REGULATIONS

FOR

THE SECURITY

OF

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

M.DCCC.LV.
REGULATIONS.

I.—REGULATIONS FOR THE GENERAL SECURITY OF THE MUSEUM.

1. The Museum is at no time whatever to be left without one, at least, of the resident Officers within the same, or the precincts thereof, that proper orders may be given, and due care taken for its preservation in case of fire, or any other accident which may endanger the building or its contents.

2. Each resident officer of the Establishment is to be punctual in the observance of the Weekly Rotation enjoined upon him by the Fifth Chapter of the Museum Statutes.

3. At the closing of the Museum every day, all Fires in the stoves are to be left in such a state that no danger may arise from them. No Coals are to be put upon the fires after 11 o'Clock, when the Fireguards are to be locked by the Servant who comes round to attend the fires.
4. The Head-housemaid, or, in case of her illness or allowed absence, the next female servant in seniority, one hour after the closing of the Museum, is to go through all the Rooms which have had Fires, and see that they are extinguished.

5. No fires are to be raked out.

6. The Messenger, or one of his assistants, is, under the direction of the Principal Librarian, to pass through all the Rooms of the respective Buildings which have been used during the day, as soon as they are closed to the public; he is also, in company with the Inspector of Police appointed for this service, and with one of the Watchmen, to visit the Halls and Passages, together with all other places where danger may be apprehended, every Evening, at Nine o’clock. They are to examine whether every part is secure, and see that no person is lurking therein. For which purpose, as well as in all cases of accident or alarm, Police-lamps only shall be used. The route to be taken in an Evening is given in writing to the Inspector.
7. For the service of lighting the Fires, it may be necessary that lighted candles should be brought into the Museum, or body of the House; but such lighted candles for such use are to be carried in lanterns, to be provided for that purpose; and lighted candles are never to be brought into the Museum on any other occasion nor in any other manner.

8. The Bookbinder is ordered to take especial care that the Fires in the Rooms allotted to him are extinguished before the workmen leave the Museum.

9. The Clerk of the Works, or, in case of his not being resident within the walls of the Museum, the Fireman, under his directions, is to see that all the Fires in the stoves which are necessary for the day, are lighted and in a proper state. He is to take care that no fuel is put upon the Fires after Three in the Afternoon, except by special orders in case of Frost; and again to have the stoves examined before Five in the Afternoon. Should the Clerk of the Works reside without the
walls, he is nevertheless, by frequent occasional visits and examinations, to ascertain that the before-mentioned duties are properly performed, and whether resident or otherwise, he shall report the state of the apparatus, etc., every month to the Principal Librarian, who shall lay the report before the Trustees.

10. The several Furnaces, Stoves, Chimneys, and Flues of the Museum Buildings are to be examined, under the superintendence of the Clerk of the Works, once a Month, or oftener if necessary, and he shall periodically report as to their safety to the Trustees.

11. The several Engines, with all the Hose and Apparatus belonging to them, are to be worked four times a year, namely, on the Tuesday before the second Saturday in April, June, August, and October. Upon the Tuesday preceding the second Saturday in every other Month of the Year the Engines are to be examined and tried, but without the use of Water.

12. On these occasions, all the resident Servants of the Establish-
ment, or so many of them as can be spared, are to be employed in such service.

13. The Engines are to be worked under the personal superintendence of the Principal Officers who are resident in the House, in rotation; that is to say, the Principal Librarian, and the Senior Officers of Departments; the Engine-maker to be called upon to attend the trial each time, and also to report to the superintending Officer his opinion of the state and condition of the Engines and Apparatus, and whether improvements or alterations are wanting.

14. A Register of the working of the Engines to be duly kept in a Book to be provided for that purpose. In this Register there shall be entered the parts of the Buildings upon which the Engines have played, the Cisterns and Reservoirs from which the Water has been taken, the Number of Persons employed, (specifying how many are Servants of the Establishment,) and the Name of the Officer superintending.

15. The superintending Officer is
to subscribe this Register, certify the Condition of the Engines and other Apparatus, and add any Remarks which he may think necessary for the information of the Trustees. This Register to be uniformly laid before the Trustees by the Principal Librarian, at their next ensuing Meeting.

16. Four times in the year the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade will attend at the working of the Engines, etc., and will report as to their efficiency, and as to any measures which he may think desirable to be adopted for giving additional security to the Museum and its Collections.

The dry working of the Engines is to take place under the superintendence of the Clerk of the Works, who at the conclusion of the trial will make a report to the Principal Librarian as to the efficiency of the Apparatus.

17. To ensure the keeping of the Hand-implements against Fire, belonging to the Museum, to their own proper purposes only, all such are to be branded, or otherwise
marked with the words "British Museum, Fire-tool," and to be kept in charge of the Clerk of the Works, who is to see that they are at all times in a proper state, fit for use.

18. The Officers of the Museum are enjoined to be particularly careful in their Houses and Apartments, as to fire.

II.—REGULATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE MUSEUM ESTABLISHMENT, IN CASE OF ACCIDENT BY FIRE.

1. In the event of Fire breaking out, the Officer or Servant discovering it, shall give immediate notice of it to all the Officers of the Establishment, to the Clerk of the Works, to the Porters at the gate, and to the Guard; when the alarm-bell situated on the Parapet of the Guard House, is to be rung.

2. The Officers and Servants are forthwith to give their attendance and utmost assistance, and the Principal Librarian, or in his absence the next Officer in rank who shall be in the Museum, shall give such orders as in his judgment
will best conduce to extinguish the Fire.

3. Information shall then be given at the nearest Police Station, and at the nearest Station of the London Fire Brigade.

4. The Clerk of the Works to give immediate directions and assistance for putting the Fire-engines to work, and also send to the district Turncock.

5. The Serjeant of the Guard to send to the Tilt Yard at Whitehall, for a reinforcement "on occasions of Fire."

6. As early notice as possible to be sent to such Trustees as live within a reasonable distance, and to the Architect of the Building.

7. The Police Inspector, upon arrival, to be requested to send to the two Stations nearest to his own district or section, for extra assistance to keep the Public away from the entrance to the Museum.

8. Two Porters to be stationed at the Great Gate, assisted by such number of the Police as the Inspector may deem necessary, with orders to admit persons belonging
to the Museum, and other persons they know, who may be of assistance, such as Workmen employed in the building; but peremptorily to exclude all Strangers not necessary to work the Engines.

9. A strong Chain to be fixed across the Entrance Gate.

10. The Men engaged in giving assistance are to observe silence, and to avoid excitement and violent exertion.

11. All Instructions or Advice from unqualified persons to be disregarded. The Workmen to look in the first instance to the directions of the Officers of the Institution only, till the arrival of the Superintendent or Engineer of the Fire-Brigade, to whom the Officers will consign the direction of subsequent exertions.

12. Should it so happen, previous to the arrival of the Superintendent, that the fire has got beyond the power of the Hose on the Fire-cocks, attention to be immediately turned to shutting up the part where the fire is as much as possible.
NOTE OF LOCALITIES, ENGINES, FIRE-COCKS, ETC.

TANK.

There is a tank for general supply of Water always kept full, and the water always on, in the centre of the court next Great Russell Street.

IRON MAINS.

An iron Main, nine inches in diameter, lies round the outside of the Buildings, and also round the interior Quadrangle; it lies under the surface of the ground, and is kept always full of water by the New River Company. The outer Main has connected with it thirty Fire Cocks, numbered consecutively from 65 to 94 both inclusive, and each Cock is prepared to receive the Hose of several engines. Twelve Cocks are also connected with the Main in the interior Quadrangle, and are numbered 95 to 106, both inclusive.

An iron Main, three inches in
diameter, upon the roof of the Buildings, extends along the whole length of the four sides of the Quadrangle. Connected with it are Six Stationary Engines (Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16), viz. One on the East side of the centre of the East Wing; two on the North side of the North Wing; one on the East side of the West Wing; and one on the East end, and one on the West end of the South Wing. This Main is provided with twenty-nine Fire Cocks at equal distances, including four Stop Cocks, and numbered 17 to 45, both inclusive. The Hose-pipes and Branches for this Main are kept in Boxes by the side of the Engines.

The external Fire Cocks commence with No. 65 in Sir Henry Ellis's garden, going South, West, North, and East, finishing with No. 94 by the present bookbinder's shops. In the Quadrangle they commence with No. 95 in the South-East Angle, and terminate with No. 106 at the South of the Centre of the East Wing.
FIRE-COCKS IN THE INTERIOR OF THE BUILDINGS.

East Wing.—Three, Nos. 46, 47, and 48, supplied from Cisterns above, in the Stone Staircase and Passage to the right of the Centre of the King’s Library; i.e. two on the Upper, and one on the Lower Floor; the Hose belonging to them is kept under the Cisterns in the same passage.

North Wing.—Seven, Nos. 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60 and 61, served from Cisterns under the Roof, i.e. one (No. 61) on the North side, West of Centre Staircase, leading to Journal Room; and one (No. 60) on the North side, East of Centre Staircase, by the Reading Room, on the Ground Floor; also one (No. 55) on the North-West Staircase; two (Nos. 56 and 57) in the East and West Hoisting Shafts; one (No. 58) in the North-East Staircase; and one (No. 59) on the North side, East of Centre of Mineral Gallery. Leathern pipes are near them.

West Wing.—Three, Nos. 62, 63, and 64 on the Ground Floor; i.e. one (No. 62) on the East side North of
Centre of Egyptian Saloon, served from a Cistern in the passage on the East side of the Centre, and two (Nos. 63 and 64) with Bucket Cocks, in the Staircase on the North side of Committee Room, supplied from Cistern in same Staircase. Hose near them. Two on the Upper Floor, with Hose near them, i.e. One (No. 53) with Bucket Cock in a passage on the North side of the Medal Room, served from a Cistern above; and One (No. 54) on the East side, North of Centre of first Vase Room, served from the same Cistern as No. 62.

South Wing.—Two on the Upper and two on the Ground Floor, Nos. 49, 50, 51 and 52, with Hose near them, and supplied from Cisterns above, i.e. Upper Floor. No. 49, in the South-East Staircase, and No. 52 in the South-West Staircase; and on Ground Floor, No. 50, in the South-East Staircase, and No. 51, in a Closet in the South-West Staircase.

The Screws of the Fire Cocks within the Buildings, as well as those of the Hose belonging to the Stationary Engines on the Roof, are all
of uniform size; and are of the same size with those of the Fire-Brigade.

**ENGINES.**

**LARGER ENGINES** of the Museum.—Nos. 1 and 2, with Hose pipes and Apparatus, stand in the Basement, under the passage from the Hall to the new Reading Room; and No. 3, with Hose pipes, &c., complete, is kept under the Ms. Room at the South end of the East Wing.

**CHAMBER ENGINES.**—One, No. 4, a small four-wheeled engine, is kept in the long Room, South West of the Hall.

One, No. 5, a similar engine, is kept on the Ground Floor, close to the Entrance to the Entomological Division of the Natural History Department, at the North-West Staircase. One, No. 6, a similar engine, is kept at the entrance of the Reading Room, from the Royal Library, and at the bottom of the North-East Staircase. One, No. 7, a similar engine, is kept on the Upper Floor, at the top of the East Staircase, North Wing; and one, No. 8, a similar engine, is
also kept on the Upper Floor, at the top of the West Staircase of the same Wing. Each of these engines is supplied with complete apparatus.

**Hand Engines.**—Two, Nos. 9 and 10, are kept in the Centre (Mammalia) Saloon, Upper Floor, South Wing.

**Fire Buckets.**

One hundred and thirty in number. Six hang near each Fire Cock respectively; nineteen are kept close to the Committee Room. Five are attached to the two larger movable engines in the basement under the Greek Gallery, and ten to the engine in the Basement at the South end of the East Wing. Twelve Buckets are kept attached to each of the five Chamber engines.

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**The Engines and Fire-Cocks Are Proved in the Following Order.**

**Movable Engines.**

No. 1. In the Front Court-yard.

2. "   "

3. "   "
4. In the Front Court-yard.
9. 
10. 
5. On the Ground Floor North-West Staircase.
6. On the Ground Floor North-East Staircase.
7. On the Roof of the Phigaleian Saloon.
8. On the Roof of the Phigaleian Saloon.

**FIXED ENGINES ON THE ROOF.**

11. South-West Angle of Roof.
12. East side, Centre of West Wing.
13. Northside, West of Centre, North Wing.
15. East side, Centre of East Wing.
16. South-East Angle, South Wing.

**FIRE-COCKS ON ROOF.**

*West Wing:*

17. Commences South end.
18. A Delivery [*i.e.* by hose pipe].
19. 
20. A Stop Cock.
22. 
23.
24. Delivery.
25. "

*North Wing*:

26. "
27. "
28. "
29. A Stop Cock.
30. Delivery.
31. "

*East Wing*:

32. A Stop Cock.
33. Delivery.
34. "
35. "
36. "
37. "

*South Wing*:

38. Stop Cock.
39. Delivery.
40. "
41. "
42. "
43. "
44. "
45. "

FIRE COCKS IN THE INTERIOR.

GROUND FLOOR.

51. In a Closet South-West Stair-case.
No.
64. Upper part of Staircase by Committee Room.
63. Lower part of Staircase by Committee Room.
62. East side, North of Centre, Egyptian Saloon.
61. North side, West of Centre, Staircase to Journal Room.
60. North side, East of Centre, Staircase by Reading Room.
46. East side, North of Centre, Royal Library.
50. In South-East Staircase.

UPPER FLOOR.
49. In South-East Staircase, above the last.
47. East side, South of Centre, Bird Room.
48. East side, North of Centre, Bird Room.
58. North-East Staircase.
57. East Hoisting Shaft, Mineral Gallery.
56. West Hoisting Shaft, Mineral Gallery.
55. North-West Staircase.
54. East side, North of Centre, First Vase Room.
53. Passage by the Medal Room.
52. South-West Staircase.

**EXTERNAL FIRE-COCKS ROUND THE OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDINGS.**

65. In Sir Henry Ellis's Garden.
66. Opposite Mr. Panizzi's Entrance to Dwelling.
67. Opposite Sir F. Madden's Entrance to Dwelling.
68. Opposite Sir H. Ellis's and Mr. Hawkins's Entrances to Dwellings.
69. In grass plot, South East Colonnade.
70. Opposite South West Ms. Room.
71. Near Centre of Portico.
72. Opposite Gallery of British Antiquities.
73. In Grass Plot, South West Colonnade.
74. Opposite Dr. Gray's and Mr. Carpenter's Entrances to Dwellings.
75. Opposite Mr. Waterhouse's Entrance to Dwelling.
76. Opposite the Messengers' Entrance to Dwelling.
77. Opposite the Committee Room.
78. Opposite the Lycian Room.
79. In the small court between Egyptian and Roman Galleries.
80. Near the South-West end of Elgin Saloon.
81. Near the North-West end of Elgin Saloon.
82. In the small court between Egyptian and Insect Galleries.
83. On the West side of Insect Gallery.
84. At the North-West Angle of Library of Printed Books.
85. Between the above and centre.
86. Between the above and centre.
87. East of centre.
88. By the Readers' present entrance.
89. East end of Reading Room.
90. North of Centre of Royal Library.
91. Opposite Centre of Royal Library.
92. South of Centre of Royal Library.
93. Opposite Gateway into Quadrangle.
94. Opposite the Middle Room, Ms. Department.
ROUND THE QUADRANGLE.

No. 95. At the South-East Angle.
96. East of Centre, South Wing.
97. West of Centre, South Wing.
98. South-West Angle.
99. South of Centre, West Wing.
100. North of Centre, West Wing.
102. West of Centre, North Wing.
103. East of Centre, North Wing.
104. North-East Angle.
105. North of Centre, East Wing.
106. South of Centre, East Wing.

Keys of the Fire-Cock Closets, and of the Trap-Doors leading on to the Roof of the East, West, and South Wings, are in the keeping of the Principal Librarian, and of the Clerk of the Works: each Messenger has also these Keys, and one of each hangs in the Porter's Lodge. They are all labelled.

Nearest Police Station:—George Street.

Nearest Fire-Brigade Stations:—George Yard, Crown Street, St. Giles's; and 254, High Holborn.
Superintendent of the Fire-Brigade:—Mr. James Braidwood, Head Station, 68, Watling Street.

District Turncocks:—James Davey, 3, Hyde Street, Bloomsbury; R. Neal, 183, Tottenham Court Road.

Henry Ellis,
Principal Librarian.

British Museum,
17th December, 1855.
British Museum.

Plan shewing the Fire Mains and Cocks.

Ground Floor.
N° 64 in Mezzanine at A
British Museum.
Plan shewing the Fire Cocks on the Upper Floor.
BRITISH MUSEUM

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NATURAL HISTORY.
British Museum.
**Plan of the Roof**
showing the
Fire Mains and Cocks.