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BULLETIN

OF THE

AMERICAN

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VOLUME I.

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BULLETIN

OF THE

American Ethnological Society.

ORIGIN AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY.

THE AMERICAN ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY is permanently established in the city of New York. It was founded in 1842, by Hon. ALBERT GALLATIN, for many years Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, who was elected its first President, and who continued to hold that office until his death, in 1849. He was the principal contributor to its Proceedings, and was the most active promoter of its objects.

These objects are: "The prosecution of inquiries into the origin, progress, and characteristics of the various races of men,"—especially into "the origin and history of the aboriginal American nations, and the phenomena connected therewith; the diversity of languages, the remains of ancient art, and traces of ancient civilization in Mexico, Central America, and Peru; the arts, sciences, and mythology of the American nations and the earthworks and other monuments of the Mississippi Valley."

The number of the members of the Society is not limited; and, for the furtherance of its objects, it desires to enroll, in its list of members and correspondents, men of kindred tastes and studies in all parts of the world.

It is also desirous of making regular exchanges of its Transactions, and other publications, for those of all similar institutions,—archæological, ethnological, geographical, statistical, etc. Works upon the subjects entertained by these institutions, as also general works of travels, reaching the Society from their authors or publishers, are always referred to competent committees, and the reports thereon, in whole or part, inserted in the Bulletin of the Society.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY.

ADOPTED DECEMBER 7, 1844.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called the American Ethnological Society.

ARTICLE II.

The objects of this Society shall comprise inquiries into the origin, progress, and characteristics of the various races of man,

ARTICLE III.

This Society shall consist of Members, Corresponding Members, and Honorary Members; the first to be persons residing in the United States, and the two last to include both residents and persons in foreign countries. All classes of members shall be elected by ballot, unless it be dispensed with by unanimous consent. In case of a ballot, two negatives shall exclude.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Librarian; who shall be annually elected by ballot, at the first meeting in each year.

The members residing in the city of New York, and its vicinity, shall constitute a Board of Managers, five of whom shall be a quorum, for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VI.

The times and places of meeting shall be determined by the Society, or its presiding officer.

ARTICLE VII.

There shall be an annual payment of three dollars by each member residing in the city of New York and its vicinity.

ARTICLE VIII.

This constitution shall be amended by a vote of three-fourths of the members present at any meeting; notice being given of such proposed amendments at the preceding meeting.

RULES.

RULE I.—A Standing Committee on Elections shall be chosen annually, to which all nominations for membership, whether resident, corresponding, or honorary, shall be given in writing, together with such information or explanations as may be deemed proper or necessary; and it shall be in the discretion of such committee to report the same to the Society, for its action.—Adopted, unanimously, at May meeting, 1860.

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