

**THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE
LOYAL-LEGION OF THE UNITED
STATES, INSTITUTED APRIL 15,
1865; CONSTITUTION AND BY-
LAWS**

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The military order of the loyal-legion of the United states, instituted april 15, 1865; Constitution and By-laws by Various

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VARIOUS

**THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE
LOYAL-LEGION OF THE UNITED
STATES, INSTITUTED APRIL 15,
1865;
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**



CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE.

WE, Officers and honorably discharged Officers of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps of the United States, whose names are hereunto annexed, having aided in maintaining the honor, integrity and supremacy of the National Government at a critical period of its history, and holding in remembrance the sacrifices in common made and the triumphs together shared in discharge of this sacred duty, unite to ordain and establish a permanent association for the purposes and objects hereinafter set forth, and to this end pledge our honor, as officers and gentlemen, to be governed by the following Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE I.

TITLE.

This association shall be known as THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

ARTICLE II.

PRINCIPLES.

This Order acknowledges as its fundamental principles—

First. A firm belief and trust in Almighty God, extolling Him under whose beneficent guidance the sovereignty and integrity of the Union have been maintained, the honor of the Flag vindicated, and the blessings of civil liberty secured, established and enlarged.

Second. True allegiance to the United States of America, based upon paramount respect for and fidelity to the National Constitution and Laws, manifested by discountenancing whatever may tend to weaken loyalty, incite to insurrection, treason or rebellion, or impair in any manner the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions.

ARTICLE III.

OBJECTS.

The objects of this Order shall be to cherish the memories and associations of the war waged in defence of the unity and indivisibility of the Republic; strengthen the ties of fraternal fellowship and sympathy formed by companionship-in-arms; advance the best interests of the soldiers and sailors of the United States especially of those associated as Companions of this Order, and extend all possible relief to their widows and children; foster the cultivation of military and

naval science; enforce unqualified allegiance to the General Government; protect the rights and liberties of American citizenship, and maintain National Honor, Union and Independence.

ARTICLE IV.

ORGANIZATION.

SECTION 1.—This Order shall be composed of State Commanderies and a National Commandery.

SEC. 2.—There shall be but one Commandery in each State, which shall be designated as "The Commandery of the State of ——," excepting the Commandery of the District of Columbia, which shall be designated as such. The relative seniority of the several State Commanderies shall be determined by the respective dates of their institution.

SEC. 3.—The National Commandery shall be designated "The Commandery-in-Chief."

SEC. 4.—Commanderies may become incorporated subject to the provisions of this Constitution.

ARTICLE V.

MEMBERS.

SECTION 1.—The Companions of this Order shall be elected in the manner hereinafter provided from the classes defined in this Article, and shall be entitled Companions of the First Class, Second Class and Third Class, respectively, as described and defined.

SEC. 2.—ORIGINAL COMPANIONS OF THE FIRST CLASS.

—Commissioned officers and honorably discharged commissioned officers of the United States Army, Navy and Marine Corps, Regular or Volunteer, including officers of assimilated or corresponding rank by appointment of the Secretary of War or Navy, who were actually engaged in the suppression of the Rebellion prior to the fifteenth day of April, 1865, and whose names appear in the Official Registers of the United States Army and Navy and of the Volunteer Force of the United States Army, or appeared upon the official records of the United States War or Navy Department during their term of service as commissioned officers of organizations mustered into the service of the United States, and not restricted to service within any given State, for a period of service not less than ninety days, or who served under the President's call of the fifteenth day of April, 1861; or who, having served as non-commissioned officers, warrant officers or enlisted men, during the War of the Rebellion, have since been or may hereafter be commissioned as officers in the United States Regular or Volunteer Army, Navy or Marine Corps; and persons who, having served as non-commissioned officers, warrant officers or enlisted men as aforesaid, shall have become eligible to membership by descent from members of the Order, or officers who were eligible as such, who shall have

THE
MILITARY ORDER
OF THE
LOYAL LEGION
OF THE
UNITED STATES

INSTITUTED APRIL 15, 1865

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

PHILADELPHIA
1909

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1805, for
THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES,
 By SAM. B. WYLIE MITCHELL, Acting Recorder-in-Chief of said Order,
*In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States,
 for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.*

Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year 1909, by
JOHN P. NICHOLSON,
*Recorder-in-Chief of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the
 United States,
 in the Office of the Librarian of Congress.*

<i>First Edition,</i>	1805.	<i>Seventh Edition,</i>	1877.	<i>Thirteenth Edition,</i>	1897.
<i>Second "</i>	1806.	<i>Eighth "</i>	1880.	<i>Fourteenth "</i>	1901.
<i>Third "</i>	1807.	<i>Ninth "</i>	1881.	<i>Fifteenth "</i>	1905.
<i>Fourth "</i>	1808.	<i>Tenth "</i>	1885.	<i>Sixteenth "</i>	1909.
<i>Fifth "</i>	1870.	<i>Eleventh "</i>	1880.		
<i>Sixth "</i>	1874.	<i>Twelfth "</i>	1883.		

<i>First Quadrennial Congress of the Order,</i>	<i>Philadelphia,</i>	<i>April 9, 1860.</i>
<i>Second "</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>" 15, 1873.</i>
<i>Second Adjourned "</i>	<i>New York,</i>	<i>Dec. 10, 1873.</i>
<i>Third Quadrennial "</i>	<i>Boston,</i>	<i>April 11, 1877.</i>
<i>Fourth "</i>	<i>Philadelphia,</i>	<i>" 13, 1881.</i>
<i>Fifth "</i>	<i>Chicago,</i>	<i>" 15, 1885.</i>
<i>Sixth "</i>	<i>Cincinnati,</i>	<i>" 10, 1889.</i>
<i>Seventh "</i>	<i>St. Paul,</i>	<i>" 12, 1893.</i>
<i>Seventh Adjourned "</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>June 7, 1893.</i>
<i>Eighth Quadrennial "</i>	<i>Detroit,</i>	<i>April 14, 1897.</i>
<i>Eighth Adjourned "</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>June 2, 1897.</i>
<i>Ninth Quadrennial "</i>	<i>Washington, D. C.,</i>	<i>April 10, 1901.</i>
<i>Tenth Quadrennial "</i>	<i>San Francisco,</i>	<i>" 12, 1905.</i>
<i>Tenth Adjourned, "</i>	<i>Milwaukee,</i>	<i>May 31, 1905.</i>
<i>Eleventh Quadrennial "</i>	<i>New York,</i>	<i>April 14, 1909.</i>

Journal of the Eleventh Quadrennial Congress, New York City,
 April 14-15, 1909.

*Extract * * * * **

Companion EDWIN A. LANDELL, Pennsylvania:

Resolved, That all amendments to the Constitution which have been adopted shall be promulgated to take effect July 4, 1909.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

** * * * **

JOHN P. NICHOLSON,
Recorder-in-Chief.

GRANVILLE M. DODGE,
Commander-in-Chief.