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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

UNION ANTI-SLAVERY
SOCIETY

OF PHILADELPHIA.

ORGANIZED JULY 12, 1838.

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REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN
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1838.

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CONSTITUTION, &c.

PREAMBLE.

The undersigned believe that the Most High God, in creating man a moral agent, entrusted him with the right of personal ownership.

That Slavery, as practised in the United States, annihilates this right, interferes with the just and benevolent design of the Creator, usurps His holy prerogative, and claims an authority which belongs only to the Ruler of the Universe, over the bodies and souls of men.

That it legalizes heathenism ; takes away the word of God from its victims ; shuts out from their minds the light of the glorious gospel of a risen Redeemer ; perverts the oracles of Truth, and blasphemes the Most High.

And, in grief and sorrow of heart, that this sin exists openly and undisguisedly in the professing Church—impeding the progress of the Gospel,—cherishing unholy prejudices—creating division and discord—lengthening the cords and strengthening the stakes

of infidelity—palsying missionary effort, and quenching the spirit of revivals, and thus presenting a mighty obstacle to the world's conversion—prayerfully, and under a solemn sense of duty, we associate ourselves together to promote its entire abolition, and agree to be governed by the following

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This Society shall be called the "Union Anti-Slavery Society of Philadelphia, auxiliary to the American Anti-Slavery Society."

Art. 2. The object of this Society shall be to aid in promoting the abolition of Slavery in the United States, and especially to purify the Church, at the North as well as at the South, from its pollutions, by appeals to the hearts and consciences of men, by warning, entreaty, and earnest prayer, and the application of the Bible doctrine of *immediate repentance* to the sin of slavery.

Art. 3. This Society shall aim to elevate the character and condition of the people of color, by encouraging their intellectual, moral and religious improvement, and by removing public prejudice; that thus they may, according to their intellectual and moral

worth, share an equality with the whites of civil and religious privileges.

Art. 4. The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice Presidents, Recording and Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, who, with one member from each Church represented in this Society, shall constitute a Board of Managers; seven of whom shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. 5. The duties of the officers of this Society shall be such as usually devolve upon their respective offices.

Art. 6. This Society shall hold stated quarterly meetings on the fourth Thursday of the months of May, August, November and February, the meeting in May to be considered the annual meeting.

Art. 7. All meetings of this Society and its Board of Managers, shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Art. 8. This Society will use its influence to have the monthly concert of prayer for the oppressed, held on the last Monday of each month, observed by its members in their respective churches.

Art. 9. Any person who consents to the principles of this Society, who contributes annually to its funds, and is not a slave-

holder, may become a member by signing this constitution.

Art. 10. Any Society founded upon the same principles as this Society may become auxiliary thereto.

Art. 11. This Constitution may be amended at a stated meeting of the Society by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, notice of such amendment having been given at a previous stated meeting of the Society.

OFFICERS.

President.

Rev. JAMES M. WILSON, Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Vice Presidents.

Rev. F. H. BOARDMAN, First Mariner's Baptist Church.

SAMUEL WITHINGTON, Western Presbyterian Church.

ALBERT G. ROWLAND, Eleventh Presbyterian Church.

Recording Secretary.

WILLIAM S. PIERCE, Central Presbyterian Church.

Corresponding Secretary.

SAMUEL D. HASTINGS, Eleventh Presbyterian Church.

Treasurer.

WM. McKEE, Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Managers.

Robert Dunlap, jr., Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

George H. Stuart, First Reformed Presbyterian Church. *new Light*

Oliver P. Cornman, Eleventh Presbyterian Church.

Frederick Hancock, First Congregational Church.

David Smith, Ref. Presbyterian Church.

Robert E. Peterson, Christ's Church.

Francis Mitchell, 1st Independent Church.

E. S. Davis, Tenth Presbyterian Church.

Thomas T. Mason, Union Methodist Episcopal Church.

Wm. C. Bradley, Western Presbyterian Church.

Wm. Sloanaker, 5th Presbyterian Church.

Jesse Adams, Second Presbyterian Church.

(P) Several churches are represented in the Society from which managers have not yet been selected.

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