

C H A P.
LXIX.

September in every year, from nine in the evening to four in the morning; and the constables shall, in their several turns and courses of watching, use their best endeavours to prevent fires, murders, burglaries, robberies, and other outrages and disorders within said town, and to that end shall, and they are hereby empowered, directed and required, to arrest and apprehend all night walkers, malefactors, and other suspected persons, who shall be found wandering and misbehaving themselves, and shall carry the persons so apprehended, as soon as they conveniently can, before one or more justices of the peace, or commissioner, in said town, to be examined and dealt with according to law, and shall once, or oftener, at convenient times of the night, go about the several stands in said town, and shall take notice whether the watchmen perform their duties in their several stations, according to the regulations made for that purpose, and in case any watchman misbehaves or neglects his duty, the constable shall immediately give notice to the commissioners aforesaid, or any of them, that the watchman may be admonished or discharged, as the service may require; and the said constable shall observe, keep and perform, all such rules and regulations as shall be made by the said commissioners for their good government, and in case of misbehaviour or neglect, may be admonished or discharged in the same manner as the watchmen; and the said constables, for every night watching, shall be paid by the commissioners aforesaid such sum of money as they, or a major part of them, shall think reasonable.

Penalty on
neglect of du-
ty.

VII. **And be it enacted,** That if any of the said constables shall neglect to attend any night in his turn to keep watch and ward at the respective hours appointed by this act, or shall depart from or leave keeping watch during the respective hours appointed for keeping the same, or shall neglect to go about the several stands of said town once at least in every night of his said watching, or shall otherwise misbehave or neglect his duty, in each or every said case, the person so offending shall forfeit and pay the sum of twenty shillings.

Duty of
watchmen.

VIII. **And be it enacted,** That the watchmen are hereby empowered, required, and directed, in their several stations, during the time of their keeping watch, to apprehend all night-walkers, malefactors, rogues, vagabonds, and disorderly persons, whom they shall find disturbing the peace, or shall have just cause to suspect of any evil designs, and to carry the person as soon as convenient before some justice or commissioner in said town, to be examined and dealt with according to law; and the watchmen shall be at their respective stands and keep watch at the hours by law required, and shall observe, perform, and execute, all such rules, orders, and regulations, as shall be from time to time enjoined upon them, and in case of any fire breaking out, or other great necessity, shall alarm each other, and the inhabitants in their respective rounds, which when done they shall repair to their respective stands, the better to discover any other fire that may happen, as well as to prevent any burglaries, robberies, outrages, or disorders, and to apprehend any suspected persons, who in such times of confusion may be feloniously carrying off the goods and effects of others; and the said watchmen are hereby invested with all the powers and authorities that constables are now invested with by law.

Penalty for
breaking
lamps, &c.

IX. **And be it enacted,** That if any person shall wilfully or maliciously break, throw down, destroy, or extinguish, any lamp that shall be hung up to light the streets, lanes, or alleys, in said town, or shall wilfully damage the posts, irons, sentry-boxes, or other furniture thereof, every person so offending, and being convicted by the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witnesses before any commissioner or justice of the peace in said town, shall forfeit and pay three pounds for each and every such offence;