

**THE NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION OF
THE UNITED STATES. PRELIMINARY
STATEMENT. LIST OF DELEGATES TO
CONVENTION, HELD IN
WASHINGTON, D.C., MAY 22, 1888**

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**NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION
Of The
UNITED STATES**

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

LIST OF DELEGATES TO CONVENTION

Held in Washington, D. C.

May 22, 1888

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS ADOPTED.

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CONTENTS.



Preliminary statement	5-7
List of delegates	7-15
Introductory statement by A. S. WORTHINGTON	16-20
Remarks of JAMES O. BROADHEAD	20-24
Committee on Permanent Organization	25
Constitution	26-31
By-Laws	31, 32
Invitation to Cleveland	33
Election of Officers	33, 34
Executive Committee	35
Committee on Uniformity of Laws	35
Committee on Bar Associations	36
Committee on Printing	36
Instructions to Committee on Uniformity of Laws	36, 37

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
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31
32
33
34
35
36
37
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39
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HISTORY OF THE MOVEMENT
WHICH RESULTED IN THE FORMATION OF THE
NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION
OF THE
UNITED STATES.

At the annual meeting of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, held on the 11th day of January, 1887, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Directors of the association are hereby requested to communicate with the local bar associations throughout the country, and also with the American Bar Association, with the view of forming a national legal body, to be composed of delegates from the various associations, and to meet in annual convention, such body to have for its object the advancement of the science of the law in this country."

On the 10th of May, 1887, the Board of Directors, in carrying out this resolution, sent a circular letter to such bar associations as it had knowledge of, and asked for the views of the members of such associations touching the expediency of the proposed convention, the practicability of securing it, and the means to be adopted for bringing it about.

The replies received to this communication were so uniformly favorable that on the 31st day of December, 1887, the board issued a second circular letter, in which

it announced that, in consequence of the general concurrence of the profession in the practicability and advisability of the proposed organization, it had been decided to hold such a convention as had been suggested in Washington on the 22d day of May, 1888. The associations to which this letter was sent were requested to appoint delegates to represent them in the convention.

From the time this second circular letter was sent out down almost to the day the convention assembled the board was in constant communication with the secretaries of the various associations in reference to the details of the proposed organization, the number of delegates which each association was expected to send, the prospects of a full attendance, and other matters connected with the movement.

This correspondence developed some interesting facts as to the absence in some localities of even a local organization of the profession. The secretary of the Maine State Bar Association, for instance, informed the board that that association had organized in 1883, but had not held a meeting since; and the board learned from lawyers in Kentucky that there is not a single bar association in that state.

From other places came letters saying that the association written to heartily approved the undertaking, but that, owing to the fact that all the local courts would be in session on the 22d of May, it would be impossible for it to be represented at the first meeting.

From every section the board was assured that, if the organization proposed should be formed and its meetings should be held at a season when the courts generally are not sitting, local associations would be formed where now there are none, inactive associations would take on new life, and the whole profession in the United States would come into the national association.

There is in existence no complete list of the bar associations in the United States. The board gathered from various sources the titles of such associations, and in many cases the names of their officers; but some associations never received the circulars intended for them, and to others none were sent because the board had not learned of their existence. Among those who did not receive in time the communications sent them was the Law Association of Philadelphia, whose secretary wrote on the 21st of May that that association on that day had for the first time learned of the call for the convention.

Many of the delegates actually appointed found it impossible to get away, the courts everywhere being in session and business pressing to be disposed of before the summer recess.

The following is a list of the delegates appointed or elected to attend the convention, the names of those who were present being designated by an asterisk (*):

ALABAMA.

State Bar Association.

DELEGATES.

F. G. BROMBERG.*	W. L. BRAGG.*
N. H. R. DAWSON.*	G. W. HEWITT.
MILTON HUMES.	H. A. HERBERT.*
JOHN B. KNOX.	E. A. O'NEAL.
JAMES L. PUGH.	JOSEPH WHEELER.*
L. A. SHAVER.*	J. S. WINTER.*

CALIFORNIA.

Oakland Bar Association.

DELEGATE.

ZACH. MONTGOMERY.*