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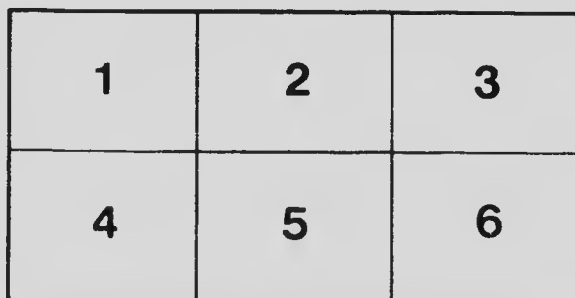
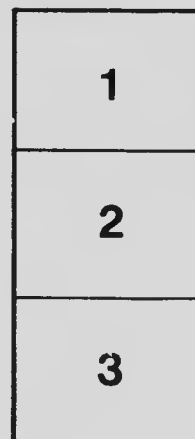
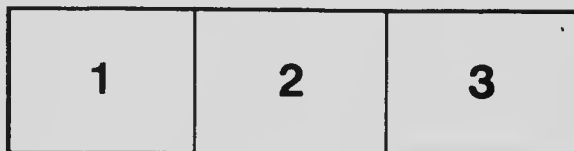
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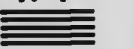
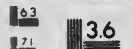
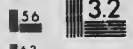
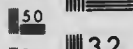
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Constitution and By-Laws  
OF THE  
Burns Literary Society  
of Toronto



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TORONTO:  
IMRIE, GRAHAM & CO., PRINTERS  
1901



THE  
BURNS LITERARY SOCIETY  
OF TORONTO.

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In 189            interest in everything pertaining to Robert Burns was quickened throughout the English-speaking world by the celebrations being held in commemoration of the centenary of his death, admirers of the poet in Toronto, led by Mr. George Vair and Mr. William Simpson, arranged a social meeting, which was held in the Masonic Building, Toronto Street, to do honor to the immortal memory of Burns. The following Scots gathered around the festive board, viz. :—G. Vair, A. Fiddes, J. McP. Ross, W. Simpson, R. Atkins, G. W. Grant, T. Bryce, J. Wilson, J. Ritchie, G. Moir, M. Warnock, Joe Tomlinson, R. Barron, with Mr. George Vair presiding.

In the course of the evening the suggestion was made that a Burns Literary Society for Toronto be formed, with the objects set forth in the following ordinances. The suggestion was cordially taken up,

and at a subsequent meeting the Society was enthusiastically launched.

It is not intended to have exclusively members of Scottish parentage only, but any worthy person of any nationality, being a consistent admirer of Burns and his works, shall be considered eligible for membership.

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### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

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- 1.—Reading Minutes.
- 2.—Correspondence.
- 3.—Reports of Special Committees.
- 4.—Reports of Standing Committees.
- 5.—Unfinished Business.
- 6.—New Business, Nominations, etc.
- 7.—Payment of Dues.
- 8.—Essays, Discussions, etc.



# CONSTITUTION.

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## ARTICLE I.—NAME.

This Society shall be called THE BURNS LITERARY SOCIETY OF TORONTO.

## ARTICLE II.—OBJECTS.

The objects of the Society shall be, the study of the writings of the poet Burns, the bringing together of admirers of the poet for the cultivation of their mutual acquaintanceship and the interchange and diffusing of ideas relating to the poet and his writings amongst the members, and other kindred tastes, and the collection and preservation of Burnsiana in suitable and accessible form.

## ARTICLE III.—OFFICERS.

The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President, first and second Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected from the members of the Society at the annual meeting, and hold office for one year or until their successors are duly appointed. These officers shall be the custodians of all property belonging to the Association.

The President shall perform the duties usually pertaining to that office.

The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his absence.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a correct list of the names and addresses of all the members of the Society, to notify all members of the time and place of meetings as he may be directed, and to keep a correct record of the attendance at such meetings. He shall preserve all books, papers and documents pertaining to his office, belonging to the Society, and on his retirement from office shall deliver all such to his successor.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys paid into the Society from all sources, and to keep a correct account of the same, depositing said funds in a Bank to the credit of the Society, pay out such amounts as he may be authorized by cheques countersigned by the President, and at the annual meeting in January, submit a statement showing all moneys received and disbursed during his term of office.

#### ARTICLE IV.—MEMBERSHIP.

The Society shall consist of not more than fifty members, who shall be regularly proposed and balloted for at any regular meeting.

In order to become a member of the Society a candidate shall sign an application (see Schedule), which shall be presented to a regular meeting of the Society vouched for by two members. If the application shall be received by the Society it shall be referred to the Committee of Management for investigation. In the event of the report being favorable to

the applicant he shall be balloted for and accepted in open meeting, and be admitted a member on the payment of \$1.00, providing that there are not two members to oppose the election of the ballot.

In order to recognize conspicuous merit the Society may confer honorary membership on the recommendation of the Committee by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

#### ARTICLE V.—COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

There shall be a Committee of Management which shall consist of the Officers of the Society and four members, who shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Society, who shall investigate all propositions for membership, have the general supervision of all matters of interest brought before the Society, and shall report the programme for the meetings as long as possible in advance. This Committee shall be designated the Committee of Management.

#### ARTICLE VI.—FEES.

The Annual Fee for membership in the Society shall be \$1.00, the same to be payable to the Treasurer at the first meeting in each year.

## BY-LAWS.

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CLAUSE 1.—There shall be ten meetings held during the year, one of which shall be held in January, to celebrate the anniversary of the Poet's Birthday, and one in July, to commemorate the anniversary of the Poet's Death, the others to be held on the Thursday of the months of February, March, April, May, September, October, November and December, the February meeting to be the Annual Business Meeting of the Society, at which the officers shall be elected, reports presented and general business transacted.

On the written request of five members special meetings shall be called.

CLAUSE 2.—The hour of meeting shall be 7.45 p.m. unless otherwise ordered by the Society.

CLAUSE 3.—Seven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any authorized meeting of the Society.

CLAUSE 4.—The ballot papers to be used in the election of members shall be in the usual form with the words "Yea" and "Nay" printed or written

thereon. No other writing or printing shall be allowed on the ballot paper, if so they shall be considered as spoiled ballots.

CLAUSE 5.—In the election of officers a ballot shall be taken for the President, Vice-President, Secretary and the Treasurer, and candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast shall be declared elected.

CLAUSE 6.—The Constitution and By-Laws may be added to, altered or repealed at any meeting called in accordance with the Constitution, but notice of such change must be given at a previous meeting of the Society.

## LIST OF MEMBERS.

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Aitkins, R.	Knowles, J. Jr.
Alexander, Jno.	Jamieson, P.
Algie, W.	Litstin, T.
Barron, R.	McMurrich, G.
Borthwick, A.	Morison, J.
Boyle, D.	Morrison, J. L.
Burton, W.	Noble, Dr. J.
Campbell, W.	Reid, W. B.
Colville, W.	Robertson, A.
Dewart, H. H.	Robertson, R.
Dunnett, T.	Ross, J. McP.
Earsman, A.	Simpson, W.
Fiddes, A.	Vair, G.
Frazer, A.	Walker, C.
Gardner, G. M.	Watson, J.
Gouinlock, J.	Warnock, M.
Grant, G. W.	Wilson, J. H.
Hamilton, J.	Wright, H.
Imrie, John	Young, A.

### HONORARY MEMBER.

Col. Small, U.S. Consul.

W. Simpson, *President*. Jno. Gouinlock, *Treasurer*.

J. McP. Ross, *Secretary*.



