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RULES

AND

REGULATIONS

OF THE

BEAVER CLUB.

Instituted in 1785.

MONTREAL:

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Beaver Club.

THE Beaver Club was Instituted at Montreal in the year 1785, by the Merchants then carrying on the Indian Trade of Canada. The number of which it originally consisted, was *Nineteen Members*, being all Voyageurs, having wintered in the Indian Country, and having been engaged in the Trade from their youth.

The object of this convivial meeting, was to bring together at stated periods during the Winter Season, a set of men highly respectable in Society, who had passed their best days in a Savage Country, and had encountered the difficulties and dangers incident to a pursuit peculiar to the Fur Trade of Canada.

At these meetings they could call to mind, and recount to each other the particulars of scenes in which they had been engaged, which, with whatever peril they had in reality been attended, now offered gratification in the recollection, to which, after the usual emblem of Peace (the Calumet) had gone round, and the officer appointed for that purpose had made a suitable harangue, a cheerful glass, and the animated Song of the Voyageur greatly contributed.

Another object of this Institution was, to afford a means of introduction into Society to such Traders as might from time to time, after a long absence, retire from the Indian Country. They were first invited as guests, and if eligible

from standing and character, became by Ballot, Members of the Club. The whole of the Original Members, (with only one exception,) and many of their Successors, have been removed by the course of nature, and their places filled up, by Gentlemen considered eligible by the Society, and admitted by Ballot.

The Beaver Club has, with little interruption, continued to meet regularly, from the period of its first establishment, under various rules and regulations, which from time to time, as occasions required, were framed for its government. But, as might naturally be expected, these regulations being inserted in the books, and in the possession of the Secretary of the Society for the time being only, they were sometimes forgotten by the Members; and hence some irregularities crept in, which, if unchecked, might in time endanger the existence of the Club. In order therefore to obviate such an inconvenience, it has been resolved at a full meeting, that each Member should be furnished with a Printed Copy of the Rules of the Society, which consist of the following—being selected from the different *Resolves*, passed at the Meetings of the Club from its first institution, to the present time.

RULES.

1st. The Club shall not consist of more than 55 Members, and 10 Honorary Members.

2d. No new Member shall be admitted but by the unanimous consent of Members present, to be taken by Ballot and proposed at the preceding meeting.

3d. Unless otherwise determined upon at the first meeting of the Club, which shall be invariably in the first week in December—it shall therefrom continue once a fortnight to the second week in April—besides the Summer Clubs for the Captains of the Fur Vessels; that are or may hereafter become Honorary Members.

4th. No Member to have a party at his house on Club days, nor accept invitations; but, if in Town, must attend; except prevented by indisposition.

5th. Every Member shall have the liberty to invite as many Guests as he thinks proper, by giving notice when the list is sent round.

6th. Members to wear their Medals on Club days, suspended with a Light Blue Ribbon. One Dollar to be forfeited each time of omission.

7th. The Club Toasts are—

- 1 The Mother of all Saints.
- 2 The King.
- 3 The Fur Trade in all its Branches.
- 4 Voyageurs, Wives and Children.
- 5 Absent Members.

8th. Every Member to drink as he pleases, after the Club Toasts have gone round; and retire at his pleasure.

9th. All Members residing in Town who being notified of the first meeting of the Club, and do not inform the Secretary of their inability to attend during the season, shall be considered of the party, and be subject to the rules of the Club.

10th. Any Member neglecting to insert the number of his Guests in the List when sent round, and in case of subsequent invitations, to inform the provider thereof before 3 o'Clock in the afternoon of the Club-day, shall forfeit and pay one dollar, for the omission of every Guest.

11th. Any Member neglecting to put down the names of his Guests before dinner, shall forfeit six bottles of Madeira Wine to the Club of the day.

12th. All unmarried Members having Servants, shall bring them to the Club.

13th. Wednesday's are fixed upon as the day's on which the Club is to meet.

14th. The President shall name his Vice, and the latter his Cork, who shall succeed in rotation to the Chair.

15th. The Vice-President shall, in the course of the week following each Club-day, deliver to the Secretary the account of the expences of the day, with the names of

the Members present, and the Guests, and by whom invited, under the penalty of six bottles Madeira Wine to the Club of the day, and to pay for any deficiencies arising from his neglect.

16th. A Breach of any of the above regulations, except when there are specific fines, to subject the Member offending to such fines as may be judged right by the Members of the Club Assembled; and the majority of them will decide in all matters touching the same, with full power to make such further regulations as may be Judged fit and suitable to the occasion; but the rule for receiving a Member cannot be altered.

17th. All fines in money are payable to the Secretary, and subject to the appropriation of the Club at its last meeting in every Season.

Roll of the Beaver Club.

1st Voyage
to the
Interior.

NAMES.

1751.	Charles Chaboilliz,	dead
1752.	Maurice Blondeau	do
1753.	Hyp. Desrivieres	do
do	Et. Campion	do
1760.	Gabriel Cotté	do
1761.	Alexr. Henry	
1762.	Is. Jos. Ainsi	dead
1765.	Ben. Frobisher	do
1766.	James M'Gill	do
do.	Geo. M'Beath	do
do.	Jas. Finlay	do
1768.	Jos. Frobisher	do
1770.	John M'Gill	do
1770.	Peter Pond	do
1770.	Mathew Lessey	do
1772.	David M'Crae	do
1772.	John M'Namara	do
1773.	Thos. Frobisher	do
1775.	Jn. Bt. Jobert	do

ORIGINAL MEMBERS.

1st Voyage to the Interior.	Year of Admission.	NAMES.	
1770.	1787.	J. B. Tabeau	dead
	//	Josiah Bleakley	
	1789.	Patrick Small	dead
	1790.	Nicolas Montour	dead
	//	Venance St. Germain	
	//	Leon St. Germain	dead
	//	Jos. Howard, sen.	dead
	1791.	John Gregory	dead
	//	And. Todd	dead
	//	Jacque Giasson	dead
	1792.	Simon M'Tavish	dead
	1793.	Myer Michael	dead
	//	James Grant	dead
	1795.	Isaac Todd	
	//	Wm. Gillivray	
	//	Sir Alex. M'Kenzie	
	1796.	Angus Shaw	
	//	Rod. M'Kenzie	
	1799.	Duncan M'Gillivray	dead
	//	Geo. Gillespie	
	1801.	Jacques Portier	
	1802.	Alex. Cuthbert	dead
	1803.	Alex. Fraser	
	//	Simeon Fraser	
	1807.	D. Mitchell	
	//	Thomas Thain	
	//	Lewis Crawford	dead
	//	D. Mitchell, jun.	dead
	//	Peter Grant	
	//	Alex. M'Dougall	

1st Voyage to the Interior.	Year of Admission.	NAMES.	
1793.	1807.	Pierre de Rocheblave	
	"	John Forsyth	
	"	John Richardson	
	"	John Finlay	
	"	Encas Cameron	
	"	Wm. McKay	
	1808.	John Johnstone	
	"	John McDonald	
	"	A. N. McLeod	
1783.	"	Alex. Mackenzie	
	1809.	John Wills	dead
	"	Charles Chaboillez	dead
	"	Alex. McKay	dead
	"	J. D. Campbell	
	1810.	John Sayer	dead
	1813.	James Hughes	
	"	Kenneth McKenzie	dead
	1814.	Archd. McLellan	
	"	Geo. Moffatt	
	"	W. McCrae	
	"	Henry McKenzie	
	1815.	Jasper Tough	
1799.	"	J. M. Lamothe	
	"	F. A. La Rocque	
	"	Thos. Murray	
	"	Robert Henry	
	"	J. W. Dease	
	"	Charles Grant	
	1816.	David Stuart	
	1817.	Wm. Henry	

1st Voyage to the Interior.	Year of Admission.	NAMES.
1799.	1817.	Jacob Franks
1807.	"	David David
1807.	1817.	John M'Laughlin
	"	Hugh M'Gillis
	"	John M'Donald
	"	Allen M'Donell
	"	James Grant
1799.	"	John Siveright
	"	J. C. M'Tavish
	1818.	Simon M'Gillivray
	"	Angus Bethune
1802	"	Jules Quesnel
	"	John M'Gillivray
	"	James Leith

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Date of
Admission.

NAMES.

1789. Captain Featonby, of the Eweretta
Captain Gibson, of the Integrity
1791. Monsieur le Comte Andriani
1792. Captain Edwards, of the Indian Trader
1793. Col. Daniel Robertson
1796. Major General Doyle
1800. Captain Edward Boyd, of the Montreal
Captain Patterson, of the Eweretta
1807. Major Clerk, 49th Regiment
1808. Lord Viscount Chabot
Captain Sarmon, of the Mary.