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## CONSTITUTION.

(Amended and Revised, February 7, 1898.)

### ARTICLE 1.

#### *Title.*

The name of this Society shall be the COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

### ARTICLE 2.

#### *Objects.*

The objects of the Society shall be the collection, preservation, and diffusion of knowledge respecting the history and topography of the District of Columbia and National history and biography.

### ARTICLE 3.

#### *Members.*

SECTION 1. This Society shall consist of active, corresponding, and honorary members. Active members shall be residents of the District. Honorary members shall be persons eminent in historical attainments, resident elsewhere.

SEC. 2. New members may be proposed through the Recording Secretary, by two members, in writing, and the Board of Managers shall vote upon proposed members at their next ensuing meeting. No nominee shall be elected against whom three negative ballots are cast.

SEC. 3. The annual dues of active members shall be fixed by the Board of Managers, and shall be due on the first of January for the ensuing year. The fee for life membership shall be fifty dollars (\$50).

ARTICLE 4.

*Officers.*

SECTION 1. The officers shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, two Secretaries, a Treasurer, a Curator, a Chronicler, and eight Managers, who together shall constitute an executive body called the Board of Managers. Five officers shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Managers.

SEC. 2. The officers shall be elected annually, to serve until the close of the meeting at which their successors are chosen. The term of office shall be, for the Managers four years, for all other officers one year. The Managers shall be grouped in four classes of two each, and one class shall be chosen at each annual meeting to serve four years. All officers shall be chosen from among the active or life members, by ballot, without formal nominations. Only active and life members whose dues are paid shall be entitled to vote.

SEC. 3. The Board of Managers shall have power, (a) to fill all vacancies occurring in its own membership; (b) to determine the times, places, and programmes for the meetings; (c) to appoint committees; and (d) to transact all business not otherwise provided for.

SEC. 4. The duty of the Chronicler shall be the preparation and the presentation at each annual meeting of a succinct statement of the principal events of historic interest which have transpired within the District of Columbia during the preceding calendar year.

ARTICLE 5.

*Meetings.*

SECTION 1. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in January, at which annual reports, election of officers, and other business shall be in order. The

regular meetings shall be held monthly, except during the summer adjournment, to be determined by the Board of Managers.

SEC. 2. The regular meetings of the Board of Managers shall be held immediately before the annual and regular meetings of the Society, and special meetings may be called by the President or by five members of the Board.

ARTICLE 6.

*Finances.*

SECTION 1. The Treasurer shall receive dues and other accessions to the funds of the Society, and shall account for the same. He shall deposit in bank, to the credit of the Society, all funds received by him, and shall submit an annual report, which shall be audited by a committee of three members; who are not officers, to be chosen by the Society at the regular meeting next preceding the annual meeting.

SEC. 2. All receipts from life membership fees shall be invested as a permanent fund, the interest only to be used for current expenses.

SEC. 3. Payments from the funds of the Society shall be made only on the drafts of the Treasurer, countersigned by the President.

SEC. 4. No debts shall be contracted nor payments made except by authority of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE 7.

*Amendments.*

This Constitution may be amended by a majority of members present at an annual meeting, but notice of any proposed amendment, which must be signed by

not less than three members, shall be submitted in writing at least one month previous, at a regular meeting, to the Secretary, who shall mail a printed copy of each amendment to every member at least one week prior to the annual meeting.

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Resolution adopted by the Board of Managers, February 18, 1895:

On motion of Mr Spofford it was voted that the edition of the first fascicle of the Records of the Columbia Historical Society (containing charter, constitution, presidential addresses, list of members, etc.) shall be 500 copies, and that the edition of later fascicles be 350 copies, unless otherwise ordered.

On motion of Mr Kasson it was (April 1, 1895),

*Resolved*, That the original, or a copy, of every paper heretofore or hereafter read before the Society, be left with the Recording Secretary for the Archives; and that the Committee on Publication be authorized, in their discretion, to publish the same or any part thereof.