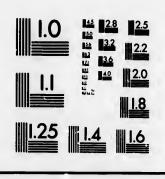


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CONSTITUTION

AND

GENERAL BY-LAWS

OF THE

Church Society

OF THE

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

MONTREAL:

PRINTED BY LOVELL AND GIBSON, ST. NICHOLAS STREET.

CONSTITUTION

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GENERAL BY-LAWS

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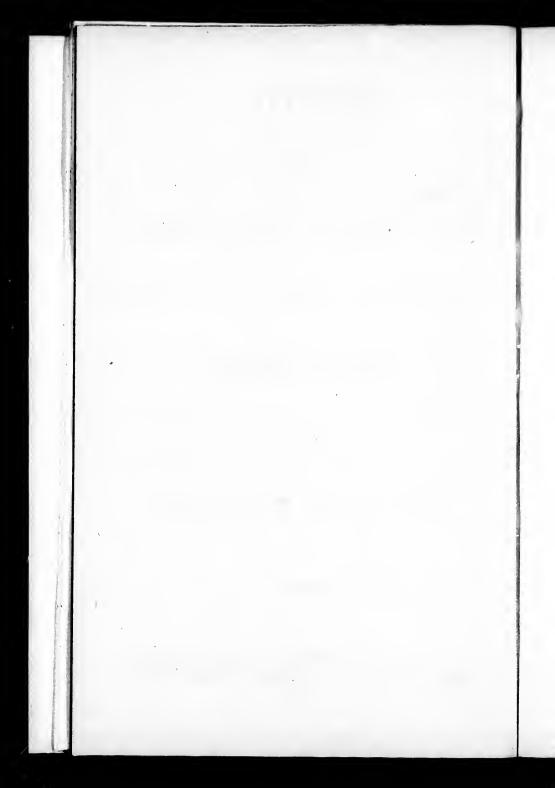
Church Society

OF THE

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.

MONTREAL:

PRINTED BY LOVELL AND GIBSON, ST. NICHOLAS STREET... 1850.



A MEETING

01

THE CLERGY AND LAITY

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The Biocese of Montreal

WAS HELD ON FRIDAY, 11TH OCTOBER, 1850,

The Might Meberend The Lord Bishop of Montreal, in the Chair.

WHEN IT WAS RESOLVED,

1st.—That the persons now present do form an Association by the name of the Church Society of the Diocese of Montreal.

2nd.—That the objects of the said Association be similar to those of the Church Society of the District of Quebec.

3rd.—That the RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF MONTREAL, be President of this Association.

4th.—That the Rev. W. Bond, be the Secretary of this Association.

5th.—That T. B. Anderson, Esq., be the Treasurer of this Association.

6th.—That the following Gentlemen be a Committee for drawing up By-Laws for the conduct of this Association, viz:

THE PRESIDENT.

DR. BETHUNE.

DR. LEACH,

DR. ADAMSON.

REV. C. BANCROFT,

DR. HOLMES,

Col. WILGRESS,

E. L. MONTIZAMBERT, Esq.

THE SECRETARY.

7th.—That the President do call a General Meeting of the Diocese, so soon as "The Committee for forming the By-Laws," shall have prepared a Report, in order that the Report may be laid before it.

CIRCULAR.

DEAR SIR.

I have to inform you that a Meeting will be held at the NATIONAL SCHOOL, Montreal, on Wednesday, 30th October, at twelve o'clock, in conformity with the preceding Resolution, to receive the Report of the Committee, appointed on the 11th of October, for forming By-Laws for the conduct of the Chuach Society of the Diocese of Montreal—and I trust that you will be able to attend on that occasion.

I beg to remain, Dear Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

F. MONTREAL

MONTREAL, Wednesday, October 30th, 1850.

In accordance with a circular of the Lord Eishop, dated 11th instant, a General Meeting of the Diocese was held, this day, at the National School Montreal.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Montreal, in the Chair,

After Prayer the Bishop addressed the Meeting on unity and energy of action, and then called upon the Secretary to read the above Resolution and Circular, upon which the Meeting was summoned.

The following Report of the "By-law Committee," was then read, considered, and, with some Amendments, adopted as "the Constitution and By-laws of the Church Society of the Diocese of Montreal."

It was then.

Resolved.—That a General Meeting of the members of the Church in this Diocese, be held in this city on the day fixed for the Annual Meeting of the Society, for the purpose of fully organizing the Society, by the appointment of a Central Board, and such officers of the Society as are usually appointed at the general annual meetings of the Diocese of Quebec, and that the clergy present, be requested to use their best endeavours to procure subscribers to the Society, previous to the said general meeting, and that the clergy who are not present be requested by circular to do the same.

Resolved,—That a subscription list be now opened to afford to persons present an opportunity of subscribing to this Society, and of thereby becoming members thereof, in accordance with the 7th clause of the By-Laws recently adopted.

Resolved,—That the President, Dr. Bethune, Dr. Leach, Dr. Adamson, Rev. C. Bancroft, Dr. Holmes, Col. Wilgress, E. L. Montizambert, Esq., Rev. W. Bond, be a Committee to prepare resolutions and nominate the movers and seconders thereof, and to make such other preparations as may be required for the general meeting to be held, on the third Tuesday in January next.

CONSTITUTION.

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

First—The encouragement and support of Missionaries and Clergymen of the United Church of England and Ireland, within the Diocese of Montreal, including the creation of funds towards the augmentation of the Stipends of poor Clergymen, and towards making a provision for those who may be incapacitated by age or infirmity, and for Widows and Orphans of the Clergy of the said Church in the said Diocese.

Second—The encouragement of Education, and the support of Day and Sunday Schools in the said Diocese, in conformity with the principles of the said Church.

Third—Granting assistance, where it may be necessary, to those who may be preparing for the Ministry of the Gospel in the said Church within the said Diocese.

Fourth—Circulating in the said Diocese the Holy Scriptures, and such publications as have the sanction of the Church, viz: Prayer Books, Homilies, Catechisms, Collects, Canons, with the addition of the Tructs circulated by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

Fifth—Obtaining and granting aid towards the erection, endowment and maintenance of Churches according to the establishment of the said Church in the said Diocese, the creation and maintenance of Parsonage Houses, the setting apart of Burial Grounds and Church-Yards, the endowment and support of Parsonages and Rectories according to the said establishment, and the management of all matters relating to such endowments.

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BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE L

His Excellency the Governor General, if a member of the Church of England, shall be requested to become the Patron of the Society.

ARTICLE IL

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese of Montreal, shall be the President of the Society, and shall be "ex officio" Chairman of all meetings of the Society, and of all Committees thereof, at which he may be present. The Vice-Presidents shall consist of such Chairmen of the different District Associations of the Society as are hereinafter provided for, and such others as shall be nominated at the General Annual Meeting of the Society, from among its members.

ARTICLE III.

The Treasurer, the Secretary, the Auditors, and other necessary officers of the Society, shall be appointed by the Central Board. The Secretary may be allowed a salary not exceeding fifty pounds per annum, and travelling expenses, under the direction of the Central Board. The Secretary may appoint an Assistant, subject to the approval of the Central Board, provided such appointment shall not entail any additional burden upon the Society. The appointment of Treasurer and Secretary shall not be for any specified period, but they may be removed at the pleasure of the Central Board.

ARTICLE IV.

The Treasurer shall receive all subscriptions, donations, rents, issues and profits, payable to the Society, for which purpose a paid Collector or Collectors, may be employed. Such monies shall be deposited in such Bank or Banks as shall from time to time be indicated or approved of by the Central Board.

No money shall be paid by the Treasurer without the authority of a resolution of the Central Board, certified by the Secretary, expressing the name of the person to whom and the purpose for which the money is to be paid.

The Treasurer shall also have the custody of all deeds, bonds, securities and other documents relating to the property of the Society, (which, after registration, shall be desposited in one of the approved Banks, unless otherwise specially ordered by the Central Board,) and shall submit his or their accounts at the stated periodical Meetings of the Central Board.

ARTICLE V.

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 VI.

The Society shall meet annually at Montroal on the third Tuesday in January, whereof not less than fifteen days notice shall be given by the Secretary, in two of the leading City Newspapers, and elsewhere as may seem to him expedient. Special Meetings of the Society may be called at any time by the President, on his own authority, or in his absence from the Diocese, or in the event of a vacancy in the See, by any two of the Vice-Presidents and five other members of the Society, by a written order to the Secretary, who shall notify the same in the manner hereinbefore provided in respect of the Annual Meetings.

ARTICLE VIL

All Members of the Church of England who shall pay annually the sum of five dollars to the Treasurer of the Society, or of any District Association of which they shall be members, or who shall once for all pay the sum of £12 10s. to the Treasurer, shall be members of the Society, in the latter case for life and in the former case so long as they shall continue to pay annually the sum above specified. All such payments shall be due in advance for one year, from the first day of January in each year.

Contributors may limit and direct any portion not exceeding one half of their contributions, to be applied to special objects, within the designs and purposes of the Society.

ARTICLE VIII

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-President and the other officers of the Society, all officiating Clergymen and Church-wardens of every Church or Chapel of the United Church of England and Ireland within this Diocese, being members of the Society, and of such others as shall be chosen at the Annual General Meeting from among the members of the Society. The Board shall meet in the City of Montreal on the 1st Tuesday of every month. Special meetings may be called by the President, or in his absence from the Diocese or in the event of a vacancy of the See, by two of the Vice-Presidents and four members of the Board, by a written order to the Secretary; not less than seven members present should form a quorum. When a sufficient num-

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y of a resog the name to be paid. s, securities which, after tless otherhis or their ber of members to form a quorum shall not assemble at any meeting duly summoned, the members present may adjourn to another day and so on totics quotics until a quorum shall be found and business may then be proceeded with.

The Central Board shall have authority to make such rules as may be necessary for the government of its own affairs, provided that none of them be contrary to, or inconsistent with the spirit of the Constitution or By-laws of the Society. The Central Board shall report to the Annual Meeting a statement of its proceedings and a detailed account of all monies received and expended during the preceding year, and no grant shall be made to any country Church or Mission except the application be forwarded by the District Association in which such Church or Mission may be situated.

ARTICLE IX.

Of District Associations.

District Associations shall be formed in connection and correspondence with the Central Board, to be composed of all the members of the Church Society, resident within the bounds of such Districts, and of all others within the same bounds who shall annually contribute the sum of five shillings to the funds of such District Association. The boundaries of each District Association shall be determined by the Central Board. The senior Clergyman, being a member of the Church Society and holding a pastoral charge within the bounds of any District Association, shall be the Chairman thereof, each District Association shall appoint a Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers as they may deem necessary. They shall have authority to frame rules and regulations for the government of their own affairs, provided they be not contrary to or inconsistent with the Constitution or By-laws of the Society.

One-half of all monies paid into the hands of the Treasurers of the District Associations, respectively, and not specially appropriated by the contributors, shall be transmitted to the Treasurer of the Society to be at the disposal of the Central Board, and the remaining half may be expended within the District, for such objects only as are specified in the Constitution of this Society. Provided, that all monies remaining unappropriated six weeks before the Annual Meeting of the Society, shall be forthwith transmitted to the Trea-

surer thereof for the general purposes of the Society.

Each District shall, at its first Meeting, annually, appoint Collectors in each Parish, Chapelry, or Missionary Station within the bounds of such Association, whose duty it shall be to procure subscriptions and donations, to collect the subscriptions of Members of the Society and of Members of the Association, and to transmit the same to the Treasurers respectively.

Such Sermons as the Lord Bishop of the Diocese shall direct, shall bepreached in each year in each Parish, Chapelry and Missionary Station, on such days as the Bishop shall appoint, in favour of some one or more of the objects of the Society, and a collection made in aid thereof which shall forthmeeting duly
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Each District Association shall report its proceedings, annually, to the Central Board, not less than one month before the Annual Meeting of the Society, with a detailed account of all the monies received and expended by them during the preceding year.

ARTICLE X.

Of the Lay Committee.

A Lav Committee, consisting of not less than thirteen Members, shall be chosen at the first meeting of the Central Board, from among the Members of the Society, of whom three shall be a quorum for the transaction of the business.

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 least once each quarter. The objects of this Committee shall be:

First—The securing to the Clergymen now resident and doing duty in the Diocese, a sufficient and permanent income, and providing, with the least possible delay, for the increase of their number so as to meet the increasing exigencies of the population.

Second—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 errangement, keeping in view the probability of its requiring enlargement.

Third—The building, in a good situation, as near as practicable to the Church, a comfortable Parsonage of brick or stone, the plan of 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.

Fourth—The procuring an adequate and permanent support for all the Institutions, Authorities, Functionaries, suitable and appertaining to the Establishment of the Church of England in this Diocese.

Fifth—The investing all life subscriptions, (unless so far as the application of these may be otherwise limited by the contributors,) in a permanent and accumulating Fund, of which the interest only shall be applied to the general purposes of the Society.

Sixth—The encouraging the formation of a Local Endowment Fund, at every station or place having a Church or Clergyman, by special contributions, or by setting apart a portion of the Pew-rents, to form an accumulating fund until the net income shall in each case amount to £50 per annum; for the more effectual promotion of which object, the Society will engage, whenever such fund shall be formed and shall amount to £100, invested in Bank-stock or other public securities, to add thereto such an amount, not exceeding £100, as the funds of the Society, from time to time, shall admit of; provided always that such investment shall stand in the name of the President of the Society.

Seventh—The management and superintendence of all lands belonging to the Society.

ARTICLE XI.

All meetings of the Society and of the Committees shall be opened and closed with such prayers as the Bishop may appoint.

No alteration or amendment in the Constitution or By-laws of the Society shall be made, unless the general nature of such alteration or amendment shall have been proposed at the next previous General Meeting of the Society, provided that not less than one month intervene between the two Meetings and that the object of the Meetings be stated in the advertisement by which they are called. At all Meetings of the Society, of the Central Board, or of Committees, the Chairman, in case of an equality of votes, shall have a double or casting vote.

ARTICLE XII.

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 the Promoting Christianity among the Jews, whatever sums may be given for the conversion and instruction of the Heathen or the Jews.

F. MONTREAL.

