

2 vols

Constitution By Laws &

MINUTES

of the

New York

11th

In^d Batte^y

LYCEUM



Camp Near Brandy Star
Hd. Qr. 11th N.Y. Battery
April 24th 1864.

Col. S. S. Doty.

Dear Sir,

I have the honor
of forwarding to you, (to be placed in the
Bureau of Military Statistics, State of N.Y.)
In the name of the members of the "Soldiers
Lycium, 11th N.Y. Inf. Battery,"
the Book containing our Minutes, By Laws,
And Constitution, Also, whatever, Oration,
Arguments, Poems, or Essays have been delivered
during the session, and the posters used at our election.
I trust it will meet your approbation. I know
it will repay perusal, and also show what
can be done in this way, even under the
(as some would say) "insurmountable difficulties"
attendant upon a Soldier's career. But, there
was a will, and we found a way.
It was sent by mail this day, please acknowledge
its receipt.

Yours Most Respectfully
Stephen P. Gorliss,

The Present Officers are, Pres. Vice Pres. Secy
Wallace, Robertson, S. P. Gorliss, C. W. Kelly
Troy. Albany. do.

Constitution & By-Laws of the Soldiers' Lyceum of the 11th N. Y. Battery.

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## Preamble.

Believing that a Debating Club, organized for the purpose of discussing subjects of general importance, is conducive to intellectual and moral improvement; and impressed with the fact that debate and a general interchange of sentiments will tend to improve the mind, and render our situation more sociable, and mutually profitable: we, the undersigned, do resolve ourselves into a Society, and agree to submit to the articles of the following Constitution and By-Laws:

## Constitution.

Art. 1. This society shall be called the "Soldiers' Lyceum of the 11th N. Y. Battery."

Art. 2. The officers shall consist of a President, Vice Pres't, Secretary & Treasurer; to be elected semi-monthly. The appointments of Critic, Committees, &c. for special duties, shall be made by the President. The officers shall be elected by ballot.

Art. 3. The regular meetings of the society shall be held once a week. Special



Meetings may be called at the discretion of the President; but never less than ten members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. 4.

At every regular meeting of the Society a question shall be discussed, and an essay read and oration delivered. The President shall have designated a week in advance, the orator and essayist. The two latter exercises may be omitted, <sup>however,</sup> by the Pres at his discretion.

Art. 5.

The disputants shall open and close the debate, not exceeding 15 minutes in each address; the colleagues shall be confined to 10 minutes. A longer time may be extended them by a vote of the Society.

Duties of President.

Art. 6.

The Pres shall preside at every meeting of the Society; decide points of order in proceedings; give his decision on the main question of debate; appoint all committees for special business duties, and perform all other duties usually required of a presiding officer. The Vice Pres, in the absence, or at the request of the Pres, shall assume the duties of the latter.

Duties of Secy & Treas.

Art. 7.

The Secretary and Treasurer shall be a joint office, held by the same indi-

vidual. He shall keep the minutes of the meetings, and read at each society meeting the minutes of the previous one. He shall also be the depository of the funds, and disburse them as the society may direct. He shall perform all the correspondence on the part of the society as a body, and make <sup>Treasurer's</sup> reports whenever the society may determine.

## By-Laws.

- No. 1. Members of the 11th N.Y. Battery can only be received as acting, paying members of this Lyceum. Other individuals may be elected Honorary Members, without incurring the above restrictions.
- No. 2. New members can be admitted at any regular meeting who were proposed a week in advance. At the time of admission, they must be elected by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote, sign the Constitution and By-Laws and pay an initiation fee of 25 cts.
- No. 3. The Pres. shall have discretion to fine or reprimand any member for a gross breach of order or duty. The fine shall not exceed 50 cts. nor be less than 10 cts.



No. 4. Any member who shall absent himself from 4 consecutive meetings of the Society, shall be expelled, and his name dropped from the roll; unless he can prove that his absence was strictly unavoidable.

No. 5. The Priest shall entertain no motion, resolution or remarks from a member who does not arise on the occasion and address the Chair.

No. 6. The Order of Business shall be as follows:

- 1st. Roll-Call & Reading of Minutes by the Secy.
- 2d. Oration and Essay (if any)
- 3d. Debate.
- 4th. Special Business.
- 5th. Miscellaneous Business.

No. 7. No addition nor amendment to the Constitution or By-Laws can be made without a week's previous notice, and a  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote in its favor at the time of passage.