

such rates shall be settled and approved by a major part at least of the directors, at two successive weekly meetings; and all and every the members of this society respectively, shall be obliged to pay into the hands of the treasurer, his, her and their proportionable parts and shares of all and every such rate and rates, within thirty days next after such publication of the same respectively, as aforesaid, and in default of such payment, he, she and they, and every of them, making such default, shall forfeit double the said rates, and neglecting to pay the said forfeitures ten days more, shall or may, by the directors for the time being, be excluded and debarred all benefit and advantages of his, her and their insurance and insurances respectively, and from all his, her and their right to, and interest in, the stock of the society, and shall, notwithstanding, be liable to the payment of the said rates, pursuant to his, her or their covenants and engagements in these presents contained and expressed.

ART. 15. In case any member or members of this society shall assign or transfer his, her or their policies, such assignments or transfers shall be brought to the office, and be entered within four weeks after such assignment or transfer, and on default thereof, the benefit of such transferred insurance shall be lost, and all persons, to whom transfers are made, before the same are entered, shall sign and execute these presents; provided nevertheless, that such assignments or transfers may be admitted to be entered after the expiration of the said four weeks, if the directors shall allow thereof, and not otherwise, and in that case the benefit of insurance shall not be lost.

ART. 16. That all and every the members of this society who shall sustain any loss or damage by fire, shall give immediate notice thereof to the directors, or to the clerk of this society, at their office, to the end that the directors, their officers or agents, may view, inquire into and examine the same.

ART. 17. That the directors for the time being shall, with all convenient speed, on all alarms of fire, repair to, and if possible convene together at, some convenient place near where the fire shall be, to consult and determine upon such methods of proceeding as may in such case most conduce to the safety of the society, and of the public.

ART. 18. Every house that is by means of fire destroyed from the first floor upwards, shall be deemed as demolished, and it shall be lawful for the directors in such case either to order the money insured thereon to be paid within three months after the notice given of the loss as aforesaid, or to rebuild the same with all convenient speed, gilding, history painting, and carving excepted.

ART. 19. That the directors for the time being shall make up, and report to the general meeting to be held on the first Monday in April yearly, the state of the office and its accounts, and ascertain and report the profits or losses which have arisen or been incurred in the preceding year.

ART. 20. That the interest arising from the stock shall be carried to one common account, and be applied, as directed by the twenty-first article of these presents, in discharging the expences of the office, and the surplus be appropriated for the purpose, as directed in the thirteenth article of these presents, of satisfying any loss, when a contribution amounting to one half of the deposit money shall be insufficient, and out of the residue shall be made good any part of the deposit money that may have been applied, as directed in like manner by the aforesaid thirteenth article.

ART. 21. For the better and immediate management of the affairs thereof, and establishing this society, and providing for and securing the good and regular management of the affairs thereof, twelve of the present subscribers hereto shall be the first directors, and so shall be and continue to be directors of this society until the first Monday in April, seventeen hundred and ninety-five, and till others shall be duly chosen in their room; which said present directors, and all future directors of this society, or the major part of them, shall have power, and are hereby empowered, to provide a seal for this society, and to alter the same as they shall see fit, from time to time, and when they shall deem it necessary, to take a house or room for an office, within the town of Baltimore, at such rent or rents, for such term or terms, and under such covenants, as they shall judge meet, and also to appoint one or more clerks or book-keepers, surveyors, messengers and other assistants, and their respective fees and salaries, as occasion shall require, to fix and ascertain, and to take such securities from them as they shall think proper and sufficient for the due discharge of their respective trusts, offices and places; and they the said directors shall and may also, from time to time, direct and order the making and giving out policies, and from time to time apply, dispose of, place out, take in, secure and improve, the stock of this society, and the interest, profit and produce thereof, for answering the contingent charges of this society, and satisfying all such losses and damages as shall or may happen in or to the same, and shall and may also purchase and provide books for accounts, and all other things needful and requisite for this office, and for the affairs thereof, and carrying on the same; and the said directors shall and may, and they are hereby empowered to suspend, displace or remove, all or any of the officers, servants or assistants, above mentioned, as they shall see cause, and from time to time supply and fill up any vacancy which shall happen on the death or removal of them, or any of them, so that such displacing be agreed to by the major part, at least, of all the directors; and the said directors are hereby empowered to do, perform and execute, all other acts, matters and things needful, or relating to the premises, or any of them, which they shall judge fit and reasonable, and which shall be according to the tenor and true meaning of the rules, orders and agreements,