

**ON THE PRESERVATION
OF LIFE AND
PROPERTY FROM FIRE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649511655

On the Preservation of Life and Property from Fire by James Henry Heathman

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JAMES HENRY HEATHMAN

**ON THE PRESERVATION
OF LIFE AND
PROPERTY FROM FIRE**

ON THE
PRESERVATION OF LIFE
AND
PROPERTY FROM FIRE.

BY
JAMES HENRY HEATHMAN,

MEMBER OF THE LONDON AUXILIARY FIRE BRIGADE;
MEMBER OF THE FIRE BRIGADES' ASSOCIATION;
FIRE ENGINEER.



LONDON:
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL AND CO.
4, STATIONERS' HALL COURT.

1882.

[Entered at Stationers' Hall.]

186. f. 106.

LONDON:
STEVENS AND RICHARDSON, PRINTERS, 5, GREAT QUEEN STREET,
LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, W.C.

INTRODUCTION.

ON very many occasions it has occurred to me that a work has been greatly needed, to the pages of which the property owner and other interested persons might make reference to readily ascertain the points to which their especial attention should be given, and the measures of precautions which should be exercised in order to reduce the chances of a fire occurring, and prevent the possibility of such a misfortune arising from simple mis-arrangements, and in this direction it is intended that this book shall furnish as much information on the subject as my ability will at present afford.

During the past six years my capacity has called me to all parts of Great Britain to survey buildings of almost every description, in order that I might design and report the measures I considered essential for adoption with a view to the preservation of the respective buildings and their contents against fire; and I have at all times been careful to avail myself of any information which appeared to me might prove useful

in the prosecution of my profession—that of a Fire Engineer.

I have taken pains to ascertain the weak as well as the strong points of buildings; the quality of the materials composing their structure, the manner in which they are used, their soundness, solidity, and suitability for the purpose of protecting against, retarding and arresting, the progress of destruction by fire, as well as the construction and safe fixing of the machinery and appliances for the requirements of the business, and lighting, heating and ventilating of the premises.

I have planned and supervised the provision of apparatus and arrangements for the procurement, storage and distribution of water for fire extinguishing, domestic and other purposes; have had intercourse with, and advised, architects, builders, engineers and property owners of almost every class, fire brigades, Government, insurance, and other officials; assisted the formation of fire brigades in towns and villages, as well as private or "Amateur" brigades on estates and in business and other establishments, for the guidance of whom I have prepared reports, rules, etc., and given personal instruction as to the proper steps to be taken in the event of, and to suppress an outbreak of, fire.

In June, 1879, I was elected on the Council of the National Fire Brigades' Association.

In 1876 I became a member of the London Auxiliary Fire Brigade, and as a recognized voluntary auxiliary

to the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, I have, by the kindness of its officers, been enabled to assist in the extinguishment of fires, and gain experience of the effects heat, smoke, and water will produce upon matters.

I have been careful to ascertain how fires originated, and to observe the manner in which they developed, and form an idea how they might in very numerous instances have been easily prevented; and might add, that I periodically visit several establishments of repute for the purpose of giving advice on questions generally appertaining to the prevention of fire.

In publishing this work, my experience leads me to believe that I am conveying information which possesses intrinsic value for the benefit of persons owning or having interest in the management of warehouses, factories, stores, docks, wharves, banks, mansions, hotels, clubs, colleges, hospitals, asylums, workhouses, barracks, gaols, and other buildings, including even the ordinary private dwelling, and as, in almost every instance, a person's property depends for its happy immunity from fire upon the care and attention of the servants and others about him, and as the majority of fires owe their origin to some action or omission, accidental or otherwise, on the part of an employé, incalculable benefits will undoubtedly accrue from employers' distributing copies of this work among those persons to

whom they have to look for the preservation of their property and interests.

In conclusion, I confidently expect that whatever merits this work may possess, will be appreciated by its readers, and I hope it may prove for the public good.

JAMES HENRY HEATHMAN.

63, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

December, 1881.

CONTENTS.

	<i>Page</i>
THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM FIRE	11

SECTION I.

PRECAUTIONS TO WHICH ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN GENERALLY, IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE.

Advice for property-owners, householders and others respecting the prevention of fires which might occur from the improper use of artificial illuminating agents—Lucifers, fuses, tapers, paper, candles, lamps, burning oils and spirits, gas, and the electric light—Imperfect gas-fittings—Explosion of gas, spirits and heating apparatus—Protection of fire-grates and stoves—Attention to flues—Prevention of fire from heat radiated by warming apparatus—Smoking and reading in bed—Spontaneous ignition—Inspection of property — Watchmen — Necessity for increased vigilance when buildings are under construction and repair—Insurance—The safety of premises conducive to the welfare of employers and employés alike, etc., etc.	14
---	----