

On motion, **Resolved**, That the word "**Laymen**" third line, 1st Article, be stricken out, and the word "**persons**" be substituted; likewise the word "**persons**" be substituted in the third line of Article 3, in lieu of "**Lay members**," and the word "**person**" be substituted in the place of the word "**Layman**" in the fifteenth line of same Article.

On motion, **Resolved**, That the words "And any contributor removing from the Diocese, although he can no longer be considered as a member of the Society, may remain a contributor, and in case of his disability or death, he or his family shall be entitled to the same benefits as if he had remained in the Diocese. But if it be inconvenient for him, after his removal, to continue his subscription, he shall then be repaid the sum which he shall have advanced, penalties excepted, with simple interest not exceeding 5 per cent. on each contribution, during the time the Society shall have used the money," in the sixth Article, be stricken out.

On motion, the Society then adjourned.

N. H. COBBS, President.

HENRY A. TAYLOR, Secretary.

**CONSTITUTION**  
OF THE  
**SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF DISABLED CLERGYMEN,**  
**AND OF THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF DECEASED CLERGYMEN**  
**OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, IN THE**  
**DIOCESE OF ALABAMA.**

**ARTICLE 1.** This Society shall consist of such of the Clergy of the Diocese of Alabama as shall comply with the conditions hereinafter to be prescribed, and of such charitable persons as shall contribute the annual sum of five dollars. All members shall be alike entitled to votes in the meetings of the Society, but the Clerical members shall alone be entitled to its relief.

**ART. 2.** The officers of this Society shall be a President, Secretary and Treasurer, to be elected annually. The President, or if there be no President, the Secretary shall be competent to summon special meetings of the Society, giving due notice of time and place. The Secretary shall faithfully preserve the records of the Society, the Treasurer shall manage and expend the funds agreeably to the direction of the Society, and shall give bond in such sum as shall be deemed sufficient by the Society from time to time. Annual meetings shall be held during the session of the Diocesan Convention, and at all meetings seven shall constitute a quorum: *Provided*, however, that no appropriation shall be made, unless at an annual meeting, or a special meeting where a majority of the Clerical members are present.

**ART. 3.** The Clerical members of the Society shall be arranged in four classes, according as they may select, to pay yearly the sum of ten, twenty, thirty or forty dollars. Persons contributing at any time a sum, the interest of which is equal to the sum required to constitute a Clergyman a member of a certain class, may designate the Clergyman to whose benefit such contribution shall endure, and the Clergyman so designated, shall derive the same advantages therefrom, as though it were contributed by himself. Any Clerical member who may prefer to pay, at one time a sum sufficient to produce at interest, the amount of ten, twenty, thirty or forty dollars, shall thereupon be constituted a life member of the first, second, third or fourth classes, and in case of his disability or death, shall be entitled to the same advantages as if he had paid an annual subscription equivalent to said interest. Any person may become a life member by the contribution of fifty dollars.

**ART. 4.** Every Clerical member on entering the Society shall pay one dollar and a half for every year of his age, exceeding

thirty. His first contribution shall be paid in advance, and every succeeding one on or before the 15th day of May, under the penalty of 12½ per cent. per annum on his original subscription for each year's default, and whenever the penalties shall equal the sum heretofore subscribed by him, he shall no longer be accounted a member, but shall forfeit all his rights, except he shall afterwards comply with such terms as the Society shall deem equitable. And whereas certain persons have contributed to this Constitution, the Secretary shall make a fair estimate of what they have paid, and give them that standing in the Society to which they are thus entitled according to the class which they may elect to enter.

ART. 5. Every Clerical member, who shall marry more than once, shall pay one year's subscription extraordinary at every such marriage.

ART. 6. If a Clergyman become disabled or die, and of such disability the Society shall judge, he or his family shall be entitled to an annuity thus proportioned, viz: three times the amount of his annual subscription if he has made five payments.

4	times the amount, if he has made more than 5,	less than 10.
5	" " " " " " " " " " " "	" 10 " " 15.
6	" " " " " " " " " " " "	" 15 " " 20.
7	" " " " " " " " " " " "	" 20 " " 25.
8	" " " " " " " " " " " "	" 25 " " 30.

Should any Clerical member being still connected with the Diocese, choose to withdraw from the Society he shall receive no compensation for the money which he has contributed; but his widow and children shall be entitled to 10 per cent. upon the money contributed, which shall be paid as an annuity for the period, and under the conditions prescribed in the case of other annuities. Each contributor shall abide by that class which he first entered, except upon the following conditions: If he desire to go from a lower to a higher class, he shall pay the difference between his former and his new rate of subscription, for all the years during which he has paid the smaller sum, together with interest thereon, computed at the compound rates. If he change from a higher to a lower class he shall be repaid the difference between his two rates of subscription during the term of his subscribing without any interest thereon.

ART. 7. Annuities shall be paid widows during life, unless they marry again; in which case, their annuities shall cease; and fall to their children entirely, if they have any, agreeable to the laws of the Society; and children, if males, shall enjoy annuities until they be twenty-one years old; and if females, until they be twenty-five years old, unless they previously marry, upon which their annuities shall cease.

ART. 8. If there be a child and no widow, such child shall be entitled to the whole annuity, during the time that he or she continues to be an annuitant; but if there be more than one child, and no widow, the annuity shall be equally divided among them

until they severally marry, or exceed the age of annuitants, which annuity shall be laid out in their education or apprenticeship, with the advice of such guardian or executor as the father may have nominated, and if none such shall have been nominated by the father, then in such manner for the benefit of the child or children as the Society shall direct.

ART. 9. If there be a widow and one child, the annuity shall be equally divided between them; but if the widow should marry or die, before the child shall have attained (if a male) twenty-one years, or if a female, twenty-five, the whole of the annuity shall belong to such child during the period to which he or she may be entitled thereto; and if the child should die before the mother, or when the child may come to the age herein prescribed, the whole of the annuity shall go to the mother, she having remained a widow, and shall be enjoyed by her during the period of her natural life if she remain a widow, but if she should marry again, nothing shall be paid her after the period of her marriage. If there be a widow and two or more children, the widow shall have one-third during her widowhood or natural life, and the remainder shall be equally divided among the children, and if a child should die, or when such may arrive at the age of twenty-one years, if a male, or twenty-five, if a female, his or her share shall be enjoyed by the remaining children till the males or male arrive at the age of twenty-one, and the females or female at the age of twenty-five. Provided, always, that when death shall have reduced the number of children to one, or the arrival of the children at the ages herein prescribed, shall have reduced the children entitled to annuities to the number of one, the annuity shall be equally divided between such child and the widow during the period of her natural life, or of her remaining a widow; and that if death should remove all the children, or when they may have arrived at the ages herein prescribed, the whole of the annuity go to the widow, if she be still alive and remaining a widow, and be enjoyed by her during the period of her natural life, or the term of her widowhood. But it shall be always lawful for a member of the Society to make such disposition by his will, of the rights to which his subscriptions may have entitled his family, as he may see fit.

ART. 10. The donations already made, or which may be hereafter made to this Society, together with the subscriptions of lay-members, shall constitute a separate fund. The benefit of it shall be applied to such Clergymen and their families as shall be in special need, whether or not they have been members of this Society, as may, from time to time, seem expedient: Provided, however, that no portion of the funds of the Society shall be expended for the relief of any person whatever, until its entire capital shall have reached the sum of five thousand dollars, nor shall the Society at any time appropriate more than its yearly income.

ART. 11. Whenever any Parish shall have contributed an

amount, the interest of which will be equal to that necessary to entitle a member of the Society to claim assistance from the funds, the Minister or Rector of the Parish, for the time being, shall be the beneficiary of said fund. But this right is to enure to the Parish, and not to be transferred or lost by the removal of the Minister or Rector.

**ART. 12.** This Constitution may be altered at an annual meeting, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

### BY-LAWS.

1. The Society shall hold its annual meeting upon the second day of the session of the Diocesan Convention.

2. A Sermon shall be preached and a collection taken up in furtherance of its objects at each Convention; the Preacher and an Alternate to be designated twelve months beforehand by the President of the Society.

3. Every Clergyman connected with the Society, shall bring its claims to the attention of his congregation, once a year, and take a collection in furtherance of its objects.