

Laws, Orders & Ordinances

Established by the

Mayor, Recorder,

Aldermen and Assistants

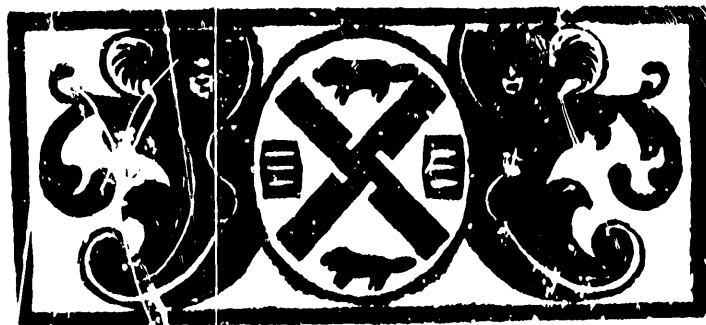
OF THE

City of New-York

Conven'd in Common-Council,

For the good Rule and Government of the
Inhabitants of the said City.

*Published the Eighteenth Day of November, in the
Fifth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord King George
the Second, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and
Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Annoq; Domini 1731.
and in the Mayoralty of Robert Lurting, Esq;*



Printed and Sold by William Bradford in the City of
New-York, 1731.

burner within this City and Corporation, do presume to fell or cut down any Trees, Timber or Fire-wood upon the Commons of this City, for burning of Bricks or making of Charcoal, upon pain of being prosecuted at Law, as Trespassers.

And be it further Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for any Freeman of this Corporation to take and carry away, and have to his own use, any Fire-wood or Timber that shall be found felled or cut down (and lying upon the Commons of this City) without the leave and licence of this Corporation; Provided such Trees, Timber or Fire-wood be not carried off the said Commons by the Person or Persons who hath felled and cut down the same, within two days after the felling and cutting down thereof.

A Law for Regulating of Fences.

BE it Ordained by the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Assistants of the City of New-York convened in Common-Council, and it is hereby Ordained by the Authority of the same, That all the Fences in the Bowry-Division of the Out-ward of this City, be made and upheld in manner following, viz. The Out-side Fences to be not less than Four Rails, and Four Foot and a half high; and the Partition Fences to be not less than four Rails, and four Foot high, and that all the Rail Fences on the South-side of the Fresh-water, be made and upheld in manner following, viz. The Outside Fences to be not less than five Rails, and four Foot and a half high; and the Partition Fences to be not less than four Rails, and four Foot high. And all Persons concerned are hereby Required to take Notice hereof accordingly.

A Law for Regulating Midwives within the City of NEW-YORK.

BE it Ordained by the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Assistants of the City of New-York, convened in Common-Council, and it is hereby ordained by the Authority of the same, That no woman whatsoever within this Corporation of the City of New-York, shall be capable of or in any manner whatsoever use or exercise the Office or Employ of a Midwife, within the said Corporation, until she shall, before the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the said Corporation, for the time being, or any one of them, take the Oath of a Midwife hereafter mentioned, which Oath they, or any one of them, have hereby Power to administer, in the words following, viz.

YOU shall Swear, *first*, That you shall be diligent and faithful, and ready to help every Woman labouring of Child, as well the Poor as the Rich; and that in time of Necessity you shall not forsake or leave the Poor Woman to go to the Rich. Midwife's Oath

Item, You shall neither cause nor suffer any Woman to Name or put any other Father to the Child, but only him which is the very true Father thereof indeed, according to the utmost of your Power.

Item, You shall not suffer any Woman to pretend, feign or surmize her self to be delivered of a Child, who is not indeed, neither to claim any other Womans Child for her own.

Item

Item, You shall not suffer any Womans Child to be murdered, maimed or otherwise hurt, as much as you may; and so often as you shall perceive any peril or jeopardy, either in the Woman or in the Child, in any such wise as you shall be in doubt what shall chance thereof, you shall thenceforth, in due time, send for other Midwives and expert Women in that Faculty, and use their advice, counsel and assistance in that behalf.

Item, You shall not give any counsel, or administer any Herb, Medicine or Potion, or any other thing to any Woman, being with Child, whereby she should destroy or miscarry of that she goeth withal, before her Time.

Item, You shall not enforce any Woman being with-child, by any Pain, or by any ungodly ways or means, to give you any more for your Pains or Labour in bringing her a-bed, than they would otherwise do.

Item, You shall not consent, agree, give or keep counsel, that any Woman be delivered secretly of that she goeth with, but in the Presence of two or three Witnesses ready.

Item, You shall be secret, and not open any Mystery appertaining to your Office, in the presence of any Man, unless Necessity or great urgent Cause do constrain you so to do.

Item, If you shall know any Midwife using or doing any thing contrary to any of the Premises, or in any otherwise than shall be seemly or convenient, you shall forth-with detect, and openly shew the same to the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of *New-York*, for the time being, or one of them.

Item, You shall use your self in honest Behaviour unto the Woman, being lawfully admitted to the Room and Office of a Midwife, in all things accordingly.

Item, If any Woman in Labour, under your care, shall desire the advice or assistance of any other Midwife or Midwives, you shall readily consent to the same, and use their advice, counsel and assistance in that behalf, if in your Conscience you think it for the benefit of such Woman in Labour.

Item, You shall not conceal the Birth of any Bastard Child within the Corporation of the City of *New-York*, but shall forth-with, upon understanding thereof, give knowledge of the same to the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of *New-York*, for the time being, or one of them, or to the Alderman or chief Magistrate of the Ward where such Bastard Child shall be born. All which Articles and Charge, you shall faithfully observe and keep. *So help you G O D.*

And be it further Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of *New-York*, for the time being, or any one of them before whom such Oath shall be taken, shall certify the taking of such Oath to the Mayor's next Court, there to be Recorded.

And be it further Ordained by the authority aforesaid That if any Woman within the said Corporation of the City of *New-York*, shall, after the Publication hereof use, occupy or exercise the Office of a Midwife, within the said Corporation of the City of *New-York*, before the Oath before mentioned hath been duly administered unto her, by the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the said City of *New-York*, for the time being, or one of them, that then and in such case such Woman so using, occupying or exercising the Office of a Midwife within the said Corporation of the City of *New-York*, for every Default shall forfeit and pay the

the Sum of *Forty Shillings* of lawful Money of the Province of *New-York*, to be recovered before the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the said City of *New-York*, for the time being, or any one of them, by a summary Proceeding; which Forfeiture shall be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Offender against the Tenor of this Law, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of the said Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of *New-York*, for the time being, or any one of them, and shall be disposed of in manner following, that is to say, One half of the said Forfeiture to the Treasurer of the City of *New-York*, for the time being, for the use of the Corporation of the said City of *New-York*, and the other half to the Person or Persons who shall sue for or prosecute the same. And in case such Offender against the Tenor of this Law shall not have sufficient Goods & Chattels to be found within the said Corporation, to satisfy the said Forfeiture, then & in such case it shall and may be lawful for the Mayor, Recorder and Aldermen of the City of *New-York*, for the time being, or any One of them, by Warrant under Hand and Seal, to commit such Offender to the Common Gaol of the said City, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize for the space of thirty Days after the Date of such Warrant, unless the said Forfeiture be in the mean time paid and satisfied.

A Law for Regulating the Office of Chamberlain or Treasurer of the City of *New-York*.

BE it Ordained by the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen and Assistants of the City of *New-York* convened in Commun-Council, and it is hereby Ordained by the Authority of the same, That the Person hereafter to be elected Chamberlain or Treasurer of the said City, shall be a Person of good Ability and Reputation, inhabiting and residing within the said City of *New-York*, and a Freeman of the said Corporation, who hath taken the Oath of a Freeman thereof; and that such Person so elected, before he shall enter upon or officiate in the said Office of Chamberlain or Treasurer, shall give Bond to the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the City of *New-York* and their Successors, with sufficient Surety or Sureties, to the liking of the said Corporation, in the Sum of *One Thousand Pounds* current Money of *New-York*, with Condition to the effect or in the form as herein after followeth (*to wit*)

WHereas the above-bounden A. B. is now elected into the Office and Place of Chamberlain or Treasurer of the said City for the year ensuing, Now the Condition of this Obligation is such, That if the said A. B. shall and do well, faithfully and truly perform, execute and do all things whatsoever which any ways touch or concern his said Office, and well and faithfully in all things behave himself in the Execution of the said Office of Chamberlain or Treasurer of the said City of *New-York*, and shall in due order and method in proper Books for that purpose, keep a true, exact and just Account of the several Branches of the Revenue Rents and Incomes of the said Corporation; and in the like orderly manner discharge the same by due & orderly Payments, and also shall and do every three Months, or oftner (if he shall be thereunto requested) render to the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, their Successors and Assigns, a true and just Account of all his Receipts and Payments, regularly stated in such proper Books for that purpose, and shall & do observe all