

FIRE COMPANIES.

CHAPTER CLXIII.

An act to incorporate the Atlantic Fire Company, No. 1, in the town of Newbern.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That J. H. Van Bokkelin, William H. Harvey, James C. Justice, John L. Durant, and other free white male citizens of the town of Newbern, are hereby authorised to enrol and form themselves into a fire engine company, to be styled the "Atlantic Fire Company, No. 1;" and by that name may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, and exercise all other powers and privileges incident to corporate bodies: *Provided*, that the members thereof shall not at any time exceed seventy-five in number.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of said fire company to turn out, for the exercise of themselves and their engines, in the mode used by firemen, at least four times per year, under a penalty of fifty dollars, to be recovered against said company by the commissioners of the town, before any tribunal having jurisdiction of such suits, unless the said company shall be prevented from exercising as aforesaid by the inclemency of the weather, or some unavoidable circumstance.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That a majority of the members of said fire company shall have power and authority to adopt such constitution and pass such by-laws, rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the constitution of the United States and of this State, as to them shall seem best; and that all fines and penalties which may be collected by said company, of its members for any infringement of the same, shall enure to the sole use of said company.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That the members of said fire company, while they continue to perform the duties of firemen in said company, shall be exempt from the performance of military duty, except in cases of insurrection or invasion.

Sec. 5. Be it enacted, That all laws and clauses of laws coming within the meaning and purview of this act are hereby repealed; and this act shall be in force from and after the ratification thereof.

[Ratified 5th of January, 1847.]