

The Rebuilding of London Act 1666

(18 & 19 C. II. c.7.)

An Act for the rebuilding of the City of London

Forasmuch as the City of London, being the Imperial Seat of His Majesty's Kingdoms, and renowned for Trade and Commerce throughout the World; by reason of a most dreadful Fire lately happening therein, was for the most part thereof burnt down and destroyed within the compass of a few Days, and now lies buried in its own Ruins: For the speedy Restoration whereof, and for the better Regulation, Uniformity and Gracefulness of such new Buildings as shall be erected for Habitations in order thereunto; and to the End that great and outrageous Fires (through the blessing of Almighty God) so far forth as human Providence (with submission to the Divine Pleasure) can foresee, may be reasonably prevented or obviated for the Time to come, both by the Matter and Form of such building: And further, to the intent that all Encouragement and Expedition may be given unto, and all Impediments and Obstructions that may retard or protract the undertaking or carrying on a Work so necessary, and of so great Honour and Importance to His Majesty and this Kingdom, and to the rest of His Majesty's Kingdoms and Dominions may be removed:

II. Be it therefore enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same That the Rules and Directions hereafter in this Act prescribed be duly observed by all persons therein concerned

III. Rules and Directions to be Observed in Building

1. And first, that no Building, or House for Habitation whatsoever be hereafter erected within the limits of the said City and Liberties thereof, but such as shall be pursuant to such Rules and Orders of Building, and with such Materials as are herein after particularly appointed, and according to such Scantlings as are set down and prescribed in a Table in this present Act hereafter specified:
2. And if any person or persons shall presume to build contrary thereunto, and bee convicted of the same by the Oaths of two or more credible Witnesses, to be taken before the Lord Mayor for the time being, or any two or more of the Justices of the Peace for the said City, who are hereby empowered to administer the same oaths; That then and in such Case the said House so irregularly built as aforesaid shall be deemed as a common Nuisance;
3. And the Builder and Levier thereof shall enter into a Recognizance in such Sum as the said Mayor and Justices respectively in their Discretions shall appoint, for Abatement and Demolishing the same in convenient time, or otherwise to amend the same according to such Rules and Orders as aforesaid: And in default of entering into such Recognizance, the Offender shall be committed to the common Gaol of the said City there to remain without Bail or Mainprize till he shall have abated or demolished, or otherwise amended the same; or else such irregular House shall or may be demolished or abated by Order of the Court of Aldermen.

IV. Surveyors elected by Mayor, &c. to prevent irregular Buildings

1. And that the said irregular Buildings may be the better prevented, or more effectually discovered;
2. Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the said City shall and may at their Will and Pleasure elect, nominate and appoint one or more discreet and intelligent person or persons in the Art of Building, to be the Surveyors or Supervisors to see the said Rules and Scantlings well and truly observed:

3. And that it shall be lawful for the said Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council, or for the Mayor and Aldermen in their Court of Aldermen, to administer to all the said Surveyors or Supervisors an Oath upon the Holy Evangelists for the true and impartial execution of their Office in that behalf and to appoint the several Precincts which shall be under their several Surveys,

V. Four Sorts of Houses

1. And to the end that all Builders may the better know how to provide and fit their Materials for their several Buildings;
2. Be it enacted, That there shall be only four sorts of Buildings and no more; and that all manner of Houses so to be erected shall be of one of those four Sorts of Buildings and no other; (that is to say) The First and least Sort of Houses fronting By-lanes; the Second sort of Houses fronting Streets and Lanes of Note, the Third sort of Houses fronting high and principal Streets, the Fourth and largest Sort, of Mansion houses, for Citizens, or other Persons of extraordinary Quality, not fronting either of the three former Ways: And the Roofs of each of the said first three Sorts of Houses respectively, shall be uniform.

VI. Lord Mayor, &c. to declare the Streets and Lanes

1. And for avoiding any Uncertainty to the Builders or others herein, Be it further enacted, That the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the said City for the time being, shall on or before the first day of April next ensuing, declare which and how many shall hereafter be accounted and taken to be By-lanes, which and how many shall hereafter be deemed Streets or Lanes of Note, and high and principal Streets, by Act of Common Council to be passed for that Purpose: Which Declaration being made as aforesaid, all and singular the said Streets and Lanes (hereby intended to be rebuilt) shall by Order of the said Lord Mayor Aldermen and Common Council or such persons as they under the Common Seal of the said City shall order and appoint, be marked or staked out and distinguished, to the End the Breadth, Length and Extent thereof may be the better known and observed.
2. And if any person or persons whatsoever shall wittingly or willingly, without good Authority, pluck up or remove any of the said Stakes or Mark-stones thereby, to obscure or confound the Bounds of such Streets or Lanes, or any of them and shall be thereof legally convicted by the Oath of one Witness (other then of the Informer) to be taken before any one or more Justices of the Peace of the said City, That then the said Justice or Justices shall or may send such Offender to the Common Gaol of the said City there to remain by the space of three Months without Bail or Mainprize unless he shall pay or cause to be paid to the use of the Mayor, Commonalty and Citizens of the said City, the sum of ten Pounds, to be employed in and towards the repairing of the public Buildings of the said City.
3. Provided always, That where any such Offence shall be committed by any person or persons of low and mean Condition whom the said Justice or Justices of the Peace shall in, his Conscience believe to be unable to satisfy the said Penalties; That then and in such case the said Justice or Justices of the Peace shall and may by Order and Warrant under his or their Hands and Seals, cause such Offender to be openly whipped near unto the place where the Offence shall be committed, till his body be bloody;
4. And that it shall and may be lawful for the said Justice or Justices of the Peace to reward the said Informer out of the Pecuniary Penalty to be incurred according to his discretion not exceeding a Third part of the said Penalty.

VII. Buildings to be of Brick, &c.

1. And in regard the building with Brick is not only more comely and durable, but also more safe against future perils of Fire;

2. Be it further enacted by and with the Authority aforesaid, That all the Outsides of all Buildings in and about the said City be henceforth made of Brick or Stone, or of Brick and Stone together, except Door-cases and Window-frames, the Brest Summers, and other parts of the first Story to the Front, between the Piers, which are to be left to the discretion of the Builder, to use substantial Oaken Timber instead of Brick or Stone, for Convenience of Shops; and that the said Doors, Brest Summers and Window frames be sufficiently discharged of the Burthen of the Fabric by Arch-work of Brick or Stone, either straight or circular

VIII. Surveyor's Charge

1. And be it enacted, That the said Surveyors or Supervisors so to be appointed as aforesaid, and every of them, within their several Precincts, shall take care, that in Building of all Houses within the said City and Liberties thereof, there be, and it is hereby enacted by the Authority aforesaid That there shall be Party-walls and Party-piers, set out equally on each Builder's Ground, to be built up by the first beginner of such Building; and that convenient Tothing be left in the Front wall by the said first Builder for the better joining of the next House that shall be built to the same
2. And that no Man be permitted by the said Surveyors to build on the said Party- wall, or on his Own contiguous Ground, until he hath fully reimbursed the said first Builder the full Moiety of the Charges of the said Party-wall and Pier, together with Interest for the same after the rate of Six pounds per Centum per Annum, for Forbearance thereof, to be accounted from the Beginning of the said first Building.
3. And in case any Difference shall arise between the first and latter builders, concerning the true Value of the said Charge, That then the same be referred to the Alderman of that Ward where such Buildings shall be, and to his Deputy, to mediate an agreement of such Difference; And where the said Alderman and his Deputy, or one of them, shall be parties, or where they cannot compose such Difference as aforesaid, that the Matter be referred to the Examination of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen who shall hear and finally determine the same without any appeal to be had.

IX. The Contents of least sort of House

And be it further enacted, That the said Houses of the first and least Sort of Building, fronting By-streets or Lanes as aforesaid, shall be of two Stories high, besides Cellars and Garrets; That the Cellars thereof be six Foot and a Half high, if the springs of water hinder not; that the first Story be nine Foot high from the Floor to the Ceiling, and the second Story nine Foot high from the Floor to the Ceiling; that all Walls in Front and Rear, as high as the first Story, be of the full Thickness of the Length of two Bricks, and thence upwards to the Garrets of the thickness of one Brick and an Half; and that the Thickness of the Garret-walls on the back part be left to the Discretion of the Builder, so that the same be not less then the length of one Brick; and also that the thickness of the Party-walls between these Houses of this first and lesser Sort of Building be one Brick and an Half, as high as the said Garrets; and that the Thickness of the Party-Walls in the Garrets be of the Thickness of one Brick in length at the least; and that the Scantlings of Timber and Stone to be used about the Building thereof, be as in the said Table are set down and prescribed.

X. Contents of Second Sorts of Houses

1. And be it further enacted, That the Houses of the second Sort of Building fronting Streets and Lanes of Note, and the River of Thames, shall consist of three Stories high, beside Cellars and Garrets, as aforesaid; that the Cellars thereof be six foot an Half high (if the Springs of Water hinder not;) that the first Story contain full ten Foot in Height from the Floor to the Ceiling; the second, full ten Foot; the third, nine Foot:

2. That all the said Walls in Front and Rear, as high as the first Story, be of the full Thickness's of the length of two Bricks and an Half, and from thence upwards to the Garret Floor of the thickness of one brick and an Half, and that the Thickness of the Garret-walls on the back Part be left to the Discretion of the Builder, so that the same be not less then the Length of one Brick;
3. and also that the Thickness of the Party-walls between every House of this second and larger Sort of Building, be two Bricks Length as high as the first Story, and thence upwards to the Garrets of the Thickness of one Brick an Half; The Scantlings of Timber and Stone to be as in the said Table are prescribed.

XI. Contents of Third Sort of Houses

1. Also that the Houses of the third Sort of Building, fronting the high and principal Streets, shall consist of four Stories high, besides Cellars and Garrets, as aforesaid; that the first Story contain full ten Foot in Height from the Floor to the Ceiling; the second ten Foot and an Half, the third, nine Foot; the fourth, eight Foot and an Half:
2. That all the said Walls in Front and Rear, as high as the first Story, be of the full Thickness of the Length of two Bricks and an Half, and from thence upwards to the Garret-floor of the Thickness of one Brick and an Half, that the Thickness of the Garret walls on the back part be left to the discretion of the builder, so as the same be not less then the length of one Brick;
3. and also that the Thickness of the Party walls between every house of this third and larger Sort of Building, be two Bricks Lengths as high as the first Story, and thence upwards to the Garrets, of the Thickness of one Brick and Half; the scantlings of Timber and Stone to be as in the said Table are prescribed

XII. Scantlings of Fourth Sort

and be it further enacted that all Houses of the fourth Sort of Building, being Mansion-houses, and of the greatest Bigness, not fronting upon any of the Streets or Lanes as aforesaid, shall bear the same scantlings as in the Table are set down for the same; and that the Number of Stories, and the Height thereof, be left to the Discretion of the Builder so as he exceeds not four Stories.

XIII. Balconies with Rails and Bars of Iron in High Streets

And be it further enacted, That in the Front of all Houses hereafter to be erected in any such Streets as by Act of Common Council shall be declared to be High Streets, Balconies four Foot broad, with Rails and Bars of Iron, of equal Distance from the Ground, shall be placed; every of which Balconies shall contain in length two parts of the Front of the House on which it shall be placed, in three parts to be divided, and the remaining Vacancy of the Front shall be supplied with a Pent-house of the Breadth of the Balcony to be covered with Lead, Slate or Tile and to be sealed with Plastering underneath, and that the Water falling as well from the tops of the said Houses as from the said Balconies and Penthouses, be conveyed into the Channels by Party-pipes on the Sides or Fronts of the said Houses; and that Pavements under every of the said Balconies and Pent-houses be made of good and sufficient broad flat Stone, at the charge of the builder.

XIV. Height of the First Floor of Second and Third Sorts of Houses

1. And be it further enacted, That no Builder of any of the Houses fronting any of the said High Streets, Streets or Lanes of Note, be permitted to lay his first Floor over the Cellar more then Eighteen Inches above the said Streets, or less then Six, with one Circular Step to lead up thereunto, to be placed without the building; And that no Trap-doors or open Grates to be in any wise suffered to be made into any such Cellar or Warehouse without the Foundations of the Front, but that all Lights to be made into any of them, be henceforth made upright and not

otherwise:

2. and that no Bulks, Jetties, Windows, Posts, Seats or any Thing of like sort shall be made or erected in any Streets, Lanes or By-lanes, to extend beyond the ancient foundation of Houses; nor that any House be set further into the Street than the ancient Foundation; saving only that in the high and principal Streets it shall be lawful for the Inhabitants to suffer their Stall-boards (when their Shop- windows are set open) to turn over, and extend eleven Inches and no more from the Foundation of their Houses into the Streets, for the better Convenience of their Shop-windows.

XV. Ground not built upon in Three Years

1. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons, bodies Politic or Corporate, being seized, possessed or interested of or in any Ground which was formerly built-upon, and the Houses thereupon being now burned or pulled down at the time of the late Fire, shall not within three years next ensuing build up the same; That then the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the City of London, by Act of Common Council, may cause Proclamation to be publicly made between the Hours of Twelve and Two of the Clock in the Afternoon, as well at or upon the said Ground, as also at or upon the public Exchange of the said City, thereby to give Notice to all persons that shall be or may be therein concerned, to cause the same to be rebuilt, according to the direction of this present Act within the Space of Nine months then next following:
2. And in case the Owners thereof or other person or persons having Interest therein, shall refuse or neglect to rebuild the same, in manner and within such time as aforesaid, that then in such case the said Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the said City are hereby authorized, to issue out Warrants to the Sheriffs of London for the time being, requiring them to impanel and return before them a Jury of good and lawful men of the said City; which the said Sheriffs are hereby authorized and required to do accordingly;
3. which Jury so returned shall upon their Oaths, to be administered to them by the said Mayor and Court of Aldermen (who are likewise hereby authorized to minister the same) enquire, estimate and assess the true and just Value of such void Ground, according to their Judgements; and that from and after such Inquiry and Valuation thereof made as aforesaid, by Inquest of the said Jury it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the said City, to make Sale of the Fee or Inheritance thereof, by Conveyance under their Common Seal, to any person or persons that will purchase the same, at such Price at which the same shall have been so as aforesaid estimated and valued by the said Jury; and the monies thereupon to be received of the purchasers thereof, shall be paid into the Chamber of London, and from thence to be issued out. and paid by the Chamberlain of London for the time being, unto such person or persons who shall have any Estate or Interest into or out of the same, according to his or their respective Estate or Estates, Title or Interest:
4. which Sale so made and enrolled of Record, according to the Custom or Usage of the said City for Enrolment of Bargains and Sales, shall be final and conclusive to all other persons whatsoever, and shall bar them, their Heirs and Assigns, to claim any Estate, Right, Title or Interest of, in or out of the Grounds so sold, precedent to the said Sale; And the Purchaser or Purchasers thereof, his and their Heirs and Assigns, shall and may by virtue of this Act have, hold and enjoy the same against all persons claiming any Estate, Right, Title or Interest into, or out of the same, his and their Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns, freed and discharged of and from all Encumbrances in Estate, Title, Charge or otherwise, precedent to the said Sale.

XVI. Two Judges of Kings Bench may set the Prices of Bricks, Tiles and Lime

1. And to the End the said Builders may receive due encouragement, by having the materials for building at reasonable prices, and getting of Workmen for moderate wages,

2. Be it further enacted that in case of Combination or unreasonable Exaction by Brick-makers, Tile-makers and Lime-burners, It shall and may be lawful for the Justices of the Court of King's Bench, or any two or more of them, upon the Complaint of the said Mayor and Court of Aldermen, to call before them such a Number of Brick-makers, Tile-makers and Lime-burners, making or burning Brick, Tile or Lime at any place within Five Miles distance of the River of Thames, as they shall think fit; and upon Conference with them had concerning the premises, if they will be present or otherwise in their absence, to assess such reasonable prices from Time to Time upon every thousand of the said Bricks and Tiles, and upon every hundred of the said Lime, and every greater or lesser quantity, to be delivered at the several Kilns; And also of all Carriages of the same Materials from the said Kilns to the said City, whether by Land or by Water, as may equally respect the honest profit of the said Brick-makers, Tile-makers, Lime-burners and Carriers, and the necessity and convenience of the Builder.

XVII. In case of Combinations and Exactions of Workmen and Labourers for their Hire; Lord Mayor, &c. may appoint Wages, Prices of Materials, &c.

1. And to the intent no Brick-maker, Tile-maker, Lime-burner, Carpenter Bricklayer, Mason, Plasterer, Joiner, Plumber or other Artificer, Workman or Labourer may make the common Calamity a Pretence to extort unreasonable or excessive Wages
2. Be it likewise enacted, That in case of Combination or Exaction of unreasonable Wages by the said Artificers, Workmen or Labourers or any of them, the said Justices of the Court of Kings Bench, or any two or more of them, upon the like Complaint of the said Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, shall and may from Time to Time limit, rate and appoint the wages of the said Artificers, Workmen and Labourers by the Day, Week or otherwise, and what Wages every of the said Workmen shall have by the Great, by the Foot, Yard Rod or Perch, or for any greater Quantity: which said Rates, together with the Prices of the said Materials and Carriages so assessed, being set down in a Table and Proclamation thereof made by the Lord Mayor for the time being accordingly, the same shall effectually bind all persons therein concerned:
3. And if any of the said Artificers refuse to sell the said Materials for the prices so assessed, or any of the said Carpenters, Bricklayers, Masons, Plasterers, Joiners, Plumbers or other Workmen or Labourers, shall either refuse to work for the Wages so assessed or shall depart from his said work after he hath undertaken to do the same, without Licence of such person or persons as employed him, and before it be finished, unless it be for non-payment of his Hire, or other just cause to be allowed before one Justice of the Peace of such place where the offence shall be committed; or if any person or persons whatsoever shall by any secret ways or means give, covenant, article or agree to give, directly or indirectly, by himself or any other for him, any other or greater Wages, prices or other commodity than shall be so assessed; the said Offender and Offenders being thereof legally convicted by the Oaths of one or more Witnesses, which Oath the said Justice is hereby empowered to administer, shall be by the said Justice of the peace committed to the Common Gaol, there to remain by the space of one month without Bail or Mainprize, unless he shall pay or cause to be paid for every such Offence to the said Justice of the peace such Fine as by the discretion of the said Justice shall be set upon any such Offender, not exceeding Ten pounds: Out of which Fine the said Justice shall and may award and pay unto the Party injured such satisfaction as he shall judge reasonable, and the residue thereof shall pay unto the Chamberlain of London for the time being, to be employed for and towards the re-edifying of the public Buildings of the City aforesaid.

XVIII. Artificers working made free of London; and liable to serve in Offices as Freemen.

1. And be it further enacted, That all Carpenters, Bricklayers, Masons, Plasterers, Joiners and other Artificers, Workmen and Labourers to be employed in the said Buildings who are not Freemen of the said City, shall for the space of seven years next ensuing, and for so long time after as until the said buildings shall be fully finished, have and enjoy such and the same liberty of working,

and being set to work in the said building, as the Freemen of the City of the same Trades and Professions have and ought to enjoy; any Usage or Custom of the City to the contrary notwithstanding.

2. And that such Artificers, as aforesaid, which for the space of seven years shall have wrought in the Rebuilding of the City in their respective Arts, shall from and after the said seven years have and enjoy the same Liberty to work as Freemen of the said City, for and during their natural lives. Provided always that such Artificers claiming such privileges shall be liable to undergo all such Offices, and to pay and perform such Duties in reference to the Service and Government of the City, as Freemen of the City of their respective Arts and Trades are liable to undergo, pay and perform

XIX. Differences about placing or stopping Lights may be determined by Alderman of the Ward or Deputy; or if concerned or cannot determine, then by Lord Mayor, &c.; No further Appeal.

1. And to remove all Obstacles which otherwise may hinder so good and profitable a work
2. Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that all Differences arising between the said Builders, or any others, concerning placing. and, stopping up of Lights, Windows, Watercourses or Gutters, which may hinder or retard the said building, shall and may be heard, mediated and determined (if it may be) by the Alderman of the Ward where the Cause of any such Difference shall arise, and his Deputy; and if either the said Alderman or his Deputy be concerned as parties in the controversy, or that they cannot determine the said Differences, that then and in every such Case the same be certified by the said Alderman or his Deputy unconcerned therein, to the said Mayor and Court of Aldermen, who upon deliberate Hearing of all Parties shall finally determine the same without further or other Appeal.

XX. Sewers, Vaults, and pitching and paving Streets, by Persons appointed by Lord Mayor, &c. and Surveyors

1. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Numbers and Places for all Common Sewers, Drains and Vaults, and the Order and Manner of Paving and Pitching the Streets and Lanes within the said City and Liberties thereof, shall be designed and set out by such and so many Persons as the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty in Common Council assembled, shall from Time to Time authorize and appoint under their Common Seal or the more part of them,
2. which said Persons so authorized and appointed, or any seven or more of them, together with the said Surveyors, or some or one of them, within his or their Precinct respectively, shall at their Meeting have Power and Authority to order and direct the Making of any new Vaults, Drains and Sewers, or to cut into any Drain or Sewer already made, and for the Altering, Enlarging, Amending, Cleansing and Scouring of any old Vaults, Sinks or Common Sewers:
3. For the better Effecting whereof, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Persons so authorized and appointed, as aforesaid, or any seven or more of them, at their said Meeting, to impose any reasonable Tax upon all Houses within the said City and Liberties thereof, in Proportion to the Benefit they shall receive thereby, for and towards the New-making, Cutting, Altering, Enlarging, Amending, Cleansing and Scouring all and singular the said Vaults, Drains, Sewers, Pavements and Pitching aforesaid:
4. And in defaulted of Payment of the said Sums so to be charged, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said persons so authorized as aforesaid, or any seven or more of them, by Order and Warrant under their Hands and Seals, to levy the said Sum and Sums of Money so assessed, by Distress and Sale of the Goods of the Party chargeable therewith, and refusing or neglecting to pay the same, rendering the Over-plus (if any be).
5. And that all other Commissioners whatsoever be altogether suspended to inter-meddle in the

Premises within the said City and Liberties thereof, for the space of seven Years next, and for so long after until the said intended Buildings shall be fully finished; Any Law or Statute to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

XXI. Noisome and perilous Trades not to be in principal Streets.

And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council of the said City from Time to Time, to prohibit such Trades and Occupations as they shall judge noisome, or perilous in respect of Fire, to be used or exercised in the high or principal Streets of the said City.

XXII. Lord Mayor, &c. may remove, &c. Conduits.

1. And forasmuch as the Freedom and Openness of the Street conducive much to the Advancement of Trade and Ornament of the City;
2. Be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, by Order of Common Council in that Behalf to be made from Time to Time, and at their Will and Pleasure, to remove out of any of the high Streets all or any of the Conduits now standing or hereafter to be erected, and to set up and to erect the same in such other Public Places within the said City as they shall think fit, or to contract the same into any smaller or lesser Compass in the Places where they now stand, or hereafter shall be erected as aforesaid according to their Discretions.

XXIII. Streets herein named to be enlarged.

1. And whereas many ancient Streets and Passages within the said City and Liberties thereof, and amongst others those which are hereafter mentioned, were narrow and incommodious for Carriages and Passengers, and prejudicial to the Trade and Health of the Inhabitants, and are necessary to be enlarged, as well for the Convenience as Ornament of the City;
2. Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid That the Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the said City for the time being, in Common Council assembled, shall and may, and are hereby empowered and required to enlarge all and every the Streets and Places hereafter mentioned, where and in such Manner as there shall be Cause, by and with the Approbation of his Majesty, and not otherwise that is to say, The Street called Fleet Street, from the place where the Grayhound Tavern stood, to Ludgate, and from thence to Saint Pauls Church-yard; The Street leading from the East end of Saint Pauls Church into Cheapside; The Street and Passage at the East-end of Cheapside, leading into the Poultry; The Street and Passage out of the Poultry, leading into the West-end of Cornhill at or near the place late called the Stocks; The Street called Blowbladder Street, leading from the West-end of Cheapeside towards Newgate-Market; and to enlarge the Street and Passage from thence towards Newgate Market, by laying the Ground where the Middle-Row in the Shambles there lately stood, into the said street; and in like manner to enlarge the passage from Newgate-Market towards Newgate, by laying the Ground of the late four Houses between Warwick-Lane End in Newgate-Market and the late Bell Inn there, into the Street, And in like manner to enlarge, as there shall be cause, the Lane called Ave-Maria-Lane, leading from Pater-noster-row to Ludgate Street; And the Street or Passage at the end of Saint Martins-le-Grand towards Blowbladder- Street aforesaid; And also the Passage from Saint Magnus Church to the Conduit in Gracious-Street and the North end of Gracious-Street, and also Thames-Street, from the West-corner of Saint Magnus Church aforesaid, to the Tower-Dock; and to enlarge Old-Fish-Street by laying the Middle-Row there into the Street.

XXIV. Passages, &c. to be enlarged at Discretion

1. And the said Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council also shall and may by Virtue of this present

Act, enlarge and make wider any other such strait and narrow passages within the said City, as are less then fourteen Foot in Breadth; so as Notice be given to the Owners or Parties interested in the Ground to be so taken for the enlarging thereof on or before the first day of May next ensuing:

2. And are and shall be also further enabled by virtue of this Act, to make or cause to be made a new Street leading and extending from the Guildhall of the said City into Cheapside, the same to be of such breadth and wideness as they shall judge meet and convenient

XXV. Satisfaction to Losers of Ground.

1. And to the end that reasonable Satisfaction may be given For all such Ground as shall be taken and employed for the uses aforesaid, The Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council shall and may treat and agree with the Owners and others interested therein: And if there shall be any Persons, Bodies Corporate or Collegiate, that shall wilfully refuse to treat and agree, as aforesaid, or through any disability by Non age, Coverture, or especial Entail or other Impediment, cannot, That in such Cases the said Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen are hereby authorized by Virtue of this Act to issue out a Warrant or Warrants to the Sheriffs of London, who are hereby required accordingly to impanels and return a Jury before the said Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen:
2. Which Jury upon their Oaths to be administered by the said Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, are to inquire and assesses such Damage and Recompense as they shall judge fit to be awarded to the Owners, and others interested, according to their several and respective Interests and Estates of and in any such Houses or Ground, or any part thereof, for their respective Interests and Estates in the same, as by the said Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons in Common Council assembled shall be adjudged fit to be converted for the purposes aforesaid:
3. And such Verdict of the Jury, and Judgement of the said Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen thereupon, And the payment of the Sum or Sums of Money so awarded or adjudged to the Owners, and others having Estate or Interest, or Tender and Refusal thereof, shall be binding to all intents and purposes against the said Parties, their Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns, and others claiming any Title or Interest in the said Houses or Ground, and shall be a full Authority for the said Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons, to cause the same to be converted and used for the purposes aforesaid.

XXVI. Houses improved by opening Streets to pay to Losers of Ground.

1. And forasmuch as the Houses now remaining, and to be rebuilt, will receive more or less advantage in the value of their Rents, by the liberty of Air, and free recourse for Trade, and other Conveniences by such Regulation and enlargements:
2. It is also enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in case of refusal or incapacity, as aforesaid, of the Owners, or others interested of or in the said Houses, to agree and compound with the said Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons for the same, Thereupon a Jury shall and may be impanelled in Manner and Form aforesaid, to judge and assess upon the Owners, and others interested of and in such Houses, such competent Sum and Sums of Money, with respect to their several Interests, in consideration of such Improvement and Melioration, as in reason and good conscience they shall think fit:
3. And all sums of Money that shall be so assessed and raised as aforesaid, shall be paid to the Chamberlain of the City of London for the Time being; who is hereby enabled from Time to Time to receive and recover the same by Action at Law and whose Receipt shall be a good Discharge to such Owners or others interested; And who is hereby appointed to receive and pay, and be accountable for the same according to such Directions as shall from Time to Time be given him

by the said Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons:

4. And the Money so raised shall be wholly employed towards Payment and Satisfaction of such Houses and Ground as shall be converted into Streets, Passages, Markets and other Public Places aforesaid:
5. And such Satisfaction so given, or tendered and refused, as aforesaid, shall divest the Propriety, Estate and Interest of the respective Owners, and others having Interest of and in such Parcels of Ground so to be taken and employed for the uses aforesaid, by Virtue of this Act: Which shall be and are hereby actually settled and invested in the said Lord Mayor, Commonalty and Citizens of the City of London and their Successors, in like manner as other the Common streets and Highways within the said City.

XXVII. In Controversies about Titles; Three Judges may decide finally in a summary Way

And in case any Controversies or Differences shall happen to arise between several persons that shall claim several Estates or Interests into or out of any Grounds to be sold by the said Mayor, Aldermen and Council, or by them to be taken and disposed of by virtue and in pursuance of this Act to and for the uses aforesaid; That then the Justices of the Courts of Kings Bench and Common Pleas and Barons of the Courts of the Exchequer for the Time being, or any three or more of them, shall be and are hereby authorized to hear, and finally to order and determine the same in a summary Way of Proceeding and without the Formalities or ordinary Course of Proceedings used in any the said Courts, to order and award such Distribution to be made of the Money thereby arising for the satisfying of such several Interests and Claims as to them shall seem just and reasonable, according to the respective Estate or Estates, Title or Interests of the person or persons making Claim thereunto; according to which Order and Distribution to be made and appointed by the said Justices and Barons, or any three or more of them, the said Purchase Money shall be satisfied and paid by the said Chamberlain to the said several persons respectively.

XXVIII. A solemn Fast yearly in Memory of the Desolation.

1. And that the said Citizens and their Successors for all the time to come, may retain the Memorial of so sad a Desolation, and reflect seriously upon their manifold Iniquities, which are the unhappy Causes of such Judgements;
2. Be it further enacted, That the Second day of September (unless the same happen to be Sunday, and if so, then the next day following) be yearly for ever hereafter observed as a day of Public Fasting and Humiliation within the said City and Liberties thereof, to implore the Mercies of Almighty God upon the said City, to make devout Prayers and Supplication unto him. to divert the like Calamity for the time to come.

XXIX. A Pillar to be erected.

And the better to preserve the memory of this dreadful Visitation, Be it further enacted, That a Column or Pillar of Brass or Stone be erected on or as near unto the place where the said Fire so unhappily began, as conveniently may be, in perpetual Remembrance thereof, with such Inscription thereon, as hereafter by the Mayor and Court of Alderman in that Behalf be directed.

XXX. Places of Tender of Money altered.

And be it enacted, And it is hereby enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all Tenders of Money or Payment thereof, which by any Bonds, Covenants or other Obligations or Assurance whatsoever ought to be made in the late Assurance- Office, or in any other place on the late Royal-Exchange, London, shall or may be made at or in the present Assurance-Office in Gresham House; And shall, be as valid and legal to all intents and purposes, and discharge the Obligor as fully and amply, as if they had been made in the first intended place on the said Royal Exchange.

XXXI. No more than Thirty-nine new Churches.

And it is hereby further enacted, That the Parish Churches to be rebuilt within the said City of London, in lieu of those which were demolished by the late Fire, shall not exceed the Number of thirty-nine; Which shall be set out and appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishop of London for the time being.

XXXII. Materials of Churches not rebuilt, and the Church Yards, how to be disposed of

1. Provided also, And be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Sites and Materials of such Churches as by this Bill are not intended to be rebuilt, together with the Church-yards belonging to such Churches, shall be and are hereby vested in the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of London for the time being; to the end so much of the said Ground as shall not upon the Rebuilding of the said City, be laid into the Streets, be sold and disposed of by the said Lord Mayor and Aldermen, or the major Part of them for the time being, with the Consent of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Bishop of London for the time being;
2. and the Money raised by such Sale shall be by the said Mayor and Aldermen, or the major Part of them, with the consent of the said Archbishop and Bishop, disposed of and employed for and towards the Rebuilding of such Parish Churches as by this Act are intended to be rebuilt, and for no other Use or Purpose whatsoever.

XXXIII. Proviso for St. Faiths and St. Gregory by St. Paul's.

Provided always, That any Thing in this Act contained, shall not extend or be taken to vest or settle the Church of Saint Paul and Saint Faith's, or any part thereof, or the Church of Saint Gregory's by Saint Paul's, or any of them, or the Church-yards to any of them belonging or appertaining, in the Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of the City of London, or any of them; Any thing in this Act notwithstanding.

XXXIV. Thames Street, &c. to be raised.

And be it enacted, That for the preventing Inundations and for Easiness of Ascent, the Street called Thames-Street, and all the ground between the said Street and the River of Thames, shall be raised and made higher by three Foot at the least above the surface of the ground as now it lieth,

XXXV. Distances of Houses from the River and Fleet Ditch, &c.

1. Provided also, And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no House, Outhouse or other building whatsoever (Cranes and Sheds for present use only excepted) shall be built or erected within the distance of Forty Foot of such Part of any Wall, Key or Wharf, as bounds the River of Thames, from Tower Wharf to London Bridge. and from London Bridge to the Temple Stairs;
2. Nor any House, Outhouse or other Building (Cranes only excepted) be built or erected within the distance of threescore and ten Foot of the middle of any part of the Common Sewers, commonly called or known by the names of Bridewell- Dock, Fleet Ditch and Turnmill Brook, from the River of Thames to Clarkenwell, upon either Side of them; before the four and twentieth day of March, which shall be in the year of our Lord One thousand six hundred sixty eight.

XXXVI. An additional Custom upon Coals for building the public Buildings of the City.

1. And for the further enabling of the said Mayor and Commonalty, and Citizens of the said City of London, and their Successors, to perform and accomplish the works in this Act mentioned;
2. Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That for all sorts of Coals, which from and after the

four and twentieth Day of June One Thousand six hundred sixty-seven, and Before the four and twentieth day of June One thousand six hundred seventy-seven, shall be imported and brought into the Port of the City of London, or the River of Thames within the liberty of the said City of London, upon the same River, to be sold by the Chaldron or Ton, there shall be paid by way of Imposition thereupon (over and besides all other Impositions and Duties due and payable-for any sort of the said Coals by virtue of any Law or Statute now in force) according to the Rates hereafter mentioned; That is to say for such sorts of Coals as are usually sold by the Chaldron, for every Chaldron thereof containing thirty six bushels Winchester Measure, the sum of twelve pence; and for all such sorts of Coals as are sold by the Ton, for every Ton thereof containing twenty hundred Weight, the like sum of twelve pence;

3. Which said Imposition of twelve pence for every Chaldron or Ton of Coals, shall from Time to Time during the term aforesaid be answered and paid unto the said Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens, and their Successors, or to their Deputy or Deputies, Officers or Assignes, by the Master, Owner or Owners, or other person or persons taking charge of any Ship or Vessel whereupon the same shall be laden, before they shall break Bulk, or have a Meter assigned for the measuring or weighing of any Coals aforesaid, to be delivered from on board any such Ship or Vessel, the same to be paid at such place or places as by the said Mayor and Court of Aldermen shall from Time to Time be appointed for the receipt thereof; upon Receipt whereof, the Party appointed to receive the same shall without Delay, Fee or Reward, deliver a Receipt to the Person or Persons who shall pay the said Duty, which Receipt shall for so much be a sufficient Discharge.

XXXVII. Rules and Remedy for the said Duty.

1. And to the End that the said Imposition may be duly answered and paid without Fraud or Covin, and for the better Levying and Collecting thereof, and for Discovery of the just Quantities of all sorts of Coals to be imported as aforesaid
2. Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the Coal-meters for the City of London, appointed or to be appointed, and every of them, and their respective Deputies, in their Turn and Course of Attendance respectively, so soon as any Ship or Vessel freight with Coals shall be unladen, shall forthwith deliver a true Certificate in Writing, unto the Deputy or Deputies, Officers or Assigns of the said Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens, who shall be appointed to receive the said Imposition, of the Sorts, Quantities and Number of Chaldrans or Tons of Coals respectively, which shall be measured or weighed, and delivered from on Board any such Ship or Vessel, on Pain for his or their default therein, to be suspended from the execution and benefit of his or their Office or Employment for one whole year from thence next following;
3. And in case it shall appear by such Certificate or otherwise, that there was on Board any such Ship or Vessel a greater number of Chaldrans or Tons of Coals, then for which the said Imposition shall have been answered and paid as aforesaid; that then in such case there shall be paid to the said Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens, and their Successors, for every Chaldron or Ton of Coals so concealed, over and above the Imposition aforesaid the sum of Five Shillings; for which (in case of refusal to pay the same) such Ship or Vessel or any the Tackle, Furniture or Apparel thereof, may be attached and detained by Warrant from the Mayor of the said City for the time being until Payment thereof.

XXXVIII. Post-Entry and Payment of Duty for Surplus to discharge Penalty.

Provided nevertheless, That if the Importer, upon such Certificate delivered in by the Coal-meter, shall within four and twenty hours give in his Post-entry, and satisfy and pay the whole Duty for the Surplusage of Coals appearing upon the unladeing of such Ship or Vessel, that then upon such Payment the penalty aforesaid shall be discharged.

XXXIX. How Duty to be applied.

1. And be it further enacted, that all and every such Sum and Sums of Money which shall be raised upon the Receipt of the said Imposition of twelve Pence for every Chaldron or Ton of Coals, or by such additional Duty in case of Concealment as aforesaid, shall in the first place be applied and disposed unto and for the satisfaction of such Persons whose Grounds shall by virtue and in pursuance of this Act be taken and employed for the enlarging of the Streets, and narrow passages within the said City,
2. And after satisfaction given for the same, the residue of the said Monies shall be applied and disposed unto and for the satisfaction of such persons whose Grounds shall be employed for the making of Wharfs or Quays on the North-side of the River of Thames, and upon each side of the Sewer called by the Name or Names of Bridewell-Dock, Fleet-Ditch and Turnmill-Brooke; and also for the building and making such Prisons within the said City, as shall be necessary for the safe Custody and Imprisonment of Felons and other Malefactors.

XL. Books of Account of the Duty, and Application thereof

1. And to the end the Monies to be raised upon the Imposition aforesaid, may be duly applied to the uses for which the same is by this Act appointed,
2. Be it further enacted, that there shall be from Time to Time provided, and kept in the Chamber of London, one or more book or books of Vellum or Parchment, in which all Monies thereupon to be received, shall from Time to Time be entered and set down:
3. And also other like Book or Books, wherein the Accounts of all Payments and Disbursements out of the same shall be likewise entered, expressing the Time when, the Occasion for which, and the Name of the person or persons to whom the same were so paid or disbursed:
4. And that it shall and may be lawful to and for all and every person and persons that shall or may be in any wise concerned so to do, to have free Access unto, and view the said Respective Books of Receipts and Disbursements at all times when the Chamberlain's Office is open, without any Fee or Reward to be taken or demanded for the View or Inspection thereof: And that the Chamberlain of London for the time being, before the End of Michaelmas Term in every Year, shall transmit, and upon his Oath deliver into the Receipt of the Exchequer, a true Copy or Duplicate of the aforesaid Books of Accounts, containing the Receipts and Disbursements of all Monies which shall be raised and paid by or out of the said Imposition upon Coals, in the Year preceding, and ending upon the four and twentieth Day of June next before, there to be received Gratis by the proper Officer, and kept amongst the Records of the said Court; where it shall also be lawful for any Person or Persons, who shall be in any wise concerned so to do, to have Access thereunto, and to view and peruse the said Books of Accounts, without any Fee or Reward to be taken or received for the same.

XLI. Proviso for re-building Thomas Morris's Water-house with Timber.

Provided always that it shall and may be lawful for the Water-house, called Mr. Thomas Morris his Waterhouse, formerly adjoining to London Bridge, to be rebuilt upon the place it formerly stood with Timber, for the supplying the South- side of the City with Water as it for almost this hundred Years hath done, Any thing in this Act to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

XLII. Lord Mayor, &c. may open Water Lane, and Streets herein mentioned.

Provided also, And it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London may and shall open and enlarge a Street or passage called Water-Lane, leading from Fleet-Street to White-Friars- Dock by the River of Thames; as also open and enlarge a Street or passage to the said River from Cheapside through Soper-Lane to Thames-Street, and

from the Three Cranes to the Thames; And open and enlarge one other Street or passage through Mincing Lane, by Saint Dunstons in the East, to Thames Street near the Custom house; And to make the said Streets or passages twenty four Foot in Breadth, for the Convenience of Trade, and better Passage of Carts and other carriages to and from the said River, giving notice of what they shall herein resolve, to the Proprietors and Persons concerned, before the last day of May which shall be in the year of our Lord One thousand six hundred sixty-seven, and giving them Satisfaction for their Ground, according to the Rules and Directions of this Act for the enlarging of other Streets and places

XLIII. A SCHEME of Proportions and Scantlings for Stories Walls and Timbers for the building of lesser and larger Houses within the City of London

Brick.	Division of Story	Height of Story Foote	Thickness of Walls	Bricks	Bricks
First sort, being the least Houses fronting By-Streets, Lanes &c.	Cellars	6 1/2	To the First Floor	2 1/2	1 1/2
	1 Story	9	2d	1 1/2	1 1/2
Second sort Houses fronting all Streets Lanes of Note and River of Thames.	2 Story	9	3d	1	1
	Garrets				
Where The Springs prevent not	Cellars	6 1/2	To the First Floor	2 1/2	2
	1 Story	10	2d	2	1 1/2
Not less in height clear then	2 Story	10	3d	1 1/2	1 1/2
	3 Story	9	4th	1	1
Garrets					
Third sort Houses fronting all High Streets and Lanes of Note	1 Story	10	1st	2 1/2	2
	2 Story	10 1/2	2d	1 1/2	1 1/2
3 Story		9	3d	1 1/2	1 1/2
	4 Story	8 1/2	4th	1	1
Garrets					

XLIV. Scantlings of Timber for the first Sort of Houses

		Foot	Inches	Inches	Length Foot.	Thickness	Depth Inches
For the Floors	Summers under	15	12 and	8	Joints to 10	3 and	7
	Wall Plates		7 and	5	Garrent Floors	3 and	6
For the Roof	Principal Rafters under	Foot	At Foot	8	6 Inches		
		15	At Top	5			
	Singles Rafters	14	and 3 inches				

XLV. Scantlings of Timber for the other two Sorts of Houses

	Foot.	Foot.	Breadth Inches	Depth Inches		Thickness Inches	Depth Inches
Summers or Girders which bear in Length from	10 to	15	11 and	8	Joists which bear ten Foot	3	6
	15	18	13	9		3	7
	18	21	14	10		3	7
	21	24	16	12		3	8
	24	26	17	14		3	8
Principal Discharges upon Peers In the first Story in the Fronts			Inches	Inches			
			13 15	and 12 13			
For the floors	Binding Joints, with their Trimming Joists			Thickness Inches	Depth equal to their own floors		
				5			
Wall-Plates, or Raising Pieces and Beams			Inches	Inches			
			10 8 7	and 6 6 5			
Lintels of Oak in the	1st and 2nd Story		Inches	Inches			
	3rd Story		8 5	and 6 4			

XLVI. Scantlings for Sawed Timber and Laths, usually brought out of the West Country, not less than

	Foot	Breadth Inches	Thickness Inches
Single Quarters in Length	8	3 1/2	1
Double Quarters in Length	8	4	3 3/4
Sawed Joints in Length	8	6	4
Laths in Length	5	1 1/4	1 Quarter and 1/2 of an inch
	4		
2 Stone	First Sort of Houses	Corner Peers	<u>Inches</u> 18 square
		Middle or Single Peers	14 and 12
		Single Peers between House and House	14 and 18
		Door Jams and Heads	12 and 8
Where Stone is used, to keep to these Scantlings	2nd and 3rd sorts	Corner Peers	<u>Foot</u> 2
		Middle or single Peers	<u>Inches</u> 6 square
		Double Peers between House and House	18 square
		Door Jambs and Heads	24 and 18 14 and 10
3 Scantlings for Sewers	<u>Foot</u>	<u>Thickness</u>	Bottom paves plain, then 1 Brick and Edge Circular
	3 wide 5 high	Side Walls 1 Brick 12 Arch 1 Brick on end	

XL VII. General Rules

1. In every Foundation within the Ground, add one Brick in Thickness to the Thickness of the Wall (as in the Scheme) next above the Foundation, to be set off in three Courses equally on both sides.
2. That no timber be laid within twelve Inches of the Foreside of the Chimney-Jambs, And that all Joists on the Back of any Chimney be laid with a Trimmer at six Inches distance from the Back.
3. That no Timber be laid within Tunnel of any Chimney, upon Penalty to the Workman for every Default ten shillings, and ten shillings every Week it continues unreformed.
4. That no Joists or Rafters be laid at greater distances from one to the other than twelve Inches, and no Quarters at greater distance then fourteen Inches.
5. That no Joists bear at longer length then ten Foot and no single Rafters at more in Length then nine Foot.
6. That all Roofs, Windows frames and Cellar Floors be made of Oak.
7. The Tile pins of Oak.
8. No Summers or Girders to lie over the Head of Doors and Windows.
9. No Summer or Girder to lie less then ten Inches into the Wall, no Joists then eight Inches and to be laid in Loam.