

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
COMMITTEE, APPOINTED ON THE 14TH
SEPTEMBER, 1793, BY
THE, BY THE CITIZENS OF PHILADELPHIA,
THE NORTHERN LIBERTIES, AND THE
DISTRICT OF SOUTHWARK**

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Minutes of the Proceedings of the Committee, Appointed on the 14th September, 1793, by the, by the Citizens of Philadelphia, the Northern Liberties, and the District of Southwark by Various

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VARIOUS

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
COMMITTEE, APPOINTED ON THE 14TH
SEPTEMBER, 1793, BY
THE, BY THE CITIZENS OF PHILADELPHIA,
THE NORTHERN LIBERTIES, AND THE
DISTRICT OF SOUTHWARK**

MINUTES
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

Appointed on the 12th September, 1793,

BY THE

CITIZENS OF PHILADELPHIA, THE NORTHERN LIBERTIES,
AND THE DISTRICT OF SOUTHWARK,

TO ATTEND TO

AND ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERINGS OF THE AFFLICTED

WITH

THE MALIGNANT FEVER,
PREVALENT IN THE CITY AND ITS VICINITY.

WITH AN APPENDIX.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF
THE SELECT AND COMMON COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA:
1848.

TO THE SELECT AND COMMON COUNCILS.

THE Committee appointed to inquire if there be any manuscripts relating to the city worthy of being printed, and report the same with the probable expense,

RESPECTFULLY REPORT:

That from among many curious and interesting documents existing in the archives of the city, they have selected one, which in their opinion has peculiar and paramount claims at this time to the attention of Councils—it is entitled,

“Minutes of the proceedings of the Committee appointed on the 14th day of September, 1793, by the citizens of Philadelphia, the Northern Liberties, and the District of Southwark, to attend to, and alleviate the sufferings of the afflicted with the malignant fever prevalent in the city, and its vicinity; with an Appendix.”

Your Committee therefore recommend that they be authorized to cause the said “Minutes” to be printed in conformity with a resolution annexed hereto, which they further respectfully beg leave to submit.

In relation to these “Minutes,” your Committee deem it proper to state—that in addition to their intrinsic value as illustrations of the history of our city during a season of frightful calamity, and of the almost total prostration of its government and industry—they furnish also appropriate means of gratitude—by perpetuating in a

permanent form the records of the heroic self-devotion, and chivalric deeds of those noble men who so fearlessly exposed themselves, amid disease and death, to rescue the lives and property of their fellow-citizens from destruction, and for the care and protection of the helpless and pestilence-made orphan. Such testimony of gratitude is due, and especially to the memory of the venerated Stephen Girard;—whose subsequent munificent benefactions, great as they are, have afforded no higher evidence of his beneficence, generosity and usefulness.

Among the names of Mr. Girard's associates will be found the following:—

MATTHEW CLARKSON, (*Mayor*) *President*,
 SAMUEL WETHERILL, *Vice-President*,
 THOMAS WISTAR, *Treasurer*,
 CALEB LOWNES, *Secretary of the Committee*.

JAMES SHEARWOOD,	JAMES KERR,
MATTHEW CARRY,	JOHN HAWORTH,
JOHN CONNELLY,	JAMES SWAIN,
ISRAEL ISRAEL,	WILLIAM CLIFTON,
THOMAS SAVERY,	HENRY DEFOREST,
JOHN LETCHWORTH,	JONATHAN D. SERGEANT,
PETER HELM,	JOSEPH INSKEEP,
THOMAS HARRISON,	ANDREW ADGATE,
DANIEL OFFLEY.	

The *four* last named members of the Committee, “perseveringly discharged with most benevolent attention their various duties, until death put a period to their exertions, and they fell under the blow they were warding off from others.”

THOMAS WISTAR, is at this time, the only surviving member of the Committee.

Together with the daily records of the Committee of citizens, there are reports of Doctors Physick, Leib, Cathrall, Annan, Duffield, Deveze, and others;—a list of the names of the sick who were admitted, died, or were discharged at the Hospital, Bush-hill; an account of the contributions in money, food, clothing and medicines for the use of the poor and sick received by the Committee from citizens of Philadelphia residing in the neighbourhood, and from the State of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia;—a list of the orphans, &c.

Committee Room, January 11, 1848.

CHARLES A. POULSON, *Chairman,*

SAUNDERS LEWIS,

ISAAC ELLIOTT,

ALGERNON S. ROBERTS,

Committee on Printing.

Resolved, That the "Joint Special Committee appointed to inquire if there be any manuscripts relating to the city worthy of being printed, and report the same with the probable expense," be authorized to cause to be printed, in the same manner and form as the Journal of Councils from 1704 to 1776, five hundred copies of the manuscript entitled "Minutes of the proceedings of the Committee appointed on the 14th day of September, 1793, by the citizens of Philadelphia, the Northern Liberties, and the District of Southwark, to attend to, and alleviate the sufferings of the afflicted with the malignant fever prevalent in the city and its vicinity; with an Appendix." Provided the expense thereof does not exceed the sum of three hundred dollars.

Passed by Councils January 20, 1848.

THOMAS BIRCH, JR.,

Clerk of the Common Council.

* * The following "Minutes" are a faithful and exact copy from
the original manuscript in the archives of Councils.

THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS
WAS PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPERS.

TO THE BENEVOLENT CITIZENS.

Those of the overseers of the poor, who attend to the care of the unfortunate now labouring under the prevailing malignant disorder, are almost overcome with the fatigue they undergo, and require immediate assistance. This, it is hoped, may be found among the benevolent citizens, who actuated by a willingness to contribute their aid in the present distress, will offer themselves as volunteers to support the active overseers in the discharge of what they have undertaken. For which purpose, those who are thus humanely disposed, are requested to apply to the Mayor, who will point out to them how they may be useful.

September 10th, 1793.

