

A N
O R D I N A N C E

Providing for the raising of a Sum of Money

FOR SUPPLYING THE

City of Philadelphia

WITH

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W H O L E S O M E W A T E R .

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—*Philadelphia:*—

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1799.

An ORDINANCE providing for the raising of a sum of money, on loan, for supplying the city of Philadelphia with wholesome Water.

WHEREAS the speedy introduction of a copious supply of wholesome water, is deemed essential to the health and preservation of this city, and, from information communicated to the Select and Common Councils, there appears sufficient reason to believe an adequate supply thereof can be introduced within the compass of the present year, if the necessary sum, or capital, for defraying the expence can be obtained. And though there is reason to hope, a liberal aid will be granted by the Legislature, towards enabling the city to complete this important work:—Yet the speedy accomplishment thereof appears to require the immediate exertions and resources of the citizens of Philadelphia, for producing the benefits, contemplated thereby, within the course of the approaching summer season:—

Section I. *Be it therefore ordained and enacted by the Citizens of Philadelphia, in Select and Common Councils assembled,* That the whole of the income of the corporate estates of the Citizens of Philadelphia, and other adequate and sufficient provision which are within the means and power of the City Corporation, (excepting the ferry and bridge at the west end of High-street) shall be pledged, and the same are (together with any aid the Commonwealth may be hereafter induced to grant) hereby pledged for the payment of the interest, and for the redemption of the principal, of a sum not exceeding, in the whole,

whole, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, which any person or number of persons, or bodies politic or corporate (with the patriotic view of promoting the health and safety of the city) may and shall advance, on loan, as a capital, to the amount of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars as aforesaid, for the purpose of obtaining the introduction of a copious supply of wholesome water into this city.

Section II. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That Edward Tilghman, Jared Ingerfoll, Stephen Girard, Jesse Waln, Levi Hollingsworth, Leonard Jacoby, John Infkeep, Jacob Shoemaker, Joseph Cruksbank, William Jones, Jonathan Robinson, and Thomas Haskins, be, and they are hereby, appointed Commissioners to execute and perform the several duties hereinafter mentioned, *that is to say,* They shall and may, with all convenient expedition, procure one or more suitable books, and therein enter as follows:—

*“ We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do
 “ promise to pay to the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of Philadelphia, towards constituting a Capital to defray the expence of introducing water for
 “ the use of the Citizens of Philadelphia, the sum of
 “ one hundred Dollars for every share of said stock
 “ set opposite to our respective names, and to pay the
 “ same. in such manner, proportions and times, as is
 “ provided for in an ordinance, entitled, “ An ordinance providing for the raising of a sum of money, on loan, for supplying the city of Philadelphia with wholesome water.”*

And the said Commissioners shall thereupon, after giving due public notice, proceed in such manner, and at such places, as they may think it expedient, with all due diligence to open the said book or books, and invite and receive the subscriptions of any person or persons, or bodies politic or corporate, who shall

shall offer to subscribe therein for any share, or number of shares, until the said book or books shall have subscribed therein the number of fifteen hundred shares and when the said number of shares shall be subscribed, at any time within thirty days, to be computed from the opening of said book or books, or if only six hundred shares are subscribed at the expiration of the said thirty days, the said Commissioners shall return, to the Mayor of this city a full and perfect list of all the subscriptions to the said Capital, with the number of shares subscribed, certified under their hands and seals, and shall pay to the Treasurer of the city all monies they shall have received by virtue thereof, and if the number of shares, so returned and certified, shall be less than fifteen hundred, but shall amount to six hundred shares, the books shall be kept open for further subscriptions, at such times and places as the Commissioners may hereafter appoint, of which times and places they shall give due and public notice.

Section III. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That the payments to be made by the subscribers on each share of the aforesaid Capital, shall be in manner and time as follows, *that is to say,* Ten dollars to be paid to the Commissioners at the time of subscription, and the residue to the Treasurer of the city, *to wit,* thirty dollars at the expiration of two months from the time of subscription, thirty dollars at the expiration of four months from the time of subscription, and thirty dollars at the expiration of six months from the time of subscription; and, on the completion of the last payment, certificates, signed by the Mayor, and countersigned by the City Treasurer. shall be delivered to the subscribers respectively, for each share, or number of shares, by them subscribed, which certificates shall entitle each subscriber, or his legal attorney or assigns, to receive an interest thereon at the rate of six per cent.

cent. per annum, to be paid, half yearly, by the Treasurer of the city, and shall be severally transferable by the subscribers, or their legal attorney or assigns, by indorsement thereon, at the office, and in the presence, of the Treasurer for the time being. And that if any subscriber to any share or shares, of the aforefaid Capital, shall fail or neglect to make good any payment within thirty days, from and after the respective times as herein before required, every such subscriber, so failing and neglecting, shall forfeit all the sum or sums which may have been previously paid, and the same shall be applied to the use and benefit of the city, as an aid for defraying the expences of introducing a supply of water.

Section IV. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That so soon as a copious supply of water shall be introduced into the streets of the city, and be ready for distribution, under such general and equal regulations, as fitting to the occasion, may hereafter be established, it shall, at the conduits emptying into the streets, be for the free use of all persons, and every subscriber to the said Capital shall be entitled, in the first instance, to a preference of supply to one dwelling house for each share so subscribed, to be taken from the street pipes or conduits, subject to the general regulation aforefaid, and shall enjoy the use and convenience of said supply for the full term of three years, free of any charge of water rent.

Section V. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That all rents or other emoluments which may arise from the use and application of said water, shall, in the first instance, be applied for defraying the expences of superintendance, and of repairs and improvements of necessary works for the better accommodation and supply of the city with water, in the second instance, to the redemption of the aforefaid

said capital stock, and thereafter, for any further improvements to the city of Philadelphia, or in aid and alleviation of taxes on its inhabitants.

Section VI. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That on the receipt and payment of all monies, which shall arise on the subscriptions to the capital-stock as aforesaid, the Treasurer of this city shall be entitled to a commission, at the rate of fifty cents for every hundred dollars so received and paid, and no more; and the said Treasurer shall keep all monies, arising therefrom, in the Bank of Pennsylvania, and shall also keep an account of the receipts and payments thereon, and thereout, distinct from all other monies coming into, and passing through, his hand from any other source whatever.

Enacted into an Ordinance, at Philadelphia, on this seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine.

KEARNY WHARTON, *President*
of the Common Council.

FRANCIS GURNEY, *President*
of the Select Council.



