view without any concealment the same figures and numbers respectively as shall be so as aforesaid entered in the said books and contained in his or their respective certificates and none other, in large figures not less than two inches in length, to be made of strong durable tin or copper, and that all and every person and persons who shall follow the said business or employment by him or themselves or by his or their servants, negroes or others, not having the said number fixed on his or their cap and caps and the cap and caps of his or their servants, negroes and other persons aforesaid, according to the directions aforesaid or when fixed shall wilfully deface or conceal the same or shall neglect to keep them plain and visible, shall for each and every such offense forfeit and pay the sum of ten shillings for every day he or they shall follow the said employment not wearing the said number as aforesaid.

[Section III.] (Section IV. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons under-

taking the business or occupation aforesaid shall not within forty-eight hours after application to him or them made by any of the inhabitants of the said city, district or Northern Liberties sweep or cause to be swept such chimney or chimneys as he or they shall be required to sweep, every such person or persons so offending shall forfeit and pay the sum of twenty shillings.

[Section IV.] (Section V. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every chimney-sweeper shall have and receive for every chimney by him swept within the city of Philadelphia and for every chimney by him swept in the district and liberties aforesaid not more than one mile distant from the northern and southern boundaries of the said city, as follows, that is to say, for every chimney passing through two stories or under, nine pence, for every chimney passing through three stories one shilling, for every chimney passing through [four] or more stories, one shilling and six pence and no more.

[Section V.] (Section VI. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if the chimney of any person or persons within the said city, district or liberties shall take fire and blaze out at the top the same not having been swept within the space of one calender month next before the time of taking such fire every such person or persons shall forfeit and pay the sum of forty shillings, and if any chimney shall take fire and blaze out at the top, the same having been swept within one calender month from the time of taking such fire, the person who swept the same, either by himself, his servants or negroes, shall forfeit and pay the sum of forty shillings.

(Section VII. P. L.) And to the end that the regulations by this act prescribed may be executed.

[Section VII.] Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That any three of the justices of the peace of the said city and county, together with the wardens of the said city, shall appoint the officer for registering and granting certificates to chimney sweepers and for collecting of the said fines and forfeitures who is hereby strictly required to do and perform the several duties of the said office enjoined by this act.

[Section VII.] (Section VIII. P. L.) And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all and every the penal-

ties and forfeitures imposed by virtue of this act shall be paid one-half thereof to the use of the officer aforesaid and the other half thereof to the overseers of the poor of the said city, district or township where the offense shall be committed, for the use of the poor thereof, to be sued for in the name of the officer, and recovered before any justice of the peace for the said city and county who is hereby authorized to hear, try, judge and determine the same. Provided always, That nothing in this act shall extend or be construed to extend to a greater distance than one mile from without the bounds of the city of Philadelphia.

[Section VIII.] (Section IX. P. L.) And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That so much of the act of general assembly passed in the year one thousand seven hundred and twenty-one, entitled "An act for preventing accidents that may happen by fire,"<sup>1</sup> and of the act of general assembly, passed in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty-one, entitled "An act for the more effectual preventing accidents which may happen by fire and for suppressing idleness, drunkenness and other debaucheries,"<sup>2</sup> as relate to the firing of chimneys within the said city and one other act of general assembly passed the twenty-first day of March, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-two, entitled "An act for regulating chimney sweepers within the city of Philadelphia, the district of Southwark and the township of the Northern Liberties,"<sup>3</sup> shall be and are hereby declared to be repealed.

Passed September 29, 1787. Recorded L. B. No. 3, p. 246, etc.

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<sup>1</sup> Chapter 245.

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 388.

<sup>3</sup> Chapter 648.