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CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

UNION CLUB

OF

BOSTON.

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THE Union Club of Boston was founded in the year 1863 for "the encouragement and dissemination of patriotic sentiment and opinion," and the condition of membership was "unqualified loyalty to the Constitution and the Union of the United States, and unwavering support of the Federal Government in efforts for the suppression of the Rebellion."

Its organization is continued to promote social intercourse, and to afford the conveniences of a club-house.

CONSTITUTION.

I.

NAME.

THIS Club shall be called the UNION CLUB OF BOSTON.

II.

MEMBERS.

Any person duly elected a member shall, upon signing an agreement to observe the Constitution and By-laws, and paying his entrance fee and the portion of the annual assessment corresponding with the unexpired portion of the current year, become thenceforth entitled to all the rights and privileges of membership. The number of resident members shall not exceed six hundred at any one time.

III.

PROPERTY.

The title to the real estate held for the use and benefit of the Club shall remain in the Trustees to whom the same was conveyed by deed dated February 1, 1868, and recorded in Suffolk Registry of Deeds, Lib. 919, Fol. 148, for the uses and purposes set forth in their Declaration of Trust recorded in the said Registry with the deed aforesaid. The legal title and ownership of all the other property, effects and assets of the Club shall be in the Executive Committee for the time being, in trust for the benefit and enjoyment of the members.

IV.

GOVERNMENT.

The officers of the Club shall be a President, two Vice Presidents, ten Directors, a Treasurer, and a Secretary, who shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Club. They shall be elected at the annual meeting in December, and shall hold office for one year from the first day of January following, and until their successors shall have been chosen and shall have accepted office. The President, or in his absence the Senior Vice President in the order of election, shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Executive Committee; and, if the President and both the Vice Presidents shall be absent, a chairman shall be chosen by vote.

If the office of the President or of a Vice President or of the Treasurer shall become vacant, the Executive Committee shall call a special meeting of the Club to fill such vacancy. If any other vacancy shall occur, the Executive Committee may fill the same.

B Y - L A W S.

1.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee shall have the management and control of the Club and of its property, and shall exercise a general superintendence of its interests and affairs. They may make or authorize all necessary contracts, but shall have no power to make the Club liable for any debt beyond the amount of money which shall, at the time of contracting such debt, be in the Treasurer's hands, and not needed for the discharge of prior debts or liabilities. They shall have power to make such regulations and rules for the domestic and internal economy, comfort, and success of the establishment, as they shall think proper; and, generally, to do all things which may be necessary for the proper management of its concerns.

They shall appoint from their number a House Committee of five, who shall control the expenses and charges of the Club, regulate prices, receive and redress complaints, and have the immediate charge and superintendence of the Club, subject, however, at all times, to the direction of the Executive Committee. The House Committee shall have power, subject always to the control of the Executive Committee, to engage and discharge the servants of the Club, to make necessary purchases and sales, and to enforce the preservation of order, and obedience to the Constitution and By-Laws.

2.

MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee, of which five shall be a quorum, shall hold stated meetings on the first Saturday of every month — June, July, August, and September excepted — for the transaction of business; and special meetings may be called by the Secretary, on request of the President or either Vice President, or of any two Directors, upon notice printed or written, to be given to each member at least twenty-four hours before the time appointed for such meeting.

The House Committee shall hold meetings on Monday evening of each week, at eight o'clock.

TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall be charged with the collection and custody of the funds of the Club, and their disbursement under the direction of the House Committee. He shall keep the accounts of the Club in books belonging to it, and shall exhibit his account at the annual meeting, and shall present a copy thereof to such auditors as shall be appointed by the Club to examine it; who shall make their report thereon to the Executive Committee at their next stated monthly meeting, or as soon thereafter as conveniently may be; and, if the same shall be approved by the Committee, such account shall be deemed thenceforth conclusively settled. If it be not approved, the same shall be submitted to the Club at any subsequent stated meeting, or special meeting called to act thereupon. His books shall be at all times open to the inspection of any member of the Executive Committee; and he may be removed by the Club or the Committee, at any time, for refusal to exhibit them, or for any misconduct in the affairs of his office. The Committee may authorize him to employ such assistance as it shall think proper, at the expense of the Club, in the keeping of his books, and preparing of his accounts and reports. He shall receive an annual salary of one thousand dollars, and shall be exempted from payment of the annual assessment. The Treasurer shall give bond with sureties for the faithful performance of his duties, in the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, in such manner, and to such person or persons, as the Executive Committee may determine.

SECRETARY.

The Secretary shall keep a record of all the meetings of the Club, and of the proceedings of the Executive Committee, and of the Committee on Elections; and shall have the custody of all the documents of the Club, shall conduct its correspondence, and have the superintendence of its library, magazines and newspapers. He shall be exempted from payment of the annual assessment.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

There shall be a Committee on Elections, consisting of the Secretary, four members of the Executive Committee, to be appointed by said Committee, and ten other members of the Club, who shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting, and any vacancy in whose number may be filled by the Committee.

Whenever any person shall be proposed for membership, written application must be made by a member of the Club to the Committee on Elections, subscribed by him, setting forth the name and place of residence of the person proposed, and the date of such proposal. If a majority of the Committee shall deem him a suitable person for membership, they shall cause his name to be placed on the notice-board, as a candidate for admission, for the space of ten days before the next meeting of the Club at which a nomination can be acted upon.

All elections shall be by secret ballot ; thirty votes shall be necessary to constitute a ballot on each nomination ; and one-fifth part of the votes in the negative shall prevent an election. The ballot-box shall be kept in the custody of the clerk at the office. Printed or written lists of the candidates to be balloted for at the next meeting shall be placed in the hands of the clerk, for the use of the members ; which ballots may be deposited in the box at any time after the nomination, until the ballot shall be closed. Each member may vote Yes or No against any names on his ballot ; and his vote shall not be counted for or against any candidate not thus marked. The box shall be delivered by the clerk, with a list of the members voting, to the officer presiding at the meeting, who shall thereupon appoint a committee to sort and count the votes, and upon their report shall declare the result of the election. No one but the officer presiding, the Secretary and the clerk, shall, on any account, see the list of members who have so voted. No candidate who shall have been rejected shall be again proposed within six months.

6.

NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Persons who do not reside within forty miles of Boston, and have no place of business there, may be admitted to membership in the Club upon payment of half the rates of entrance fees and annual assessments ; provided, that it shall be set forth in the application to the Committee on Elections for the nomination of a non-resident candidate, that he belongs to such class ; and provided, also, that when any non-resident member shall cease to belong to that class, by residing within forty miles of Boston, or having a place of business there, he shall thereupon be liable to pay the residue of the entrance fee, and thereafter to pay full annual assessments. Non-resident members shall have all the rights and privileges of resident members,

except that in the event of a dissolution of the Club, the interest of a non-resident member in its property and assets shall be a half share, and not a full share. The Executive Committee may, on the application of any member, place him in the class of non-residents, upon being satisfied that he has the qualifications, his privilege to begin on the first day of January next succeeding the date of his application, but no return shall be made of the entrance fee already paid.

7.

ARMY AND NAVY MEMBERS.

Any officer of the Army or Navy of the United States, on duty within the New England States, may be admitted to the use of the Club, in the manner provided for the election of members, upon his paying half the annual assessment, which shall entitle him to the privileges of membership for six months, and a like sum, in advance, for each additional term of six months, or part thereof, during which he shall so remain on duty and continue to use the Club; but he shall not have the right of voting, and in the event of the dissolution of the Club he shall have no interest in its property.

8.

RESIGNATIONS.

All resignations shall be made in writing, addressed to the Executive Committee, on or before the thirty-first day of December, and any resignation made subsequently thereto shall not discharge the member presenting it from his assessment for the ensuing year. Such resignation shall operate as an assignment and release to the Executive Committee, as trustees of the Club, of all the right, title, and interest of such member in and to the property and assets of the Club.

9.

FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP.

Any three members may present to the Executive Committee written charges subscribed by themselves against any other member, and if it shall appear to the Executive Committee on inquiry, after notice to the member so charged, that his conduct has endangered or is likely to endanger the good order, welfare or character of the Club, or is at variance with the requirements of the Constitution and By-Laws, the Executive Committee may, by a vote of two-thirds of its members, declare his membership forfeited. A forfeiture shall operate

to vest in the Executive Committee, as trustees of the Club, all the right, title, and interest of such expelled member in and to the property and assets thereof.

10.

STRANGERS.

Any member may introduce a stranger for one day only, and shall register, in a book to be kept at the clerk's office for that purpose, his name and place of residence, and the date of the introduction; to which such member shall affix his own name. Such introduction shall not confer a right of entrance except on that day. The Executive Committee may by vote extend the privileges of the House to any stranger during his visit to the city, and any member thereof may issue a written invitation to any stranger conferring such privileges for one month. All persons not being members of the Club, who reside twenty miles or more beyond the limits of the city of Boston, and have no place of business therein, shall be deemed strangers.

11.

RESIDENTS NOT MEMBERS.

Residents in the city of Boston, not being members, may be introduced into the House not more than once in three months, unless to an entertainment given by a member in a private room.

12.

ASSESSMENTS.

To defray the current ordinary expenses of the Club, and to provide for the payment of the certificates of indebtedness issued for the purchase of the Club house, there shall be an entrance fee of one hundred dollars paid by each new member, and an annual assessment of fifty dollars paid by each member.

The annual assessment shall be payable on the first day of January, of which written or printed notice shall be given by the Treasurer to each member, through the post-office, on or before that day; and it shall be the duty of the Treasurer to report the names of all members delinquent on the first day of March to the Executive Committee at their next monthly meeting, for such action thereon as they may deem expedient; but any member, who has paid an entrance fee and one assessment, shall be exempted from payment of any annual assessment, if absent from the New England States during the entire year for which the assessment is levied.

MEETINGS OF THE CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Club shall be holden on the third Saturday of December, at eight o'clock, P. M., for the choice of officers, and all other business that may be brought before it; and monthly meetings shall be holden on the third Saturday of each of the other months,—June, July, August and September excepted,—at the same hour, for the election of members, and transaction of other business. Notices of meetings shall be posted on the notice-board by the Secretary, for at least ten days before the times assigned for them respectively; and written or printed notice of the annual meeting, addressed to each member, shall be deposited in the post-office at least ten days before the time thereof.

At any meeting of the Club for any alteration of the Constitution or By-Laws, sixty members shall constitute a quorum; for the transaction of any other business, thirty members shall be a quorum.

At all meetings discussion shall be limited to matters affecting the interests of the Club, and it shall never be called upon nor permitted to act, in its official or associate capacity as a club, upon any political question or subject.

No stranger or visitor shall be present at any meeting.

Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.

ANNUAL MEETING.

At the Annual Meeting the Executive Committee, Treasurer and Secretary shall make full reports of their proceedings for the past year, and recommend such measures as they deem advisable. The order of business shall be as follows:—

1. Reading the minutes of the preceding meeting.
2. Report of the Executive Committee.
3. Report of the Treasurer, and appointment of Auditors.
4. Report of the Secretary.
5. Election of officers for the ensuing year.
6. Any further business regularly before the meeting.

Provided, however, that the order may be changed by a vote of the majority of those present.

15.

SPECIAL MEETINGS.

A special meeting shall be called whenever the Executive Committee shall consider one expedient, or whenever twenty-five members not of the Committee shall, in writing, setting forth the purpose thereof, request the President, or either Vice President, to call one; and notice of any such meeting shall be posted on the notice-board for at least ten days before the time assigned therefor, setting forth the matter intended to be acted upon; and no business, other than that specified in the notice, shall be acted upon at such special meeting.

16.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS.

At the regular meeting of the Club, in the month of October in each year, a Committee of five members shall be chosen to nominate candidates for office for the ensuing year, and to report at the regular meeting in November.

All elections of officers shall be by ballot, unless otherwise ordered by two-thirds of the members present, and a plurality of votes shall constitute an election.

17.

HOUSE OPEN.

The house shall be open for the reception of members every day, under such rules and regulations as the Executive Committee may prescribe.

18.

SERVANTS.

No member or visitor shall give any money or gratuity to any servant of the Club; and no servant shall be employed by any member on any business of his own, out of the Club house, without permission of the superintendent or clerk.

19.

NO CREDIT GIVEN BY THE CLUB.

No accounts shall be kept with the superintendent or the clerk on credit given by the Club.

20.

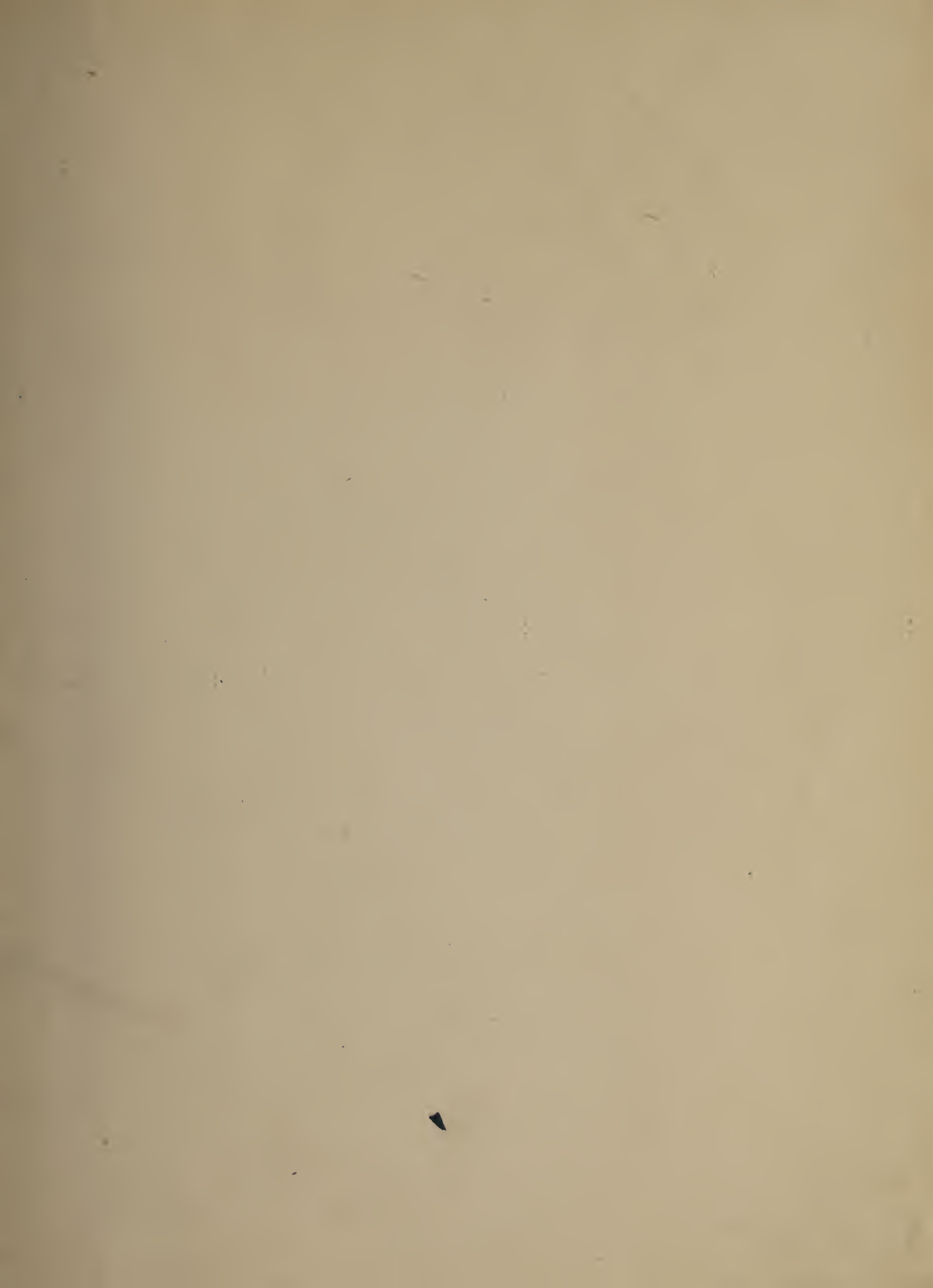
INJURY TO CLUB PROPERTY.

Any destruction of the property of the Club, or injury to it, shall be paid for by the member who shall have caused the same, and the amount to be paid shall be determined by the House Committee.

21.

AMENDMENTS OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

Alterations of the Constitution and By-Laws may be made at the annual meeting, or at any regular monthly meeting, provided written notice of the proposed alteration shall have been given at a preceding monthly meeting, and a copy thereof filed with the Secretary, and entered by him in the record of the meeting; they may also be made at any special meeting called for the purpose, and notified in the manner directed in Article 15. In either case, the assent of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary.



(Nov., 1891, 20,000)

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

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