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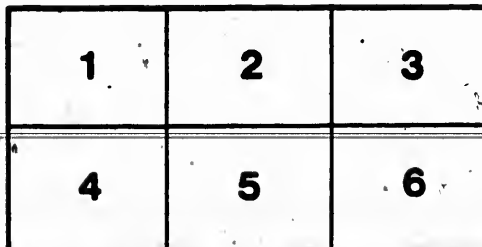
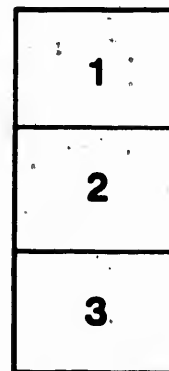
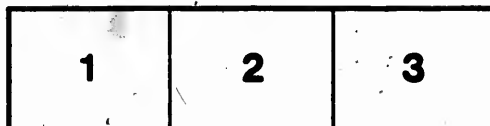
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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

CHURCH SOCIETY

OF THE

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC,

ADOPTED AT A GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY, DULY CONVENED

AT MONTREAL, THE 21ST JULY, 1842.



Montreal:

PRINTED BY LOVELL & GIBSON,
1842.

Class - Religion et chant.

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CONSTITUTION
OF THE
CHURCH SOCIETY
OF THE

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC,

*Adopted at a General Meeting of the Society, duly convened at
Montreal, on the 21st July, 1842.*

ARTICLE I.

The objects of the Society shall be comprehended in the following distinct departments of Christian exertion, viz:

First—Missionary labour, including the creation of a fund towards the augmentation of the stipends of poor Clergymen,—towards making a provision for those who may be incapacitated by age or infirmity, and for the widows and orphans of the Clergy.

Second—Education, and Day and Sunday Schools.

Third—Assistance, where it may be necessary, to those who may be under preparation for the ministry of the Gospel.

Fourth—Circulation of the Holy Scriptures, the Book of Common Prayer, and such other Books and Tracts as shall be approved by the Central Board; hereinafter to be provided for.

Fifth—Aid towards the erection of Churches, &c., Parsonage Houses, and the management of all matters relating to the endowment of the same.

ARTICLE II.

The patrons of the Society shall be His Excellency the Governor General, provided he be a member of the Church of England, and the incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

ARTICLE III.

The President of the Society shall be the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, or Bishop administering the Diocese,—and the Vice Presidents shall consist of the Chairmen of the different District Associations, hereinafter provided for, and such other persons as shall be nominated at the General Annual Meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE IV.

The Treasurer or Joint Treasurers, the Secretary, Auditors and other necessary Officers of the Society, shall be appointed by the Central Board. The Secretary shall be allowed a salary and travelling expences, under the direction of the Central Board, and may appoint an

Assistant Secretary, subject to the approval of the Central Board, provided that such appointment shall entail no additional burthen upon the Society. The appointments of Treasurer and Secretary shall not be for any specified period, but they may be removed at the pleasure of the Central Board.

ARTICLE V.

The Treasurer, or Joint Treasurers shall have the custody of all the monies, deeds, bonds, &c., and other property of the Society, and shall submit his or their accounts to the Quarterly Meetings of the Central Board, and shall pay no money without the authority of a resolution of the Central Board, certified by the Secretary.

ARTICLE VI.

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all the proceedings of the Society, as well as of the Central Board, and shall have the custody of, and be accountable for the safe keeping of the same, and he shall be subject to the direction, and control of the Central Board in all his duties and proceedings.

ARTICLE VII.

The Society shall meet annually on the first Wednesday in July, alternately at Montreal and Quebec; whereof not less than fifteen days notice shall be given by the Secretary, in at least one of the leading newspapers in Quebec and

Montreal. A Special Meeting of the Society may be called by the President or two of the Vice Presidents, at any time, by a written order to the Secretary, who shall notify the same as above.

ARTICLE VIII.

The sanction of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, shall be necessary for the completion of all important acts of the Society, and especially for the revocation or alteration of the standing rules, and for making any addition to them.

ARTICLE IX.

A subscription of 25s. per annum, shall constitute a member of the Society, and a contribution of £12 10 0 a life member. Contributors may state the special objects to which they wish their contributions to be applied.

ARTICLE X.

Of the Central Board.

There shall be a Central Board for the management of the general business of the Society, consisting of the President, the Vice Presidents, and a Committee of not less than twelve Clergymen, and not less than twelve Laymen, who shall be chosen annually at the General Meeting of the Society; they shall be permitted to have a Secretary and Assistant Secretary, (if required), and a

Treasurer or Joint Treasurers; the Board shall meet once a quarter, alternately at Quebec and Montreal;—Special Meetings may be called by the President, or in his absence, by two of the Vice Presidents;—and not less than eleven members present at any meeting shall form a quorum. The Central Board shall have authority to make such By-Laws as may be deemed necessary for the regulation of its own affairs, provided that none of them be contrary to, or inconsistent with, the spirit of the Constitution of the Society.

ARTICLE XI.

Of District Associations.

In connection and correspondence with the Central Board, there shall be formed so many District Associations as shall be determined upon at the first meeting of that Board; to be composed of the Clergy, and all other members of the Society resident within the bounds of such Districts,—a contribution of 5s. per annum, constituting membership of such District Associations. The senior Clergyman holding a Pastoral charge within such bounds shall be, *ex officio*, Chairman of such Association—they may have a Secretary and Treasurer, and shall meet at such places as they may themselves determine; at one of which meetings the officers shall be appointed and a report of the proceedings for the year read. The District Associations shall have authority to make By-Laws for the regulation of their own

affairs, provided such By-Laws be not contrary to, or inconsistent with the Constitution of this Society. They shall report annually to the Central Board, at least one month before the Annual General Meeting of the Society, a statement of their proceedings, and a detailed account of all the monies received and expended by them during the year.

ARTICLE XII.

Of the Sub-Committees of the Society.

For the more effectually carrying out the designs of this Society, the Clergymen and Church Wardens in every Parish and Missionary Station, within the Diocese, shall be a Sub-Committee of the Society, in correspondence with the District Association, within whose bounds such Parish or Missionary Station is situated. This Committee shall meet as often, and at such periods, as they themselves shall decide to be most convenient, inviting the co-operation of all the Parishioners, in their deliberations and designs. They shall collect subscriptions and donations from the members of the Church, in such manner as they shall deem most effective, and endeavour, by every means in their power, to augment the resources of the Society. One sermon at least, shall be preached during the year, in favour of the objects of the Institution, on the Sunday next succeeding the Annual Public Meeting of such Parochial Association. All monies raised by them shall be transmitted to the Treasurer of the District Association.

ARTICLE XIII.

One-fourth of all monies paid into the hands of the Treasurer of the District Associations, respectively, shall be transmitted to the Treasurer of the General Society, to be at the disposal of the Central Board, and the remaining three-fourths of all such collections shall, when required, be expended within the Parish or District in which they have been made, for such objects only as are specified in the Constitution of the Society—the allotment to be made at the Quarterly Meetings of the District Branch Association. All monies not required to be expended for local purposes and remaining unappropriated at the General Annual Meeting of the District Association shall be forthwith transmitted to the Central Board: it being understood that nothing contained in this article shall interfere with any existing arrangement personally between any Clergyman and his people.

ARTICLE XIV.

Of the Lay Committee of the Church Society.

This Committee shall consist of such Members as the Central Board shall appoint at their first meeting, and the Committee so chosen shall elect a Chairman. The first meeting of the Committee shall be on a day named by the Central Board, and the Committee shall then take measures for framing, and submitting to the Society, for their consideration, and approval, a Constitution regulating the future composition, members, appointment, and

proceedings of the Committee ;—which Constitution, with such modifications as the Society may then or afterwards determine upon, shall govern the Committee in future. The proceedings of the lay Committee shall be subject to the sanction of the Bishop of the Diocese. The clerical and other members of the Central Board, may attend at any of the General Meetings of the Committee, and may propose and discuss matters therein, but shall have no vote ; and the Committee shall report their proceedings to the Central Board at their stated meetings. The objects of this Committee shall be :

First—The procuring an adequate and permanent support for the future Bishop or Bishops within the limits of the Diocese, and a fund for the endowment of a Cathedral or Cathedrals—and such institutions as the Bishop or Bishops may consider it necessary for the good of the Church to attach to it.

Second—A permanent and adequate support for such number of Arch Deacons as the Civil and Ecclesiastical authorities may consider expedient.

Third—The placing the Clergymen, now resident and doing duty in the Province, upon a just footing as regards the sufficiency and permanency of their incomes.

Fourth—The providing for the permanent and adequate support of an increased number of Clergymen, so that, with the least possible delay, the members of the Church in every portion of the Diocese, may have the means of access to a Church within a practicable distance.

Fifth—The building in every place where it may be required, a Church of stone or brick, upon a well-considered plan as to dimensions, external form, and internal arrangement, keeping in view the probability of its requiring enlargement.

Sixth—The building in a good situation, convenient to the Church, a comfortable Parsonage of brick or stone upon an uniform plan, which should be carefully considered with reference to ~~size~~ and internal arrangement, and should admit of additions being made, with the sanction of the Bishop.

Seventh—The insuring such Churches or Parsonages against losses by fire.

ARTICLE XV.

All meetings of the Society and of the Committees shall be opened and closed with the prayers used by the two Societies in England, adapted to our situation, under the direction of the Bishop.

No alteration or amendment in the Constitution of the Society shall be made, unless such alteration or amendment shall first be communicated to the Secretary, to be submitted to a Special Meeting of the Society, at least one month before a General Annual Meeting, and adopted at such General Annual Meeting, and provided further that such alterations or amendments be sanctioned by the Lord Bishop, as provided in article 8th of this Constitution.

ARTICLE XVI.

Whereas some members of the Church, who are not unmindful of the great spiritual wants of their own neighbourhood, still feel constrained, in pious gratitude for the blessings they enjoy, to allot something, however small, from the means with which a Gracious Providence has blessed them, towards the spread of the Glorious Gospel among the nations which still sit in darkness; the Society will gladly receive and forward to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the Church Missionary Society, or the London Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews, whatever sums may be given for the conversion and instruction of the Heathen, to which object such sums will be strictly confined by the East India Committee of that Society.

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