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→ Certificate of Membership. ←

THIS IS TO CERTIFY,

That *A. G. Louchman*

is a member of The Berkeley County Society for  
Detecting Horse Thieves.

In testimony thereof, witness the signature  
of the Secretary and Seal of the Society,  
APRIL 26<sup>th</sup> 1890

1st day of Aug 1890..

*D. A. Meyer*

SECRETARY.





CONSTITUTION

•: AND •:

BY-LAWS

•: OF THE •:

Berkeley County Society

•: FOR •:

**DETECTING × HORSE × THIEVES.**



Organized April 26th, 1884.



QUENZEL, ⚡  
THE PRINTER,  
MARTINSBURG, W. VA.  
1890.



# CONSTITUTION.

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## ARTICLE I.

**TITLE AND PURPOSE.**—This Society shall be called **THE BERKELEY COUNTY SOCIETY FOR DETECTING HORSE THIEVES.** Its purpose shall be “the recovery of stolen horses and mules, and the apprehension and prosecution of the thieves.”

## ARTICLE II.

**OFFICERS.**—The Officers of this Society shall be one President, six Vice-Presidents ; one from each township in the county, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, and a Treasurer. These officers are to be elected annually by ballot on the second Saturday in February at the regular meeting of the Society, to be held in the Court House in Martinsburg, at one o'clock P. M. Should no election be held on that day, those in office shall continue until an election is held. A majority of the vote present shall be necessary to elect a candidate.

## ARTICLE III.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—The officers of the Society shall constitute an Executive Committee, a majority of whom shall be a quorum, for the transaction of any and all such business as naturally falls to such a committee.

## ARTICLE IV.

MEMBERSHIP.—Any person wishing to become a member may be proposed to the Society, which proposition shall be accompanied by a fee of \$2.00, and a vote of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary to admit him; or, if during the recess, he may be admitted by the unanimous vote of the officers. He shall further sign the Constitution in his own hand writing, in a book kept for that purpose, and keep the Secretary informed of his proper postoffice address. Should a member desire to withdraw, he shall first pay all arrears, and notify the Society in writing; upon compliance of which his name shall be dropped from the roll. Should a member cease to own any stock he shall, upon application to the Society, be released from all its duties and obligations, and full membership may be at any time again resumed upon due notice being given and the payment of a fee of 50 cents. A member who shall have removed permanently without the territorial limits of this Society, shall be dropped from the roll.

## ARTICLE V.

DESCRIPTION.—Every member of this Society

shall be required to keep a particular written description of his horse, horses, or mules, and furnish a duplicate of the same, to be placed on file, for the use and information of the Secretary.

#### ARTICLE VI.

BRANDING.—It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to furnish a brand or brands. These brands shall consist of the letters B. C., well formed, not less than an inch and a half high for branding through the hair, and not less than three quarters of an inch high for branding on the hoof, and are to be kept under the control of the branding master in each township. The horse must be kept distinctly branded, either under the mane or on the hoof, as the owner may elect. If the owner desires to do so, he may add any other brand or brands he sees fit. No member is obliged to follow, nor will the Society be responsible for, any horse not branded; nor shall the brand of this Society be applied to any horse not belonging to one of its members. No member shall be allowed to retain a brand belonging to the Society in his possession over forty-eight hours, under the penalty of twenty-five cents for every twenty-four hours over that time, but any member may have a brand of his own.

#### ARTICLE VII.

STOLEN HORSES.—When a member's horse is stolen, it shall be his duty, as soon as the theft is discovered, to send the Secretary, or, in his absence, the Assistant Secretary, a particular

written description of him, or designate upon the files of the Secretary which animal is missing, and to state any suspicion he may have as to the thief, describing age, person and dress, and also any belief he may entertain as to the route taken by the thief.

### ARTICLE VIII.

DETECTIVES.—At each regular annual meeting *Twenty-Four Detectives* are to be appointed for the ensuing year, two on each of the following roads leading out of Martinsburg: Chambersburg, Moorfield, Bedford, Cumberland, Front Royal, Leesburg, Frederick and Gettysburg, and the remaining eight to be sent singly or in pairs, by railroad or on horse-back, to such points as the officers shall direct, or be held as a reserve corps. They are to be notified of their appointment by the Secretary, and all their arrangements are to be kept secret by the parties concerned. The riders appointed on each road should be neighbors, living at no great distance from each other.

When notified of a horse having been stolen, these Detectives are to repair at once to the Secretary's office, in Martinsburg, where they will be supplied with hand bills describing the horse and started on their routes with proper instructions. Those having the necessary information shall proceed direct. On information given to the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, President, or any one of the Vice-Presidents, it shall be their duty to have bills which have been



previously printed with blanks for a description of the horse, filled up and circulated, and also telegraph, at the expense of the Society, to the various chiefs of police or constables, located along railroad and telegraph lines, offering a reward of *One Hundred Dollars* for the arrest and conviction of the thief, or *Fifty Dollars* for the recovery of the horse. Each couple are to pursue their appointed route fifty miles. If they are not then recalled, and have heard nothing of the horse, they are to separate and approach each other so as to form a circle, and in this manner proceed toward Martinsburg. If deemed necessary the Executive Committee may be called together and an extra detail of Detectives made, to be sent in such directions, and scour the country in such manner as shall appear most judicious. Any member or members arresting and convicting the thief and recovering the horse, shall be entitled to the reward as well as any one outside of the Society.

The officers of the Society are to be excused from serving as Detectives, and to form a reserve corps, to receive information and issue instructions, and to go themselves or send others in the direction they may be advised the track of the thief has been found. The Detectives shall telegraph to the President, at the expense of the Society, any information they deem of sufficient importance. Each couple or member who shall receive such information as may lead to the detection of the thief, shall persevere until all hope of overtaking him shall cease, for which service,

after the first fifty miles, he or they shall receive from the Treasurer two dollars a day. If any difference shall arise between the Treasurer and a member as to compensation, it shall be decided by a vote of the Society at its next meeting. The Detectives shall post hand bills judiciously at hotels, stores and postoffices on their route, and the Secretary shall send a number by mail to postmasters, to be posted in conspicuous places.

#### ARTICLE IX.

**SUBSTITUTES.**—If any member shall refuse to go in pursuit, or send a substitute, when regularly notified, he shall pay a fine of five dollars to the Society.

#### ARTICLE X.

**PROTECTION.**—The Society will protect, out of its funds, any individual member or members who may incur damage in taking up a supposed thief, the member or members exercising ordinary discretion.

#### ARTICLE XI.

**ALLOWANCE FOR HORSES AND MULES.**—If a horse be stolen and not recovered in three months, the member losing him shall be allowed two-thirds the appraised value, the horse to be appraised by three neighbors, members of the Society, appointed by the President. Should a member's horse be lost while on a journey, the Society will pay to the owner one-half the appraised value, in case he is not recovered, to be appraised as above provided.

All the foregoing provisions shall apply equally to mules as well as horses, wherever the term horse is used. The same is true of all subsequent provisions. If the horse is subsequently recovered, the owner may secure him by refunding to the Treasurer the amount received, if he so desires. If not, the horse belongs to the Society, and must be sold for its benefit at either public or private sale.

#### ARTICLE XII.

LIMITS.—All members of this Society shall be entitled to full protection to the distance of thirty miles from Martinsburg.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

JOINT STOCK ANIMALS.—Any member or members of a firm or joint stock company becoming a member of this Association shall have the full protection of the Association for the firm or joint stock company he or they may represent, to the extent of six horses, or mules, in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association.

#### ARTICLE XIV.

FUNDS.—In order to provide a fund, to meet current expenses, each member shall contribute an annual due of 50c., provided, however, that this article shall only be operative and in force when the Treasurer's balance is under \$25.00 and until it shall have increased to \$75.00. The funds necessary to indemnify a member for the loss of stock, shall be raised by a levy, assessed



by the Executive Committee upon the members.

### ARTICLE XV.

**TREASURER.**—The Treasurer shall give bond with good and sufficient security, in such sum as shall be deemed sufficient by the Society. A committee shall be appointed at each regular annual meeting to audit the Treasurer's accounts. The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall constitute a permanent Committee on Accounts. The Treasurer, before paying any bill, must have an order from the Secretary, countersigned by the President. All funds are to be paid through the Secretary to the Treasurer.

### ARTICLE XVI.

**ATTENDANCE AND FINES.**—It shall be the duty of every member to attend all the meetings of the Society, due notice of which shall be mailed to each member, by the Secretary, not less than ten days prior to such meeting, and every member who shall neglect to attend shall pay a fine of 50 cents, if an officer, \$1.00, which shall not be exacted of those who are unable to attend because of actual sickness, death, or like unavoidable causes. Each member who shall have failed to attend, shall forward the amount of his fine, or if unavoidably absent, a written statement of facts to the Secretary within 30 days from the date of the meeting, when an executive session shall convene for the purpose of passing upon the validity of all excuses and to adjust the matter of fines, and all then remaining unpaid

shall, at the option of said committee, be collected by due process of law.

Members owning no stock shall be excused from all active duties and payment of fines, etc.

### ARTICLE XVII.

#### MEETINGS AND ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS.—

This Society shall meet once a year in private session, on the second Saturday in February, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, in the Court House in Martinsburg. The President shall call a special meeting by advertisement or letter, if deemed necessary, in one week after a horse may be stolen or recovered, and also when requested to do so by five members. No member shall be allowed to leave the meeting without permission from the President; and if any member should do so, he shall be considered absent, and subject to a fine of twenty-five cents. The fine for absence from special meetings during session shall be twenty-five cents.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Appointment of Doorkeepers.
2. Roll call.
3. Appointment of Committees on Treasurer's and Secretary's accounts.
4. Election of members and payment of fines.
5. Election of officers.
6. Reports of committees.
7. Unfinished and new business.
8. Appointment of Detectives by Executive Committee.

9. Roll of delinquents called and order taken on any who are in arrears.
10. Final roll call.
11. Adjournment.

#### ARTICLE XVIII.

ALTERATION.—This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, to be determined by a call of the *yeas* and *nays*.

## OFFICERS.



PRESIDENT :

H. T. CUSHWA.

VICE-PRESIDENTS :

W. T. NOLL.	JOHN M. SMALL.
R. P. BRYARLY.	JAMES B. SMALL.
H. L. COUCHMAN.	WILLIAM KILMER.

TREASURER :

G. P. RINER.

SECRETARY :

DR. S. N. MYERS.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY :

J. NEWTON THATCHER.

## ROLL OF MEMBERS.



BISHOP, J. W.	GETZENDANNER, D.
BEARD, JOHN W.	GASSMAN, J.
BENDER BROTHERS.	
BURKHART, R. C.	HAWK, GEO.
BRYARLY, R. P.	HARSH, B.
BEARD, WM. S.	HARSH, J. A.
BEARD, D. A.	HOLLIDA, J. W.
BEARD, GEO. W.	HENSEL, G. L.
BEARD, JAS. W.	HESSE, JACOB F.
BERRY, H. C.	
BROWN, J. R.	JANNEY, A.
CUSHWA, H. T.	KILMER, WM.
CUSHWA, O. H.	KILMER, WM. H.
CUSHWA, G. W.	KITCHEN, B. M.
CUSHWA, WM. A.	KITCHEN, JOS. G.
COUCHMAN, H. L.	KENSEL, J. J.
CHRISMAN, G. A.	
COUCHMAN, H. S.	LIGHT, J. H.
CATROW, J. T.	LIGHT, W. E.
CATROW, J. R.	LEIDIG, J. G.
	LINTON, J. M.
DAY, L. A. L.	LAMBERT, C. O.
	LEMON, J. H.
FITZ, HENRY.	LAMAR, C. M.

- LEMASTER, D. P.  
LEMON, ROET.  
LANDERS, W. F.  
  
MYERS, DR. S. N.  
MCShERRY, DR. J. W.  
MARTIN, A. L.  
MATTHÆI, CHAS.  
MASON, R. F.  
MATTHÆI, C. P.  
  
NOLL, W. T.  
NICKLAS, BRO. & Co.  
NOLL, R. S.  
  
PEARELL, J. A.  
PARKS, ALEX.  
  
QUENZEL, C. H.  
  
RINER, G. P.  
RINER, J. H.  
RAUCH, REV. JOHN W.  
RENTCH, J. N.  
ROPP, LUTHER.  
RUTLEDGE, WM.  
RICKARD, J. A.  
RANDOLPH, B. S.  
  
SCHEU, WILLIS.  
  
SMALL, D. H.  
SMALL, HUNTER.  
SMALL, JAS. B.  
SMALL, M. V.  
SMALL, JAS. H.  
SMALL, J. M.,  
SILER, G. D.  
STUCKEY, M.  
SNODGRASS, DR. J. B.  
SMITH, J. H.  
SEIBERT, H. J.  
SPEROW, C. R.  
SPEROW, G. O.  
SPEROW, G. H.  
SPEROW, J. P.  
SPEROW, P. S.  
  
THOMAS, A. J.  
THATCHER, R.  
THATCHER, JOSEPH.  
THATCHER, J. N.  
THATCHER, J. W.  
  
VANMETER, J. M.  
  
WILLIAMS, E. C., JR.  
WEVER, C. N.  
WALKER, H.  
WELLER, S. B.  
WILSON, J. B.

















