

**THE BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL
COMMISSION: ITS ORIGIN,
ORGANIZATION, AND
METHODS OF OPERATION**

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The Baptist Educational Commission: Its Origin, Organization, and Methods of Operation by S. S. Cutting

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S. S. CUTTING

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THE
BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION;
ITS
ORIGIN, ORGANIZATION,
AND
METHODS OF OPERATION.

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1888.

OFFICERS
OF THE
Baptist Educational Commission.

PRESIDENT:

HON. WILLIAM KELLY.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

MESSE. JOHN B. TREVOR AND JOHN M. BRUCE, JR.

TREASURER:

MR. W. A. GELLATLY.

SECRETARY:

REV. S. S. CUTTING

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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MR. JACOB F. WYCKOFF,
REV. HENRY C. FISH, D.D.,**

**REV. HOWARD OSGOOD,
MR. W. A. GELLATLY,
MR. S. T. HILLMAN,**

REV. WAYLAND HOYT



CONSTITUTION

OF THE

BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be called the BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION, and its object shall be the promotion, within the field of its operations, of Education and the Increase of the Ministry in the Baptist denomination

ARTICLE II.

The attitude of this Commission, in respect to all institutions of learning connected with the Baptist denomination, is declared to be friendly; and it is especially declared, in reference to the institutions at Hamilton and Rochester, that its attitude in respect to them is not one of negative impartiality as between them, but of positive friendliness to both.

ARTICLE III.

The members of this Commission shall consist of persons paying one hundred dollars per year to the funds thereof.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of this Commission shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an Executive Committee of seven, of which the Treasurer shall be one. These officers shall be chosen by ballot, unless the ballot shall be dispensed with by vote. Excepting the Secretary, who is chosen for five years from the first day of January, 1888, these officers shall be chosen at the annual meetings of the Commission, and shall hold their offices until their

successors are appointed. The Secretary shall not be a member of the Commission, nor a member of the Executive Committee, but he shall be entitled to take part, without voting, in all deliberations of both. The Executive Committee may fill vacancies occurring in their own number, or in the offices of the Commission. The Secretary being present, three members shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE V.

The duties of officers shall be the usual ones pertaining to their several positions. Particularly, it shall be the duty of the Executive Committee, in connection with the Secretary, to devise and give effect to the ways and means of promoting the object of the Commission, and the Secretary shall be their executive officer. They shall hold meetings at his call, or at the call of the Chairman thereof, and shall make annual report to the Commission, at a time and place of meeting determined by themselves. They may call special meetings of the Commission and may make arrangements for public meetings.

ARTICLE VI.

The Treasurer shall collect subscriptions for the Secretary's Fund, and shall pay out moneys, derived from whatever source, on drafts from the Secretary, which drafts shall certify the order of the Executive Committee. Any funds beyond those required for Secretary's salary, and other necessary expenses, shall be used strictly for promoting the object of this Commission.

ARTICLE VII.

This Constitution may be altered or amended, except as to its object, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a meeting called for that purpose. This Commission being provisional only, it may, at any such meeting, and by such vote, be merged in a permanent organization for similar ends, more popular in character, or more widely representing the Baptist denomination. Unless taking such form previously, this Commission will terminate its work December 31, 1872.

BAPTIST EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION.

ORIGIN OF THE ORGANIZATION.

THE Baptist Educational Commission had its origin at the meeting of the New York Baptist State Convention, held at Poughkeepsie, October, 1867.

It had been a conviction, deepening from year to year in the minds of those who had given to the subject special consideration, that while the Baptists of New York, and of other States as well, had been laboring with honorable success in the work of building up institutions of learning, the concentration of their interest in that direction had had the effect to give to the cause of education in their hands a partial and imperfect growth. It was the few who take part in such work that were interested, and not the many whose prayers and sons are necessary to the prosperity and usefulness of institutions. There was, it was believed, in the churches, no pervading and efficient interest in education, corresponding to the interest which had erected buildings, which had accumulated endowments, and had organized faculties of instruction: The Universities and Theological Seminaries had attained rank and efficiency—their doors were open for students in large numbers, but only limited numbers came. Of such as were candidates for the ministry, the numbers were declining. It had come to pass that in the two Theological Seminaries, at Hamilton and Rochester, there were, from the eight hundred churches of the State, no more