

St. George's Society,

OF TORONTO;

INSTITUTED 1836, FOR THE RELIEF OF SICK AND DESTITUTE
ENGLISHMEN AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

PROCEEDINGS

AT

THE ANNUAL MEETING,

JANUARY, 1858,

AND THE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE,

WITH THE

CONSTITUTION AND LAWS,

AS REVISED IN 1856,

AND

A LIST OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.



TORONTO:

ROWSSELL & ELLIS, PRINTERS, KING STREET.

1858.

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ARTICLE I.—The
GEORGE'S SOCIETY

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St. George's Society,

OF TORONTO.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—The name of this Society shall be "THE SAINT GEORGE'S SOCIETY OF TORONTO."

II. The Society shall consist of such persons of English birth or descent, in the male line, as shall be elected members thereof, according to the regulations made for that purpose; and, until a sister Society of St. David be organized, Welshmen and their descendants shall be considered as eligible to become members of this Society, and to stand in the same position therein as Englishmen and their descendants.

III. The objects of the Society are, to unite Englishmen, and the descendants of Englishmen, in a social compact, for the promotion of mutual and friendly intercourse; and for affording to such persons of English birth and descent as may stand in need of their advice and counsel, and such pecuniary assistance as the funds of the Society may enable it to give.

IV. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a COMMITTEE, consisting of a PRESIDENT; a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT; a SECRETARY or SECRETARIES; a TREASURER, and SEVEN OTHER MEMBERS—to be elected at the Annual Meeting in January, all of whom shall hold office until the next Annual Meeting; and the Office Bearers shall be (*ex officio*) members of all Committees. Six STEWARDS shall also

be elected, who shall arrange for the celebration of the Annual Festival on St. George's Day, and report such arrangements at the Quarterly Meeting in previous April, for adoption. One or more CHAPLAINS, and one or more PHYSICIANS, shall also be appointed at said Annual Meeting. A MARSHAL and STANDARD BEARERS shall be nominated by the PRESIDENT.

V. The Officers of the Society shall be elected as follows:—Any member may nominate a candidate for each office, in succession; and in the event of more than one nomination for any one office, the decision shall be by ballot.

VI. The President, and Vice-Presidents, shall not be eligible for re-election to the offices respectively filled by them, for the next succeeding year.

VII. The General Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden on the third Friday in January of each year.

VIII. In each year there shall be holden four Quarterly General Meetings, viz: 1st. "The Annual General Meeting," and one each on the First Friday of the months of April, July, and October.

IX. Monthly Ordinary Meetings shall be held on the First Friday of each month throughout the year, excepting in January, April, July, and October, as otherwise provided under Article No. 8.

X. Any gentleman desirous of joining the Society, shall at a General or Ordinary Meeting, be proposed and seconded by members, and may be elected by a majority of such meeting.

XI. The Annual Subscription of members shall be Ten Shillings. The subscription year shall be from 1st January to 31st December. Any new member elected between the 1st January and 30th September, shall pay the full subscription for the current year; any elected on or after 1st October, may be admitted on paying for the current quarter only.

XII. A subscription of Five Pounds shall be a Life Subscription; and the same shall be invested at interest, as a permanent fund for the charitable purposes of the Society.

XIII. The Annual Meeting shall order the investment of such proportion of the surplus funds (if any) as may appear desirable, and in such manner as may be then determined—the

President and the Treasurer for the Society—and of investments, shall to the charitable purposes.

XIV. The Treasurers distressed individual written recommendations; *Provide* Presidents; involve the payment family. In cases de afforded, the same action, to the Charity

XV. The Managing Friday in each month a quorum. It shall the Society, general matters referred to the committee; and to prepare the proceedings of previous to the election

XVI. The Charity exceeding five pound funds of the Society, upon receiving such expedient; provided six months.

XVII. The Man sub-divide itself into as a Charitable Committee

XVIII. The Charity to it shall be referred relief, provided for grant extended relief orders upon the Treasurers the members of the

XIX. The Anniversary a Dinner, or other Quarterly Meeting in

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President and the Treasurer, for the time being, to be Trustees for the Society—and the annual subscriptions, with the interest of investments, shall constitute the ordinary funds, applicable to the charitable purposes of the Society.

XIV. The Treasurer shall be authorised to advance to a distressed individual, a sum not exceeding one dollar, upon the written recommendation of the President or either of the Vice-Presidents; *Provided always*, that such recommendation do not involve the payment of more than one dollar to any one person or family. In cases demanding more than the ordinary relief thus afforded, the same shall be referred, for further enquiry and action, to the Charitable Committee, as hereinafter set forth.

XV. The Managing Committee shall meet on the First Friday in each month, and any five members thereof shall form a quorum. It shall be their business to direct the affairs of the Society, generally, under this constitution; to determine all matters referred to them by the Society or the Charitable Committee; and to prepare, for each Annual Meeting, a Report of the proceedings of the Society for the year, to be submitted previous to the election of Officers.

XVI. The Charitable Committee may make loans (not exceeding five pounds to one person or family) from the ordinary funds of the Society, to persons in temporary distress or trouble, upon receiving such reasonable security as they may deem expedient; provided the period of such loans does not exceed six months.

XVII. The Managing Committee may at its first meeting, sub-divide itself into sections of two; to hold office in succession as a Charitable Committee for each month throughout the year.

XVIII. The Charitable Committee shall meet weekly, and to it shall be referred all cases requiring more than the ordinary relief, provided for under Article 14. It shall have power to grant extended relief in particular cases, at discretion—the orders upon the Treasurer being in all such cases signed by both the members of the Committee for the month.

XIX. The Anniversary of St. George shall be celebrated by a Dinner, or otherwise, as may be determined at the General Quarterly Meeting in April.

XX. The President (or, in his absence, the senior Vice-President,) shall direct the Secretary to convene a special General Meeting of the Society, upon requisition (stating the purpose thereof) from any five members; and the Secretary shall call a Special Meeting of the Managing Committee, either by direction of the President, (or, in his absence, the senior Vice-President,) or upon the requisition of any two members of the Committee.

XXI. Any alterations to be made in the Constitution or By-Laws, shall be proposed and seconded at a previous Quarterly Meeting. No number of members less than one-fifth of the Society (including the presiding officer,) shall form a meeting for the purpose of altering the Constitution; nor shall any alteration be made therein, unless two-thirds of the members present agree to it.

XXII. All donations of Five Pounds and upwards, shall be invested by the Managing Committee, in the name of the Trustees for the time being, as proposed in Rule 9, except such donation is made for a specific purpose.

XXIII. The chair shall be taken thirty minutes precisely after the hour appointed for meeting; and if there be not then a quorum (*of at least ten members*) present, the meeting shall be forthwith adjourned.

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BY-LAWS.

I. Any Member in arrears of subscription for two years, shall be considered as having withdrawn from the Society.

II. No Member shall be entitled to vote at the Annual Election of Officers, or at any subsequent meeting, who shall not have paid his previous year's subscription.

III. The duty of the President shall be to preside and preserve order at all meetings of the Society, and generally to watch over and superintend its concerns to the best of his ability. In his absence, the senior Vice-President present shall exercise the authority and duty of the President. In case of the absence of the four first Officers from any meeting, the members present shall be empowered to elect a Chairman out of their number.

IV. The Secretary shall have charge of the Seal, Banners, and other Insignia of the Society. He shall keep a fair register of all proceedings, orders, rules, and regulations, and manage the correspondence. He shall issue certificates of admission to each member on his having signed the Constitution, to which he shall affix the Seal of the Society. He shall, when necessary, summon the Society to its various meetings, and shall sign such cards of invitation to the Anniversary Celebration as may be required of him by the Stewards.

V. The Treasurer shall have the custody of the funds. He shall countersign such certificates of admission as may be issued by the Secretary. His accounts shall be fairly kept, and exhibited to the President and Managing Committee, when-

ever called for ; and shall also be laid before the Society at its January meeting.

VI. In case of the death, resignation, or removal of any of the Officers during the year for which they were elected, the Society shall at the next meeting choose others in their places, to serve for the remainder of the year.

VII. To preserve order, and to expedite the business of the Society, any member who may have proposals to make, or observations to offer upon any proposition, shall rise and address the President ; and no person shall interrupt another while speaking, if the speaker be in order.

VIII. The introduction of political or religious subjects, or their discussion, shall never be allowed at any meeting of the Society.

IX. Any member proposing a person to be admitted into this Society, shall, if the candidate be elected, be answerable for the payment of the first subscription, under Article 11 of the Constitution.

X. The Annual Subscription shall be considered due and payable on the 23rd April in every year ; and if any member shall neglect to pay his subscription for more than one year, (unless he be in indigent circumstances,) the name of such member and circumstances of the case, shall be stated to the Society at the next Quarterly Meeting ; and it shall be competent to the Society to declare that such person has forfeited his membership.

XI. The members of this Society shall faithfully observe and conform to all the rules and regulations that shall be made by the Society, and entered in the books thereof, on pain of being dismissed from it, and having their names erased from the list of members.

XII. If the majority of all the members present at any General Meeting shall vote for the expulsion of a member, his name shall be erased, and he shall never afterwards be admitted to any meeting of the Society, unless again elected by ballot, as in the first instance ; *Provided always*, that no proposition for the expulsion of a member shall be in order, unless one clear

month's notice has been given, and the then next ensuing meeting.

XIII. If, after the meeting has been transacted, social converse, the one hour after the adjournment, and any expenses incurred by members present during the meeting.

XIV. No expenses for social entertainment or for the purchase of funds of the Society.

XV. The banners or emblems, except on occasions when they are used in the proceedings, or for the Officers.

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month's notice has been given of an intention to submit it at the then next ensuing Quarterly Meeting.

XIII. If, after the business of Quarterly or Monthly Meetings has been transacted, members of the Society remain to join in social converse, the presiding Officer may, at ten o'clock, or one hour after the adjournment of the Society, leave the chair; and any expenses incurred shall be then equally divided by the members present during such social reunion.

XIV. No expenses of any Anniversary Festival, or of any social entertainment whatever, shall be charged against the funds of the Society.

XV. The banners and flags of the Society shall not be used, except on occasions where the Society, as a body, takes part in the proceedings, or where the Society is represented by its Officers.

GENERAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

TORONTO, *January 15, 1858.*

The Officers and Committee to whom you intrusted the management of your Society for the past year, beg to present the annual report, and to congratulate you on the unexampled prosperity of the Society, although it has been a year of unexampled distress and privation in the community at large.

When your Committee took office, there were on the books 199 members; we now number 438, being an increase during the year of 239. At that time there was not only an empty exchequer, but you were indebted to the late Treasurer £16, which has been discharged, and the unprecedented sum of £212 3s. 3½d. has been disbursed by your Committee in relieving the wants of your distressed countrymen and their families. We can assure you that your money has been economically expended, and every case was examined into by your Committee, who met weekly at the Secretary's office, and consulted together on each application for relief.

Your Committee has not adopted the principle of saving your funds for investment in uncertain stock, but considered that the best investment they could make was in giving bread to the hungry, clothing to the naked, and in relieving the stranger in a strange land.

Your Committee have to regret that such a large number of emigrants have been sent out this year, principally from a fund raised in England for that purpose. These were all English families, and their expenses were paid to Toronto; thus they were thrown on this community without money, and being unable to get employment, they have been literally in a starving condition. Your committee have made extra exertions to relieve these destitute families, a number of whom have been sent to other parts of the country, and we have procured situations for several others in the city and neighbourhood.

Your Committee have pleasure in informing you that the monthly and quarterly meetings have been well attended, and a feeling of kindness and social intercourse manifested, which

Englishmen know your Committee would and respected meetings, to favour

The celebration of Rossin House (which believe gave perfect favour with the General and suite number of influential

Your Committee enjoyment have a realise any direct committee would venture church on that day in order to have some might also be taken

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Englishmen know how to appreciate. While on this subject, your Committee would express their regret that so few of the old and respected members of the Society have attended your meetings, to favour us with their counsel.

The celebration of St. George's Day, by a public dinner in the Rossin House (which was kindly lent us for the festival,) we believe gave perfect satisfaction. On that occasion, we were favoured with the presence of his Excellency the Governor-General and suite, the officers of the sister societies, and a number of influential gentlemen.

Your Committee are of opinion that such meetings for social enjoyment have a good effect, although the Steward may not realise any direct profit to the funds, at the time. Your Committee would venture to recommend the old custom of attending church on that day, and of securing the services of a good choir, in order to have some choice pieces of sacred music; a collection might also be taken up in aid of your funds.

During the summer, your Committee got up an excursion to Lake Simcoe, at which we have no doubt many of you enjoyed a social treat with your families, not often to be met with in this country; as you will hear from the Treasurer's report, a handsome sum was added to your funds, yet your Treasurer could not meet the pressing demands of the numerous applicants for relief, therefore it was resolved to hold a concert for the purpose of realising a further sum. In this we were kindly assisted by the gratuitous services of a number of ladies and gentlemen, to whom your poor countrymen owe a debt of gratitude for their disinterested conduct, and we are happy to inform you that the large sum of £34 was realised after paying all incidental expenses. If your Committee had been aware of the cordial feeling existing toward them in the community, we might have made a larger sum, as the tickets were set at a very low rate, in order to secure a full attendance. Since then, about seven hundred pounds of beef and a corresponding quantity of bread have been distributed to a number of families; this was done by private subscription. For a more detailed account of the financial affairs of your Society you are referred

to the Treasurer, who has kindly prepared a statement, which will now be read; but your Committee cannot close their report without thanking a number of gentlemen, who have assisted them by liberal donations, and they would also tender their thanks to the members of the Society for their zeal and warm co-operation with them, in conducting the affairs of the Society during the year which has come to a close; all which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. BILTON,
President.
G. S. JONES,
Secretary.

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To the President

GENTLEMEN,—All of your Treasurer's I think it is a custom followed.

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GEO. BILTON,
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G. S. JONES,
Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the President and Members of the St. George's Society :

GENTLEMEN,—Although it has not hitherto been the custom of your Treasurer to make a report at the end of the year, still I think it is a custom which may with advantage be hereafter followed.

At the commencement of the year the Society were indebted to their former Treasurer, Mr. Rowsell, £16 4s. 7d., which I have been enabled to discharge, and although the demand upon the charitable fund has been very heavy, there is a small balance in hand of 6s. 2d.

The expenditure has been for relief, £212 3s. 3½d., and current expenses, £16 13s. 5½d, the latter item is larger than usual in consequence of frequent advertisements.

The additional steps to raise money for the charitable fund beyond the regular subscriptions of the members, have been the Dinner on St. George's Day, the excursion to Lake Simcoe, in August, the concert in December, and a call upon Englishmen generally to aid in the good work. I regret to state that the dinner, although successful and creditable to the Society, was in a financial view a failure. The low price of the tickets, and the difficulty of procuring a suitable room, the fitting of it up, and other expenses, eat up the proceeds, and left the Managing Committee minus £22 17s. 6d., which they made up by subscription amongst themselves, so that the charitable fund should not suffer by the transaction. The excursion was in every way successful, and but for the unfortunate accident of the burning of the steamer "J. C. Morrison," would have been much more profitable.

The concert was eminently successful, and I beg leave to state that the Society are greatly indebted to our worthy President, Mr. Bilton, and the Secretary, Mr. Jones, for their perseverance under the many difficulties they met with in the carrying of it out. The appeal to Englishmen for aid has been productive to the Society of the large sum of £55 6s. 6d.

My cash statement will show how the money has been expended, and although we all must regret that there have been

so many of our fellow countrymen in destitute circumstances, yet it is a satisfaction to know that our Society has been enabled to relieve 309 cases of distress, and if we reckon the men, women and children who have received temporary assistance, the number will exceed one thousand persons. I feel pleased to state that out of the large number of applications for relief there has not been one from the Canadian son of an Englishman. Every case was well examined into, and I have written orders signed by two of the managing committee for every shilling I have advanced to them; this, I trust, will be satisfactory to the members, without the names of the recipients of relief being published, for there is no doubt, but amongst them, there is many an Englishman who would rather have suffered starvation than have his name and troubles published to the world, and I think it would answer no good purpose in doing so; on the contrary, it might have the effect of preventing many really destitute from applying for relief. Many of the emigrants have settled in Toronto; they and their children will no doubt become good citizens, and some may, perhaps, hereafter rank amongst the first and the best in the land.

There are a great many of our members (181) in arrears for their subscriptions. I should recommend that a printed circular should be sent to each member in default, and those unpaid at the April or May meeting should be struck off the list; also that your next Treasurer should be authorised to employ a collector for two or three months *at a salary*, to collect the subscriptions alone, and not as hitherto been done, *on commission*; for the amounts are so small that a professional collector will not take the trouble to look properly after them.

In closing my connexion with the Society as Treasurer, I beg leave to thank the members for the honour they did me in electing me to that office, and it will ever be a pleasant recollection to me that it was, during my year of office, this Society of Englishmen first took its proper place amongst similar institutions, that of the most numerous and prosperous of all.

All which is respectfully submitted,

THOMAS BROWN, *Treasurer.*

TORONTO, January 15, 1858.

THOMAS BROWN, T

Amount received on
on 31st December
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scriptions for 185

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Total Subscr

Amount received
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1857

Donations in aid of C

Messrs. Johnson

A. K. Mc

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Hon. Col.

J. W. Bat

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THOMAS BROWN, *Treasurer, in Account with the ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.*

Dr.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amount received on account of Arrears						
on 31st December, 1856	8	7	6			
Amount received on account of Sub-						
scriptions for 1857	121	17	6			
Do. do. do. 1858	4	10	0			
Total Subscriptions				134	15	0
Amount received from former reci-						
pients of relief from the Society ...				5	15	0
Interest on investment in Build'g Soc'y				2	14	0
Collections at Annual Meeting, Jan.,						
1857				3	7	0
Donations in aid of Charitable Fund from						
Messrs. Johnson Briggs	0	2	6			
A. K. McCutcheon, Fergus... ..	0	10	0			
Henry Sproatt	0	10	0			
Hon. Col. Prince	2	10	0			
J. W. Batty	0	5	0			
Samuel Thompson	1	0	0			
Dr. Adams	0	10	0			
Isaac Falkner	0	5	0			
Rev. Dr. Beaven	0	10	0			
John Moor	0	5	0			
— Selby	1	0	0			
G. Boswell	1	0	0			
C. Durant, Richmond-hill....	0	10	0			
J. R. Williams, Bond Head... ..	5	0	0			
R. L. Denison	6	5	0			
Joseph Grand....	0	4	0			
His Excellency the Gov. Gen.	5	0	0			
The Canada Company	12	10	0			
F. Widder	2	10	0			
Amount carried forward	£40	6	6	£146	11	0

stitute circumstances, our Society has been, and if we reckon the aided temporary assistants and persons. I feel number of applications for the Canadian son of an unaided, and I have managing committee for this, I trust, will be names of the recipients no doubt, but amongst would rather have sufferings published to the good purpose in doing fleet of preventing many

Many of the emigrants in children will no doubt perhaps, hereafter rank and.

members (181) in arrears for and that a printed circular fault, and those unpaid at struck off the list; also authorised to employ a salary, to collect the been done, on commission; professional collector will after them.

Society as Treasurer, I the honour they did me in will ever be a pleasant recollection of office, this Society place amongst similar institutions prosperous of all.

THOMAS BROWN, *Treasurer.*

THOMAS BROWN, *Treasurer, in Account with the St. GEORGE'S
SOCIETY—Continued.*

Dr.

Amount carried forward	£146 11 0
Donations carried forward ...	£40 6 6
W. Steers, 5s., D. Orris, 5s...	0 10 0
M. Parsons, 2s. 6d., J. Gray 5s.	0 7 6
John Dodgson	0 10 0
Joseph H. Mead	2 10 0
George Brown, M. P. P.....	2 0 0
Sundry persons at N. Year & Christmas	9 2 6
	55 6 6
Nett proceeds of Excursion to Lake	
Simcoe, in August.....	9 1 0
Nett proceeds of Concert on 10th Dec.	34 9 0
	£245 7 6

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Paid H. Rowsell, Esq., late Treasurer,	
balance due him	£ 16 4 7
Incidental Expenses, Advertising,	
Printing, Collecting, &c.....	16 13 5½
Expended amongst 309 persons and fa-	
milies, as per orders from Char.Com.	212 3 3½
	245 1 4
Jan. 15, 1858, Cash on hand	£0 6 2

OFF

1st, THOS

REV. J. BEAVER

DR. HODDER.

GEORGE BIL
GEORGE THO
HENRY GOD
JULIAN SAL

JOHN DODG
J. H. PATTIS
THOMAS LA

N. G. BROWN.

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5 4 7
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 ----- 245 1 4
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OFFICERS FOR 1858.

President:

J. B. ROBINSON, Esq., M. P. P.

Vice-Presidents:

1ST, THOS. BROWN. 2ND, G. S. JONES.
 3RD, ROBERT DODGSON.

Treasurer:

F. W. COATE.

Secretary:

GEORGE T. WALTON.

Chaplains:

REV. J. BEAVEN, D.D. | REV. H. SCADDING, D.D.

Physicians:

DR. HODDER. | DR. BADGLEY. | DR. HALLOWELL.

Committee:

GEORGE BILTON.
 GEORGE THOMAS.
 HENRY GODSON.
 JULIAN SALE.

ISAAC FAULKNER.
 B. SANDERS.
 FRANK J. JOSEPH.

Stewards:

JOHN DODGSON.
 J. H. PATTISON.
 THOMAS LAMB.

JOSEPH GRAND.
 J. SIDAWAY.
 A. BRAHAM.

Standard-Bearers:

N. G. BROWN. | THOS. HOSKINS. | JOHN HIRST.

Marshal:

GEORGE ROBERTS.

MEMBERS FOR 1858.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Cayley, F.	Ridout, G. P.
Denison, R. B.	Smith, L. W.
Denison, G. Shirley	Storm, W. G.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

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