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Constitution and By-Laws

—OF—

THE BAPTIST
Ministers' Aid Society
OF KENTUCKY.

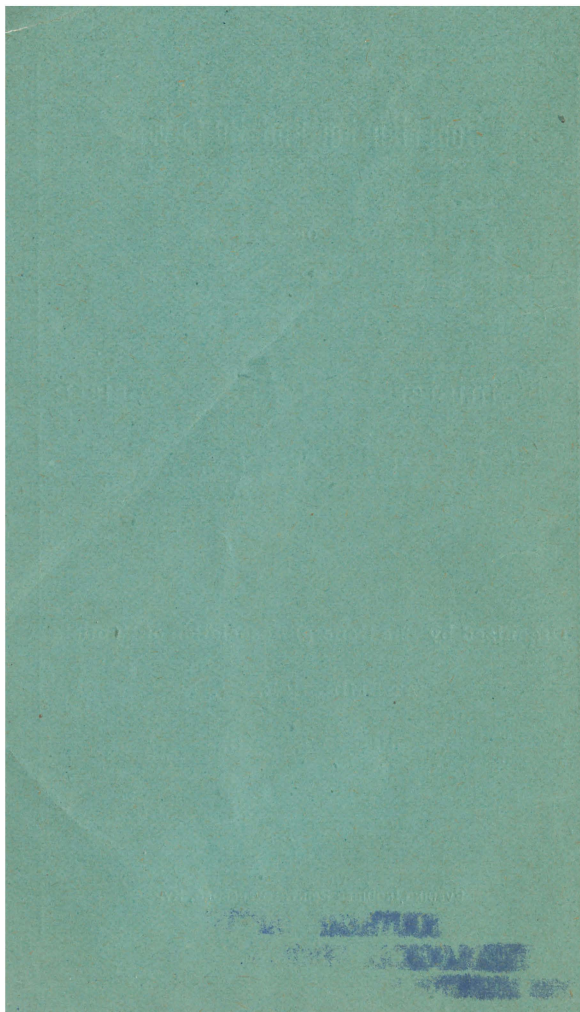
Organized by The General Association of Baptists

AT EMINENCE, KY.,

JUNE 21, 1888.

EVENING INQUIRER PRINT, OWENSBORO, KY.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY LIBRARY
205 JEFFERSON ROAD **LOUISVILLE 6, KY.**



CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

The name by which this corporation shall be known shall be "The Baptist Ministers' Aid Society" of Kentucky.

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Society shall be to provide for disabled Baptist Ministers and Missionaries, their dependent families, widows of ministers and missionaries, and the dependent infant orphans of Baptist ministers and missionaries in the State of Kentucky, during the time of their disability with a comfortable home and the necessaries of life, together with medical attendance, and in case of death with respectable burial.

ARTICLE III.

All designated funds shall be appropriated as designated, and one-half of all undesignated funds shall be used for immediate demands for aid, and the other half shall go towards the formation of a permanent fund, the limit of which shall be \$50,000.00. The interest on the permanent fund shall be used for the objects of this Society.

ARTICLE IV.

All property of this Society, real, personal and mixed, together with such sums of money as may hereafter be secured as an endowment fund, or for other purposes, shall be held, managed and con-

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trolled by a Board of Trustees consisting of twelve members of Baptist Churches in the State of Kentucky. The said Trustees shall be appointed by the General Association of Kentucky, and shall be so appointed that the places of one-third of the same shall become vacant at each annual meeting of the General Association. In case the General Association shall refuse or neglect to make such elections at their annual meetings, then the Board of Trustees shall, at their first regular meeting after said refusal or neglect, elect members of the Board of Trustees to fill such vacancies as may occur. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall perform the duties usually appertaining to their offices respectively, and whose duties may be more specifically defined in the By-Laws of this Society. Said officers shall be elected by the Board of Trustees. The officers heretofore named shall constitute an Executive Committee and shall transact the business of the Society in intervals between the sessions of the Board of Trustees, call special meetings of the Board of Trustees when necessary and have a general oversight of the property owned by the Society. All the acts of the Executive Committee shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees. Vacancies occurring in the Board of Trustees may be filled at any regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to serve until the next meeting of the General Association. There shall be an annual meeting of the Society

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for the election of officers and for hearing reports of Committees on in each year at

ARTICLE V.

Any ordained Baptist minister who at the time of application shall be a member of a Baptist Church and a citizen of the State of Kentucky, and who shall have been for at least ten years in active service as a Baptist minister, and who shall have become disabled, and who shall be destitute of the means with which to secure a comfortable support, may with his wife and infant children be admitted to the benefits of the Society by a vote of seven members of the Board of Trustees upon presenting a petition in writing, indorsed by five pastors of Baptist Churches in the State of Kentucky. Missionaries in the employ of the societies of the Baptist denomination, who were residents of and members of Baptist Churches of the State of Kentucky at the time of their appointment, may, if disabled while in actual service, be admitted to the benefits of the Society upon the same terms as ministers aforesaid. Widows of Baptist ministers and missionaries, and dependent infant children of deceased Baptist ministers, if needy, may be provided for upon the terms aforesaid. It being understood, however, in each and every case that the beneficiaries be provided for only during the period of their disability, or until suitable provision shall be made elsewhere for their comfort and welfare; and, further, that the Board of Trustees shall determine whether

beneficiaries are entitled to the further benefits of the Society in accordance with the intent of this Constitution.

ARTICLE VI.

In exceptional cases under peculiar and distressing circumstances the Trustees may admit applicants to the benefits of the Society who do not come within the provisions as to time heretofore named, provided, that in no case shall this be done to the abridgement of the ability of the Trustees to provide for those named in Article V. of this Constitution.

ARTICLE VII.

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Trustees at any regular meeting of the Board provided written notice of the proposed alteration or amendment shall have been presented at a preceding meeting, and all the members of the Board of Trustees shall have been notified of such proposed alteration or amendment and requested to be present, and provided that no alterations or amendments shall be valid that shall radically change the objects of this Society as defined in Article II of the Constitution. Such alterations or amendments shall be subject to the approval of the General Association at their next annual meeting. And the General Association may, at any time, make such alterations or amendments as she chooses, provided they do not radically change the objects of this Society defined as aforesaid.

BY-LAWS.

FIRST—MEETINGS.

The regular meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held once a month on The order of business at the meetings of the Board shall be—

1. Prayer.
2. Reading of the minutes.
3. Reports or communications from Secretaries.
4. Treasurer's report.
5. Reports from Standing Committees.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Adjournment.

When any member of the Board of Trustees shall have been absent from four consecutive regular meetings of the Board, without communicating to the Board the reason for such absence, the Board shall by vote declare his place vacant, and proceed to elect a member to fill the vacancy.

SECOND—OFFICERS.

The Officers of the Society shall be elected at the first meeting after the General Association, and shall hold their office for one year from said annual meeting, or until their successors are elected.

The President of the Society shall be a member of each of the Standing Committees, and shall preside at all meetings of the Board if present. In his absence the Vice-President shall preside, and

in the absence of both officers a Chairman shall be elected for that meeting.

The Recording Secretary shall keep a full and complete record of the business transacted by the Board of Trustees, in a book provided for that purpose, and shall give proper notice to the members of all regular meetings of the Board of Trustees.

The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, give notice of all the Executive Committee meetings, call special meetings of the Board of Trustees upon request of three members, and shall state in such notice the particular business to be presented at such special meeting. No other business than that named in the call for special meetings shall be considered. He shall report the action of the Executive Committee to the Board of Trustees, and shall prepare the annual report of the Board.

The Treasurer shall keep a full account of all moneys received and distributed by the Society, to be reported monthly and annually to the Board of Trustees.

All bills payable shall be paid by him only on the certification of the chairman of the committee contracting the same, or of the President or Corresponding Secretary of the Society.

The Treasurer shall be required to give a bond for the security of all moneys belonging to the Society, which shall be approved by the Executive Committee.

THIRD—COMMITTEES.

All Standing Committees shall be nominated by

the President, unless otherwise ordered; and shall be expected to report monthly. At the annual meeting, or at the first meeting thereafter, the following Standing Committees, to consist of four members each, shall be elected:

1. On Finances.
2. On Applications.

The Finance Committee shall secure by collections, donations, bequests, or otherwise, the money or property necessary; have a general oversight of the financial interest of the Society; see that the property is properly insured, and make such recommendations to the Board of Trustees as may be deemed expedient and for the interest of the Society.

The Committee on Applications shall carefully examine every application for the benefit of the Society, and shall see that the terms of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society are in every case fully complied with. No application for assistance from this Society shall be considered by the Board of Trustees unless first endorsed and recommended by the Committee on Application.

FOURTH—AMENDMENTS.

These By-Laws may be amended by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any regular meeting, provided notice shall have been given at a preceding meeting.

These By-Laws may be suspended for a single session of the Board of Trustees, by a unanimous vote of the members present.



How Can I Help "The Baptist Ministers' Aid Society?"

The Baptist Ministers' Aid Society is managed by a Board of Trustees, twelve in number, appointed by the General Association, who are to be located at or near Owensboro, the place selected for the location of the board. The General Association ought to have inaugurated this movement many years ago. It has been a long felt want, and the fact that for years we have neglected it ought to make us more earnest now.

When you read this will you please ask yourself what you can do and ought to do to help this Society? If you conclude it is a worthy object of aid and want to assist we will tell you how you can do so. In the first place you can make a cash contribution. If this falls into your hand and there is no one near you to receive the money send it to the Treasurer. If you wish to give more than any cash sum you can at present afford you can give your note payable in annual installments. Here is the form of note—

_____, Ky., _____ 188—

I hereby agree to pay "The Baptist Ministers' Aid Society of Kentucky," _____ dollars, payable in _____ equal installments, beginning _____.

Signed: _____

If you wish to remember the Society at your death insert this in your will: "I give and bequeath to The Baptist Ministers' Aid Society of Kentucky the sum of _____ dollars."

Also you can very much assist in another way. It is

The Baptist Ministers' Aid Society of Ky.

During the session of the General Association which met at Eminence, from June 20th to 22nd, 1888, that body, by resolution, determined to organize THE BAPTIST MINISTERS' AID SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY. This action was only giving definite shape to ideas long entertained by many of our leading brethren. The work before the Society is to raise and disburse funds in aid to disabled Baptist Ministers and Missionaries and their dependent families. To enable you to see the importance of this work you need but be reminded that many good and useful men have worn themselves out in working for the cause of Christ, who have become disabled by age or disease, and are left without means of support while living, or means for burial when they die. Some of those who have done such noble and useful service for our denomination have left helpless and dependent children to appeal in vain to the unsympathetic world for bread and shelter. The children and grand-children of once celebrated Baptist preachers have found their way to our Orphan's Home. God has appointed that they who preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel, but from the meager remuneration paid for their services many preachers have been burdened all their lives to do the Lord's work and keep the wolf from their doors. They have been willing to deny themselves and their families for the cause's sake, and common justice, much more christian charity, urges that they and their helpless ones be cared for by christian people. The feeling of humanity urges us to help the deserving needy. Are

any more deserving than the worn-out servants of God and their families? A sense of gratitude to those who have served us and our times so faithfully should induce every one to aid in this work. Whom would we care for if not those who have worked so faithfully for us? Our Government pensions those who received injuries in the service of our country. Shall Christian people be less grateful than men of the world? Moreover, is it not really a debt we owe them? If a servant has been worn out in our service do we not justly owe it to them to take care of them? Some of them may not have preached to you personally, but they have advocated the cause you profess to love. The last days of Bro. V. E. Kirtley were brightened by the thoughtful kindness of loving friends who provided him with a home for the last year of his life. That home is now left for sale, the proceeds to be used for the comfort of others; but the demand for such aid is great and should be supplied at once. It should be esteemed a privilege to aid in this worthy and much needed work. What a privilege we would esteem it to be able to feed and care for Jesus. You can do this. Remember what he said, "Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."—Matt. 25:40.

We most earnestly urge all pastors and deacons and brethren to present the claims of this work to their churches and associations at their earliest possible opportunity, and to send all funds raised to the Treasurer, Jas. H. Parrish, Owensboro, Ky.



desirable that churches should make this one of the objects of their annual contributions. Will you not call to mind the self-sacrificing labors of our noble Ministers, many of whom are now old and feeble and needy, and show your appreciation of their labors by getting your church to make an annual contribution? We believe it will add greatly to the efficiency of your Ministry when they know provision has been made by your love and care for any dark days of misfortune that may come. It will bring joy to many a depressed spirit, and will roll from the shoulders of some of our most efficient preachers a great load of care. We confidently believe we can appeal to the Baptist hosts of Kentucky in hope. We believe this is a work that will commend itself to their judgment and secure liberal contributions.



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This is a great and noble charity. Jesus has put upon it the sanction and seal of His approbation, and His blessing is promised to rest upon all who give to the cause. "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth to the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again." See Ps. xli. 1, 2, 3.

Evening Inquirer Print, Owensboro, Ky.