

XVI. Provided, also, that the immunities aforesaid shall not extend to any person who shall, in the destruction or removal of any property aforesaid, be guilty of malice, wanton mischievousness, or gross negligence.

XVII. In case of any suit or action brought by any person against any member of any Fire Company so admitted as aforesaid, in respect of damage done by such member, such member may obtain the benefit of this Act by a plea in the words and figures following: "Not guilty" by statute, without malice, wanton mischievousness, or gross negligence.

XVIII. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the "Fireman's Protection Act, 1861."

Passed the House of Assembly, twenty-third of August, 1861.

E. BOWERS DOGGETT,  
*Clerk of the House of Assembly.*

Passed the Council, ninth of September, 1861.

JOSEPH PORTER,  
*Acting Clerk of the Council.*

Assented to this tenth day of September, A. D. 1861.

JAMES DOUGLAS,  
*Governor.*