

CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

Society for the Advancement of Christianity

IN

PENNSYLVANIA.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church for the Advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania, held at Philadelphia on the sixth day of January, 1872, it was

*Resolved, unanimously, on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees,* That the Constitution of this Society be altered. Articles II., IV., V., VI., of the Constitution as it is at present were then altered—and Articles VIII. and IX. stricken out, so that the amended Constitution as a whole is now in the following words.

GEO. W. HUNTER,

*Recording Secretary.*

January 8, 1962

That Article II of the Constitution be amended to read:

SECTION I - The Bishops of the dioceses, which are or may be in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, shall be ex-officio Presidents of the Society - the senior Bishop present at any meeting shall preside. The other officers shall be three Vice-presidents, fifteen trustees (five of them clergymen entitled to seats in any of the diocesan conventions of the Commonwealth, and members of the Society, a Treasurer, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who together shall form a board to be denominated "The Board of Trustees." Any five shall be a quorum. These officers shall be appointed by ballot at the Anniversary meeting of the Society. Vacancies in the Board shall be filled by ballot by the remaining members.

SECTION II - If at the time of the adoption of this article there are more than the stated number of Trustees, the whole board shall continue to serve. Vacancies in either clerical or lay order shall not be filled until either is below the number stated in Section One.

## CONSTITUTION.

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ARTICLE I. The name of this Society shall be "THE SOCIETY OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CHRISTIANITY IN PENNSYLVANIA." Its object is the promotion of Christian knowledge, learning, and piety in this State.

ARTICLE II. The Bishops of the dioceses, which are or may be in the State, shall be *ex officio* Presidents of the Society—the senior Bishop present at any meeting shall preside. The other officers shall be three Vice-Presidents, 15 Trustees (5 of them clergymen entitled to seats in any of the diocesan conventions, and members of the Society), a Treasurer, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary, who together shall form a board to be denominated "The Board of Trustees." Any five shall form a quorum. These officers shall be appointed by ballot at the anniversary meeting of the Society, and a plurality of votes shall constitute a choice. Vacancies in the Board shall be filled by the remaining members.

ARTICLE III. Every member of the Society shall, during membership, pay annually in advance to the Treasurer such sum as may from time to time be fixed on by the Board of Trustees, not exceeding five dollars, for the use of the Society. Such persons as shall at any time pay thirty dollars, or more, shall be members of the Society for life, without the annual payments; such donations as the pious and benevolent may at any time make for the promotion of the purposes of the Society, shall also be received by the Treasurer, and the Trustees shall cause a record to be kept of the names of all such benefactors, with an account of their donations.

ARTICLE IV. All property at present constituting the permanent fund of the Society shall continue to belong to that fund, and its income only be applied to the current purposes of the Society. All other property of the Society, including all which it may hereafter acquire, unless otherwise directed by the donor, shall be applied in furtherance of the general objects of the Society, and shall be appropriated in such manner as the By-laws and resolutions of the Society may direct: *Provided always, nevertheless,* that the clear yearly value or income of the messuages, houses, lands, and tenements, annuities, or other hereditaments and real estate of this corporation, and the interest of money lent, shall not exceed the sum allowed by law.

ARTICLE V. There shall be annually a meeting of the Society in Philadelphia on the feast of the Epiphany, unless it shall fall on a Sunday, and in that case on the next day.

ARTICLE VI. The Board of Trustees shall hold stated meetings at least three times a year. Special meetings may be called by one of the Presidents or by any three Trustees: but when special meetings are called, the time and place of meeting, and the subject proposed to be considered, shall be previously notified to the members; and no other subject shall be discussed or acted upon at such meetings unless there be at least twelve persons present. To the Board of Trustees shall be committed the care of the Society's funds, and the transaction of its entire business. They shall have power according to their discretion, and as the funds will allow, to distribute copies of the Bible, the Book of Common Prayer, useful religious tracts, and other works of approved reputation; to send forth missionaries under the sanction and direction of the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese to which they may be sent; to take by the hand youths of genius and piety, who need the fostering aid of benevolence, and are meet to be trained up for the ministry of the church, and see that they be properly educated; and in general to adopt and execute such measures as in their best judgments they shall deem good and practicable for the accomplishment of the purposes of the Society.

ARTICLE VII. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees, at every anniversary, to lay before the Society a report of the

proceedings during the preceding year; to exhibit a full and accurate view of the state of the Society's funds and other property; and to inform them of any matters relative to the objects of the Society, which may be interesting to its members.

ARTICLE VIII. The Constitution shall not be altered unless it be at an annual meeting of the Society on previous recommendation of the Board of Trustees, and in the mode prescribed by law; two-thirds of the members present consenting thereto. The object of the Society shall never be changed.

ARTICLE IX. No person shall hereafter become a member of the Society, either for life or otherwise, unless approved, either by ballot or resolution, by a majority of the Board of Trustees present at a stated meeting, or by a Standing Committee appointed for that purpose by the Board of Trustees.

*I, F. Carroll Brewster, Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, having perused and examined the proposed Amendments to the Constitution of The Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church for the Advancement of Christianity in Pennsylvania, adopted at an annual meeting of the Society held on the sixth day of January, A.D. 1872, do certify that, in my opinion, the objects, articles, and conditions therein set forth and contained are lawful.*

F. CARROLL BREWSTER,  
*Attorney General.*

*We, the subscribers, Judges of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, having perused and examined the foregoing instrument, do certify that, in our opinion, the objects, articles, and conditions therein set forth and contained are lawful.*

Done at the city of Philadelphia this sixth day of February, A.D. 1872.

JAMES THOMPSON,  
*Chief Justice.*

DANIEL AGNEW,  
GEO. SHARSWOOD,  
H. W. WILLIAMS.

PENNSYLVANIA,

*Eastern District, ss.*

I, James Ross Snowden, Prothonotary of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in and for the Eastern District, do [SEAL.] certify that the Hon. James Thompson is the Chief Justice, and the Hon. Daniel Agnew, George Sharswood, and H. W. Williams are Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania; and I further certify that the above signatures of the said Justices of the Supreme Court are genuine.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said Supreme Court this seventh day of February, A.D. 1872.

JAMES ROSS SNOWDEN,

*Prothonotary.*

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,

HARRISBURG, *February 14, A.D. 1872.*

To Hon. F. JORDAN,

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

SIR: Let the foregoing instrument of writing be enrolled according to law.

JNO. W. GEARY,

*Governor.*

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

HARRISBURG, *February 14, A.D. 1872.*

Enrolled in Charter Book, volume 8, pages 433, 434, and 435.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Secretary's office at Harrisburg, this [SEAL.] fourteenth day of February, A.D. 1872.

F. JORDAN,

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

Incorporated under Act of

6 April 1791

Brightly-Purdon Digest

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## BY-LAWS.

ADOPTED MAY 13, 1872.

AMENDED TO JANUARY 6, 1953.

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I. The TREASURER shall receive all moneys belonging to the Society, and shall deposit the same in one of the incorporated banking or trust institutions of this city, in his name as Treasurer. He shall keep a fair account of his receipts and expenditures, which shall be open to the inspection of any one of the Trustees; and shall submit the same, or an abstract therefrom, to the Board of Trustees at their stated meetings. He shall execute such resolutions as may be adopted by the Board of Trustees relative to the investment of the funds. He shall hold all evidences of property belonging to the Society. He shall prepare and lay before the Society at its annual meeting a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the preceding year, of the funds of the Society, and of the manner in which the same are invested. He shall notify members of their election, and of the sum to be paid for membership. He shall report in writing to the Committee on Trusts, immediately after its annual appointment, the funds belonging to the respective trusts, stating the kind of security in which they are invested.

II. The CORRESPONDING SECRETARY shall draft and forward all letters directed to be written by the Society or Board of Trustees, and shall preserve copies thereof which he shall lay before the Board. He shall also lay before the Board such communications as shall be addressed to him, and shall take charge of all communications addressed to the Society or Board of Trustees. He shall also open and maintain a correspondence with the Executive Officers of the institutions in which any beneficiaries of the Society may be prosecuting their studies, and shall keep the



Board advised of the results obtained, so that the proper action may be taken in each case.

III. The RECORDING SECRETARY shall keep fair and regular minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees in a book to be provided for that purpose. He shall at each meeting of the Board read the minutes of the preceding meeting. He shall certify to the Treasurer all resolutions of the Board directing any payment of money. He shall have the custody of the seal of the Corporation, and shall preserve all the records and papers which do not belong to the office of Corresponding Secretary or Treasurer; shall cause a notice of every meeting of the Board of Trustees to be delivered to each member at least one day previous to the time fixed for meeting; and shall give notice of the meetings of the Society in such manner as shall be directed by the Board of Trustees. He shall also cause notice to be given to the chairman of each committee of the appointment of such committee, with the names of the members thereof, and its object.

IV. The Trustees shall elect at the first stated meeting after their election a *Committee on Appropriations* of five members, a *Committee on Trusts* of three members, and a *Committee on Accounts* of two members, and a *Committee on Investments* of three members.

V. The EDUCATION COMMITTEE shall consider and report upon all applications for assistance on the part of candidates for holy orders referred to it by the Board; shall correspond and advise with the beneficiaries of the Society as to their studies and conduct, and maintain such a superintendence over them as may be necessary, and shall present to the Board at every stated meeting an account of their number and progress.

VI. The COMMITTEE ON CHURCH BUILDING AND MISSIONARY WORK shall report on all feeble parishes needing aid, either for the support of their rectors, or for the building and repairing of their churches and parsonages, and shall also have referred to it all matters relating to the sending forth of missionaries under sanction of the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese to which

they may be sent. It shall also be empowered to receive and enroll annual subscribers to the funds of the Society.

VII. The COMMITTEE ON TRUSTS shall superintend all trusts confided to the Society by will or otherwise, and take care that the intention of the donors be fulfilled.

VIII. The COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS shall examine the Treasurer's account at the close of each year, and report to the annual meeting.

IX. The stated meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held on the same day and immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Society and on the second Mondays of May, October, and December, at 4:15 P.M. unless such date falls upon a legal holiday in which case the meeting shall be held the following day, and the Bishops of the Diocese in which such meetings are held shall if present preside. The list of Presidents *ex officio* of the Society shall be printed in order of consecration.

X. The COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENTS shall have power to invest the funds of the Society and recommend such changes of investments as may from time to time seem to be proper and for the best interests of the Society.

XI. ORDER OF BUSINESS.—The order of business shall be as follows: *Provided*, that this order may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

1. Prayer.
2. Roll call.
3. Reading of the minutes.
4. Treasurer's report.
5. Reports of committees.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.

## XII. RULES OF ORDER.

1. No member shall retire during a meeting without the permission of the President.

2. No debate shall take place until a motion is made, seconded and stated from the chair; and all motions shall be reduced to writing if required by the President or two members.
3. Every member who speaks shall rise and address the President, and no member shall speak more than twice upon any one question without leave of the Board.
4. When a motion is under consideration no other motion shall be made, except to amend, divide, commit, or postpone it; but a motion to adjourn shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.
5. No motion for reconsideration shall be permitted, unless made and seconded by members who were in the majority on the original question; nor then, unless made at the same or next meeting; and no decision shall be reconsidered by a smaller number than was present when it was made.
6. All appropriations of money, except those to standing committees, shall be made by resolution of the Board and entered on the minutes. Orders for the amounts appropriated shall then be drawn upon the Treasurer, signed by the Chairman of the meeting, and countersigned by the Recording Secretary, or, if he be absent, by the Secretary *pro tem*.
7. All reports of standing committees shall be made in writing.

XIII. A correct copy of the By-laws, and a list of all the committees of the Board and of the members thereof, shall be laid on the table by the Recording Secretary at every meeting of the Board.

XIV. No addition to or alteration of these By-laws shall be made unless notice of the proposed alteration be given to each member of the Board at least two days before the meeting at which it is to be considered, nor unless adopted by a vote of two-thirds of those present.