

And be it further enacted That when any Fire shall break out in the said Town of *Halifax*, or the Suburbs thereof, *Two* or more of the Magistrates or Firewards of the said Town, shall and may, and are hereby impowered to give Directions for pulling down any such House or Houses as shall by them be judged meet to be pulled down, for the stopping and preventing the further spreading of the Fire; and if it shall so happen, that the pulling down any such House or Houses by the Direction aforesaid, shall be the Occasion of stopping the said Fire, or that the said Fire shall stop before it come to the same, that then all and every Owner of such House or Houses shall receive reasonable Satisfaction, and be paid for the same by the rest of the Inhabitants of the said Town and Suburbs, (to be accounted from the River called *Fresh-Water-River*, to Mr. *Mau-ger's* Distilling House inclusive) whole Houses shall not be burnt, in the Manner hereinafter prescribed, *That is to say*,

The Owner or Owners of such House or Houses so pulled down and intituled as aforesaid, shall as soon as may be, make Application to the *First Justice* in the Commission of the Peace for the said Town and County, or in his Absence to the next Justice named in the said Commission, who is hereby impowered to call a *Special Sessions* of the Justices, who shall meet at the Time appointed; and the Court being satisfied by such Proof as shall be brought, of the Justice of the Claims made, they shall then issue an Order for the Valuation of the Damages so sustained, to be made by *Two* or more indifferent Persons, who shall make a Return of their Proceedings upon Oath into the said Court by the Day affixed, whereupon the Court shall appoint *two* or more Assessors, who shall Tax the Houses of the said Inhabitants that have not been burnt, at such Rate or Rates as shall by them be thought just, in Proportion to the Value of the Houses that are to be taxed, for paying the said Damages and the Charges of Valuation, Taxation, and Collection, together with the other Fees of the Court, to be settled before the making such Assessment; and the said Assessors are to report their Proceedings to the Court also upon Oath. And the said Court shall thereupon issue an Order for collecting the Monies so taxed, and in Case of Non-payment the same to be levied by Warrant of Distress to be obtained from any *One* of the said Justices upon Application to him by the Collector or Collectors of the said Tax: And as soon as the Assessments are so collected, the Court shall order Payment to be made to the Party claiming according to the Report made and approved of the said Damages; as also the Payment of such other Charges as aforesaid.

Provided, That if the House where the Fire did begin and break out, shall be judged fit to be pulled down to hinder the increase and further spreading of the same, that then the Owner of such House shall receive no Manner of Satisfaction therefor, any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

And be it likewise enacted, That if any evil minded wicked Persons, shall take Advantage of such Calamity, to rob, plunder, purloin, embezzle, or convey away, or conceal any Goods, Merchandizes or Effects, of the distressed