we do not seek to disorganize or in any way interfere with any existing Society or Institution of a Benevolent or other character; but believing that the interests of Colored Men in the State will be best subserved and advanced by a union of all our means in a given direction, we therefore invite the co-operation of such societies in the advancement of the objects of this Association.

CONSTITUTION.

Art. 1. The objects of this Association are to encourage sound morality, education, temperance, frugality, industry, and to promote everything that pertains to a well ordered and dignified life.

Art. 2. The members of this Convention shall constitute the members of this Association for the first year by signing the Constitution and paying into its Treasury fifty cents each.

Hereafter only such persons as shall be duly accredited representatives of the Auxiliary Associations herein provided for, shall constitute its members; provided that no Auxiliary Society shall be entitled to more than one representative for each five dollars contributed annually by each Society, with an additional member for each additional sum of three dollars thus contributed. And further provided, that the credentials of such Delegates be endorsed by the auxiliary societies of the State from which the delegates are sent.

Art. 3. The officers of this Association shall be a President, Vice President, Recording and Corresponding Secretaries, a Treasurer and an Executive Committee, consisting of the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and five other persons to be elected by the association at the same time with the other officers; five of whom shall constitute a quorum.

Art. 4. The President shall preside at all regular meetings of the Association, and of the Executive Committee;