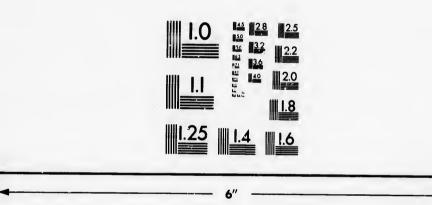


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## CONSTITUTION

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## LAWS

OF THE

## MONTREAL

MECHANIC'S INSTITUTION.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE INSTITUTION.

## Montreal:

MONTREAL HERALD AND NEW MONTREAL GAZETTE,

No. 15, Notre Dame Street.

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## KULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

#### MONTREAL

## MECHANIC'S INSTITUTION.

### OBJECT OF THE INSTITUTION.

I. The object of the Institution is to instruct the members in the principles of the Arts, and in the various branches of Science and useful knowledge; and the means of obtaining this object shall be—

1. The voluntary association of Mechanics and others, and the payment of a small sum annually or half

yearly by each.

2. Donations of Money, Books, Specimens, Implements, Models and Apparatus.

3. A Library of reference, and Reading Room.

4. A Museum of Machines, Models, Minerals, and Natural History.

5. An Academy or School for teaching Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry, and their different applications, particularly to Perspective Architecture, Mensuration and Navigation; to which may be added ancient and modern Languages.

6. Lectures on Natural and Experimental Philosophy, Practical Mechanics, Astronomy, Chemistry, Civil History, Political Economy, Philosophy of the Human Mind, Literature, and the Arts.

7. An Experimental Work-shop and Laboratory.

#### INSTITUTION, HOW CONSTITUTED.

II. The Institution shall consist, first, of those who on or before the first day of January, 1829, shall have caused their names to be inserted in the Books opened to receive them, and who have since paid to the Secretary their subscriptions as hereafter directed; and have also signed the following Declaration in the Books of the Institution, viz:

"I, do hereby promise to observe and keep all the Rules and Orders of the Montreal Mechanic's Institution, and to promote its welfare to the best

of my power."

And second, of those who may hereafter be duly admitted in conformity with these Rules and Orders.

#### OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

III. The Institution shall elect

One President, Four Vice-Presidents, One Treasurer, and Thirty Committee-men,

making in the whole 36 persons, who together shall form a Committee of Managers, to whom the Govern-

ment of the Institution shall be confided.

IV. Two-thirds at least of the Committee of Manage.

ment, shall be taken from the operative classes.

V. All these Officers must be members of the Institution, and shall be elected by Ballot, if any two of the Members demand it.

VI. No one of these Officers can take any office of emolument in the Institution while he remains a member of the Committee of Managers, except that of Lecturer.

VII. The Committee of Managers may also appoint a Secretary, and such other servants as they may think necessary for the purpose of the Institution.

#### ADMISSION OF MEMBERS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS.

VIII. The members of this Society shall be divided into two Classes; 1st, Ordinary, to consist of those who

reside in Montreal and its vicinity—and 2dly, Corresponding, to consist of those who reside at a distance. The latter shall pay no subscription, and whatever they give shall be considered in the light of donations—they shall have a right, when in Montreal, to attend the meetings of the Society—but not to vote unless they have taken up their permanent residence in the City or its immediate vicinity; in which latter case they shall enjoy the same rights, and be subject to the same laws and conditions as Ordinary Members. Ordinary Members, on leaving Montreal to reside at a distance, shall forthwith become Corresponding Members.

IX. Members shall be admitted by Ballot after the 1st day of January next—and on admission, every Ordinary member shall pay his annual subscription in ad-

vance.

X. After the 1st January, every candidate for admission must be nominated by two members in the following form:

"We, the undersigned Members of the Montreal Mechanic's Institution, from our personal knowledge of

mend him as a fit and proper person to become a member of the Montreal Mechanic's Institution."

N.B. Blank forms will be furnished by the Secretary

on the application of the members.

XI. The form of nomination properly filled up, must be delivered to the Secretary by one of the members who have signed it, in order that it may be filed for future reference.

XII. On the person proposed being presented as directed, signing the following obligation in the Books of the Institution, and paying to the Secretary one year's subscription, (two dollars) he shall become an Ordinary Member of the Institution.

keep all the Rules and Orders of the Mechanic's Institution, and to promote its welfare to the best of my power."

XIII. Every member, on paying his subscription, shall

receive from the Secretary a Copy of the Rules and Orders, and a coloured Card, which will entitle him to all the privileges and advantages of the Institution for the period for which he has paid.

XIV. No member will be admitted either to the rooms of the Institution, or to any general or other meeting,

unless he produce his Card.

XV. The members' Cards are personal and not transferable.

XVI. Any member lending his Card for the purpose of introducing a person, not a member, to any room of the Institution, or to any of its meetings, shall, upon proof being given to the Committee of Managers, be fined two shillings and sixpence, and shall not himself be admitted to any room, or place of meeting, until he has paid his fine, with an exception in favour of strangers, who if presented to the President by any of the Members shall have their name and residence entered in the books, and be admitted for that evening.

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XVII. The Secretary, or other Officer, shall detain the Card of any member which may be presented to him

by a person who is not a member.

XVIII. In electing Corresponding Members, it shall be necessary that the person proposed be recommended by at least two Ordinary Members at the meeting preceding that on which the election is to take place.

### RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

XIX. All money received on account of the Institution shall be paid to the Committee of Managers.

XX. All money received by the Committee of Man-

agers, shall be paid to the Treasurer.

XXI. No money shall ever be paid on account of the Institution but by order of the Committee of Managers.

The three preceding Articles of this Chapter shall be carried into effect as is specially directed under the following head:

COMMITTEE OF MANAGERS AND SUB-COMMITTEES.

XXII. The Committee of Managers shall have the

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XXIII. No business shall be transacted in the Committee unless nine of its members are present.

XXIV. The Committee shall have the power of dividing themselves into Sub-committees for dispatch of business; but no such business shall be considered as finally settled until reported to, and approved of, by the Committee of Managers.

XXV. Every Sub-committee shall keep minutes of their transactions in the order in which they are brought

XXVI. The Committee of Managers shall cause to be kept, fair and accurate minutes of their transactions, and of all receipts and payments on account of the Institution.

XXVII. The Committee shall cause the accounts of the Institution to be made up twice every year, viz: to the 1st of January and 1st of July; and shall lay them, together with the minute-books, books of accounts, and all orders, bills, receipts, and every other voucher and document relating thereto, before the half yearly general meetings.

XXVIII. The Committee mayengage proper persons as Lecturers, and shail cause to be given Courses of Lectures on Natural and Experimental Philosophy, Practical Mechanics, Astronomy, Chemistry, Literature and the

XXIX. The President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, or one of the Committee-men, shall preside at every Lecture, and a place shall be set apart for him.

XXX. The Committee shall engage competent persons as Teachers in the Schools of the Institution.

XXXI. The Committee shall, and they are hereby directed to take security, with two good and efficient sureties, from all servants through whose hands anymoney belonging to the Institution may pass, or in whose care or custody any books, medals, minerals, models, apparatus, or other property of the Institution may be deposited.

XXXII. All servants of the Institution shall be engaged and may be dismissed by the Committee of Managers.

XXXIII. The Committee of Managers shall apply so much of the income or revenue of the Institution as may be necessary in payment of rent and taxes, salaries, wages, repairs, current and incidental expences; and in the

purchase of books, models, apparatus, specimens, instruments, and whatever else may be required for the use of the members of the Institution.

XXXIV. No member of the Committee of Managers shall be permitted to supply the Institution with any thing from which he can, either directly or indirectly, derive pecuniary profit.

XXXV. The Committee shall at every meeting receive from the Secretary all the money which may have

come to his hands since their last meeting.

Managers shall be by them paid to the Treasurer, either on the same day or on the day following each and every meeting at which money shall be received by them.

XXXVII. At the first meeting of the Committee of Managers, after each half yearly meeting of the Institution, in the beginning of January and of July, the books, papers, documents and vouchers, shall be delivered to the newly appointed Committee of Managers, together with all such information as the newly appointed Committee may require.

XXXVIII. The Committee shall have the power of expelling any member who may misconduct himself, but the person so expelled shall have a right of appeal to the first

general meeting of the Institution thereafter.

XXXIX. At every general meeting between 1st November and 1st May, business shall commence at 7 o'clock, P.M., and no new motion shall be made after 9 o'clock; and from 1st May to 1st November, business shall commence at 8 o'clock, P.M., and no new motion shall be made after 10 o'clock, P.M.

XL. The President or two Vice-Presidents, or three Committee-men, may at any time, by requisition in writing, signed with their names, call a special meeting of

the Committee of Managers.

XLI. The President shall take the Chair at all meetings at which he is present: in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents shall take the Chair: in their absence the Committee shall appoint a Chairman for the occasion.

XLII. All questions in the Committee shall be decided by a show of hands, unless a ballot be demanded by two members. The Chairman may always vote; and if the votes are equal, he shall decide the question.

#### TREASURER.

XLIII. The Treasurer shall receive all money from

the Committee of Managers.

XLIV. The Treasurer shall keep a general cash-book of all his receipts and payments. This book shall always be laid on the table of the Committee of Managers at every monthly meeting.

XLV. The Treasurer shall make up his accounts twice every year, viz: eight days previous to each of the

half-yearly general meetings.

#### NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

XLVI. Every Officer of the Institution shall be elect-

ed by ballot.

XLVII. At the half yearly general meeting, in January, the President, the four Vice Presidents, and the

Treasurer shall be elected.

XLVIII. The thirty Committee-men shall also be elected for one year and no longer, with the exception of those of the first year, of whom the last fifteen on the list shall go out of office, and be replaced by fifteen new Committee men to be then elected for the year ensuing; so that thereafter there shall always be fifteen new Committee-men, to be elected at these meetings.

XLIX. Every member may put another member

in nomination for any office of the Institution.

L. When any nomination is made, the member or members making it must deliver it to the Secretary in writing, at the meeting immediately preceding that on which the election takes place.

#### MODE AND TIME OF BALLOTING.

LI. At the half yearly general meetings, the Presi-

dent or one of the Vice-Presidents, or one of the Committee-men, shall take the Chair in the public-room at half-past seven o'clock in the evening, when the ballot shall commence, and shall continue until half-past nine o'clock, when it shall be closed.

LII. Every member who votes shall deliver to the Chairman his balloting list folded up, who shall in his presence put it into the balloting glass; the Secretary shall then mark off the name of the member who deliver-

ed it.

LIII. When the ballot is about to commence, three persons, not members of the Committee, shall be ap-

pointed Scrutineers.

LIV. As soon as the balloting is closed, the Scrutineers shall cast up the number of votes, and report the same in writing to the Chairman, who shall announce the result to the members assembled.

I.V. If the suffrages for two or more candidates are equal, lots shall be prepared by the Scrutineers and

drawn by the Chairman.

LVI. At the general meeting on the following evening, the Secretary shall read the list of Officers elected for the ensuing year.

#### GENERAL MEETINGS.

LVII. No general meeting shall continue after 11 o'clock, unless the Chairman shall be of opinion that the business before it is likely to be terminated in a short time. But if the business cannot be got through, the meeting may adjourn.

LVIII. No new business shall be entered upon at

any adjourned meeting.

LIX. All voting at general meetings shall be in the first instance by show of hands, unless a ballot be de-

manded by two members.

LX. If upon a show of hands it shall appear to the Chairman, or any three members, doubtful on which side the majority is, he or they may demand a division.

LXI. If any doubt shall still remain, the Chairman

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shall appoint Tellers, whose certificate shall be conclusive.

## BUSINESS AT THE TWO HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETINGS.

LXII. The following shall be the order of business observed at each half yearly general meeting:

1. The Secretary shall read the minutes of last meet-

ing.

2. He shall read the propositions if any, for altering the rules and orders.

3. The meeting shall discuss, adopt, or reject, all

such propositions.

4. The following reports shall be presented to the meeting:

1. Of the total amount of all money received since

the last meeting.

2. Of the total amount of all money expended.

3. Of the balance on hand.

4. Of all donations, whether of money or other things, and the names of the donors.

5. Of the number of new members since the last

meeting.

6. Of the number of persons who have ceased to pay their subscriptions.

7. Of the total number of members.

8. Of all other matters which the Committee of Managers may be desirous to communicate.

5. The meeting shall also attend to any suggestions from members relating to the Institution.

#### ALTERATION OF RULES AND ORDERS.

LXIII. The rules and orders of the Institution can

be altered only by general meetings.

LXIV. Every proposition for altering the rules and orders after the 1st day of July, 1829, must be in writing, and signed by at least ten members of six months standing; it must be delivered to the Secretary at least one Calendar month before the day on which the next half-yearly general meeting will be held; be immediately co-

pied by him, and hung up in the public room of the Institution.

LXV. The Committee shall be empowered to call a general meeting, when they may think it necessary or expedient to alter any of the laws or regulations, of which notice shall be given by an intimation hung up in the Reading Room at least a week previous to such meeting—at the same time by an advertisement in at least two or more of the Public Journals of this city, at the discretion of the Committee.

LXVI. Every proposition for altering the rules or orders, which shall be carried at any such general meeting, shall be copied by the Secretary and hung up in the public rooms of the Institution until next general meeting, when if again carried, it shall be incorporated with the rules and orders.

LXVII. No resolution for breaking up the Institution, or alienating any part of its property, shall be passed, unless it is not only proposed in the manner above provided, but consented to at two general meetings by at least nine-tenths of the members present, and who amount to this of the whole Society.

#### LIBRARY.

LXVIII. The Committee of Managers shall have the power of appointing a Sub-Committee for the management of the Library and News-Room, and of establishing such regulations as they may deem necessary for affording the members the freest use of the books and newspapers, consistent with their safe keeping and the general convenience.

#### LECTURES.

LXIX. The Courses of Lectures shall be under the direction of the Committee of Managers, and shall be announced in a paper hung up in the public room of the Institution.

#### SCHOOLS.

IXX. The Committee of Managers shall, as soon as

convenient, engage persons to teach Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, and Trigonometry, and their different applications, particularly to Perspective Architecture, Mensuration and Navigation.

LXXI. Every member desirous of becoming a pupil in any of the schools, shall give notice of it, in writing,

to the Secretary.

LXXII. Cards of admission to Courses of Lectures,

are personal, and not transferable.

LXXIII. Any person detected in lending his Card, shall be liable to a fine, at the discretion of the Committee.

LXXIV. The Secretary, or other officer to whom any such Card may be presented by any other than the person to whom it was granted, is hereby required to detain it.

LXXV. Every member of the Institution shall exert himself to promote the diffusion of knowledge—and especially shall take care that no young person in his family or employment shall be without such education as the Institution can give, provided circumstances will admit of his attendance.

LXXVI. In particular, it shall be the care of this Institution to patronize young men who display marks of genius and superior talent, and to afford them every facility and encouragement for the prosecution of those studies and arts for which they discover an aptitude.

LXXVII. The Institution shall give certificates of character and progress to every pupil on leaving school, to

be signed by the President.

LXXVIII. A gradation shall be adopted among the students of this institution similar to what takes place at colleges and universities, and those who have fulfilled a certain course of study shall be entitled to a diploma:

#### MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

LXXIX. There shall be weekly meetings of the Institution for discussions and conversations on such subjects as may have been previously adopted and announced.

These conversations shall be conducted in an easy unformal manner, the members presiding in rotation; and in order to direct the previous reading and reflection of the members, the various topics or heads shall be written out in the form of queries, or otherwise, in the same

order in which they are to be discussed.

LXXX. After the usual business of the weekly meeting is gone through, the members present shall be requested to lay before the meeting any interesting information which they may have recently acquired relative to the Arts, or in any way interesting to the Society, such as—the latest discoveries, inventions or improvements in the Arts or Sciences—causes of the greater or less prosperity, or the want of encouragement, of any art, trade or profession—of inferiority in skill, enterprise, &c. of those who practice it—the advantages or disadvantages of the country in which we live, as respects Arts, Agriculture, Emigration, &c.—its Natural Phenomena and Productions.

LXXXI. The slightest improvement that any of the members may have made in any of the Arts, when recognised as such by a committee appointed to examine it, shall entitle its author to such marks of distinction

as the Institution may deem expedient.

LXXXII. It is particularly enjoined by the institution on all its members, carefully to avoid the discussion of party politics or religious questions; and whoever shall, on any pretence, introduce such discussions, either at the meetings of the institution or its committees, shall, for the first offence, be publicly reprimanded, and on repetition of the same fault shall be liable to the penalty of expulsion.

LXXXIII. A book shall lie upon the table to receive such remarks and queries, by any of the members, as

shall appear to the society useful or important.

LXXXIV. When any number of members are desirous of prosecuting a particular study, they may form themselves into a committee for that purpose; and it shall be the duty of the general committee to give every facility and encouragement to such a laudable design.

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LXXXV. The second Tuesday in January shall be considered the anniversary meeting of the institution, at which a report shall be read of its proceedings and progress during the year; and on this occasion diplomas and all the higher honours and distinctions shall be conferred on those who have merited them.

LXXXVI. This Society, feeling a lively interest in the prosperity and advancement of the Natural History Society of this City, are anxious, as much as possible, to prevent any interference or collision which might have the tendency of hindering the progress or prosperity of that valuable Establishment; and with this view instruct their Committee to communicate with the Committee of the Natural History Society, and to take such steps as may not only prevent any interference injurious to either, but lead to a friendly co-operation between the two Societies.

## APPENDIX.

The following outline of a Course of Study for the Montreal Mechanic's Institution has been approved and

adopted by the general committee:-

The course of study shall be divided into two periods. The first or Elementary period to embrace all the branches of knowledge that may be necessary to qualify the pupil for receiving, with due advantage, instruction in Science, Philosophy, and the Arts, extending from the elements of Arithmetic, Geography, Civil and Natural History and Grammar, to Plane and Spherical Trigonometry, Quadratic Equations and the Doctrine of the The second and higher period shall embrace Chemistry, Mechanical Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Political Science, and the higher Mathematics.

Each period shall be divided into four parts.

#### FIRST PERIOD.

The first part of the Elementary Period to embrace English Reading and Spelling, Murray's small Grammar, Arithmetic, and a brief outline of History and

Geography.

The 2d part shall embrace the 1st and 2d books of Euclid's Elements of Geometry, Murray's larger Gram-

mar, Continuation of Geography, and History.

The 3d part to include the elements of Algebra as far as Quadratic Equations, with the 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th books of Euclid, Murray's Grammar to be finished, and French Grammar to be commenced; with a brief outline of Natural History.

The 4th part shall close the studies of the first period with the 11th and 12th books of Euclid, continuation of Algebra, Plane Trigonometry, Heights & Distances, Navigation, Mensuration of Surfaces and Solids, and

continuation of Natural History.

Those who fulfil this course with approbation shall be entitled to the honour of the lesser Diploma.

#### SECOND PERIOD.

The first part of the second period shall embrace Chemistry, Spherical Trigonometry, Conic Sections, Projection of the Sphere, Perspective Doctrine of the Globes, a continuation of Algebra, and commencement of Fluxions.

The second part to embrace Mechanical Philosophy, Fluxions, Analytic Geometry, with Miscellaneous exer-

cises in the mixed Mathematics.

The third part to embrace Literature, the Philosophy of the Mind, Logic, Rhetoric, each accompanied with suitable exercises.

The fourth part to close the whole of this period, with the study of Jurisprudence, Political Economy, and the

Science of Legislation and Government.

Those who fulfil with approbation this second period shall be entitled to the honor of the higher Diploma.

