

THE QUIVERA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

A company of active explorers, in their active work, by chance collected at the office of J. T. Keagy in the town of Alma, Kansas, and determined, after due deliberation, to organize the Quivera Historical Society.

The gathering consisted of J. T. Keagy and E. A. Kilian, of Alma, Kansas, J. V. Brower of St. Paul, Minnesota, and E. E. Blackman of Lincoln, Nebraska.

The temporary organization was effected by a motion by E. E. Blackman, that J. T. Keagy be chosen temporary chairman. J. V. Brower moved that E. E. Blackman be chosen temporary secretary.

Thus the organization of Quivera Historical Society was perfected on this 29th day of October, 1901.

Moved that a committee of one be appointed to act with the chairman and draft articles of association for the Quivera Historical Society, to be presented at an adjourned meeting. Chairman appointed J. V. Brower.

The members of the Quivera Historical Society met pursuant to adjournment in the forenoon, at 7:30 o'clock p. m. in the office of John T. Keagy.

Hon. J. V. Brower reported the constitution accompanying these minutes, which was unanimously adopted. The life members, the honorary members and the officers proposed therein were also elected.

The meeting then adjourned to meet again at the call of the executive committee.

Articles of Association.

By these presents it is ordered and determined that an association of explorers, authors and ethnological students is hereby organized for the prosecution of investigations, and the perpetuation of results concerning the ancient and more recent occupancy by man of the great west and north-west along and adjacent to the waters of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers, more particularly the region of country from Arkansas across Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, and to Lake of the Woods and Manitoba, and thence to the crest of the Rocky Mountains, United States of America.

First—The name of this association shall be the Quivera Historical Society.

Second—John T. Keagy, Elmer E. Blackman, Jacob V. Brower, George W. Remsburg, Edward A. Kilian, A. E. Sheldon, and A. O. Hollingsworth are hereby declared to be life members of this society.

Robert Henderson, J. Sterling Morton, Warren Upham, George Bryce, Adolph F. Bandalier, John A. Udden, William J. Griffing, Frederick W. Hodge, F. B. Elliott, and George Park-

er Winship are nominated and confirmed as honorary members.

Third—The transactions of the Quivera Historical Society shall be directed by the life members thereof, of which a majority shall constitute a quorum for the determination of all questions and proceedings.

Fourth—The society shall have a president, vice-president, secretary, and an executive committee.

Fifth—Until otherwise provided and ordered the officers of this society shall be as follows: Jacob V. Brower, Pres.; Elmer E. Blackman, Vice-Pres.; Edward A. Kilian, Sec.; John T. Keagy, Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Sixth—The president, vice-president, secretary and John T. Keagy acting as chairman shall constitute the executive committee, and shall have power to direct all the business transactions of this Society.

Seventh—The Minnesota Historical Society is appointed as the final custodian of the records and collections of this Society. The Conservative, a journal published at Nebraska City, Nebraska, is hereby designated as the official organ of this Society.

Eighth—Additional members of this Society may be admitted by a unanimous ballot of the executive committee when in session, on call of the chairman, by and with the advice and consent of the president and secretary.

Ninth—The supreme object of this Society shall be studies and discoveries in the fields of geologic, ethnologic, archæologic, historic and geographic researches, and the determination of correct nomenclature, to be preserved and perpetuated in published collections and manuscripts. Each member contributing the results of discoveries and observations shall do so over his own signature; be held responsible for his own action; be duly accredited with and awarded all honor for new discoveries, and this Society pledges protection to each contributor against plagiarism and literary piracy.

Tenth—The erection of monuments to commemorate discoveries and to perpetuate actual historical facts and dates shall be one of the highest privileges of this Society.

Eleventh—In case of a vacancy in the office of president, vice-president, secretary, or chairman of the executive committee by death, resignation or otherwise, the executive committee shall have power to fill the vacancy by appointment, subject to the approval of the Society at the next meeting thereof.

Twelfth—All papers and articles for publication in the annals of this Society shall be submitted to the executive committee for approval and acceptance before the same is published.

For the perpetuation of actual historic and scientific facts we pledge our

honor and the sacred name of the Quivera Historical Society, organized and instituted this twenty-ninth day of October, A. D. 1901, at Alma, Kansas.

Signed—

J. V. BROWER, Pres.

E. E. BLACKMAN, Vice-Pres.

EDWARD A. KILIAN, Sec.

JOHN T. KEAGY, Chairman of
Ex. Com.

* * * * *

The foregoing is a true copy of the documents of organization for the Quivera Historical Society. This society is a necessity. The various State Historical Societies will investigate the evidences of occupancy in their own individual states thoroughly, and in that much we hope to cooperate with them. If the great question of "Quivera" is ever settled it must be taken up as we propose to take it up—irrespective of states. Local pride will push every button to bring this question home to their own state. By this we do not mean that any Historical Society (worthy of the name) will distort facts to gain glory for their own state, but every scrap of evidence bearing on the question, favorable to their own particular state, will be elaborated, while silence is maintained on all evidence detracting from state glory. This is as it should be, every state should do its own advertising, and every state should draw what glory or consolation it can from the very meagre historical data on the subject of "Quivera."

This society is formed without particular state pride. The active members stand, three from Kansas, three from Nebraska, and one from Minnesota. Kansas and Nebraska are more interested than any other states, but the subject will be handled without reference to states and, what is more important, without calling for state aid in matters financial. It will be supported wholly by the members and no contributions will be asked for. This will give entire freedom, each explorer may go as far in any research or study as he wishes.

Vexed questions arise in the research work of any state which could be easily settled by a study of conditions in another state. This whole plains country is one single field and must be studied as such if one would arrive at the truth. This society hopes to cooperate with all those working in this vast field; "in union there is strength," and we have organized for strength.

There is, however, a certain thirst for glory in any scientific work, and archæology is not free from its baneful influences. Certain would-be scientists are willing to take a fact already worked into shape and claim it as their own product. I do not know as it ever does them any good, as "truth crushed to earth will rise again," and it may rather work them harm, but the Qui-