

*American Authors,
Society of*

(CONFIDENTIAL.)

THE undersigned, believing that the interests of American Authors and Literature demand the organization of a Society of American Authors on the same general basis as the very successful English and French Societies, invite you to meet at the Berkley Lyceum, No. 23 West 44th St., New York, on May 18th, at 12 M., to organize a Society of "American Authors," of which all literary workers, both men and women, may become members, with annual dues not exceeding \$5, and having these general objects:

- 1st. To promote sociality and a professional spirit among authors.
- 2d. To settle disputes between authors and publishers, by arbitration, or by an appeal to the Courts.
- 3d. To advise authors as to the various methods of publishing, and see that their contracts are so drawn as to protect them in their legal rights.
- 4th. To co-operate with publishers in bringing about better business methods between author and publisher.
- 5th. To secure minor reforms, such as an extension of copyright, carriage of literary property through the

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mail at the same rate as other merchandise, and in general to advance the interest of American authors and literature.

If you cannot be present, will you not give us the moral support of your name ?

W. D. HOWELLS.

GEORGE W. CABLE.

THOMAS W. HIGGINSON.

JULIAN HAWTHORNE.

CHARLES D. WARNER.

JAMES ERANT WILSON.

MONCURE D. CONWAY.

CHARLES BURR TODD.

ing the members to the hospitality of the Eastern sisterhood in May next, at Salem, Mass.

The invitation was warmly accepted and all assistance to render Mrs. Woods' outing a success, was tendered by the Association.

A happy finish to the business of the afternoon was the reception tendered the members by Mrs. Ellen Hardin Walworth at her home, 28 W. 59th St., where assisted by Mrs. F. W. Dickins and Mrs. Schuyler Hamilton Jr., a most enjoyable evening was spent; an address by Gen'l Wilson, a poem by Rev. Dr. Flagg, recitations and music enabled the members while debtors to Mrs. Walworth to carry away with them only most pleasant memories.

EDWIN H. SHANNON,

Acting Secretary.

E. H. Shannon
Treasurer

by E. H. Shannon

The next regular meeting of the Association will be held at their rooms, 70 5th Ave., on Wednesday, Jan. 10th, at 4 P. M.

Association

OF

American Authors.

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The December meeting of the Association of American Authors was held at their rooms, 5th Ave., N. Y. City, on Wednesday, the 13th, General James Grant Wilson presiding.

The following were elected members of the Association:

Mrs. B. M. Croker, Lordello, Ireland.
Miss Sophie E. Eastman, So. Hadley, Mass.
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Bellamy, Mobile, Ala.
Charles Fr. Holder, San Francisco, Cal.
Thos. Fr. Crane, A. M., Ithaca, N. Y.
Chas. Mellen Tyler, D. D., Ithaca, N. Y.
Jas. Fraser Gluck, A. B., Buffalo, N. Y.
Craven Longworth Betts, N. Y. City.
Mrs. Mary Rice Miller, "
Mrs. W. Winslow Crannell, Albany, N. Y.
Dr. Henry R. Stiles, Hill View, N. Y.
Col. Theo. A. Dodge, Boston, Mass.
Dr. Jas. Schouler, "
Dr. Caleb D. Bradlee, "
Wm E. Curtis, Washington, D. C.
Mrs. J. S. T. Stranahan, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Miss Anne F. Springsteed, So. Woodstock, Ct.
Jas. R. Campbell, Hoboken, N. J.
Harry S. Edwards, Macon, Ga.
Mrs. Mollie M. Davis, N. Orleans, La.
Benj. S. Parker, New Castle, Ind.
Opie Read, Louisville, Ky.
Mrs. Margaret H. Bates, Indianapolis, Ind.
Samuel M. Peck, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

A communication from Mr. Todd announcing satisfactory arrangements with the receiver of the U. S. Book Co. et. al, in the case of Mrs. Kate Tannatt Woods was received.

On motion of Gen'l Wilson, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes was elected our first Honorary member.

The president spoke of the effort being made looking to a coalition of the "American Society of Authors" (of which Mr. Will Carleton is President) with this society, with the idea of increased usefulness and a larger and more vigorous association. As yet nothing definite had developed, but it was hoped we should hear from the efforts made possibly by next meeting. The suggestion was made that in event of such union the name of the association be changed to that of the "American Authors' Guild."

In view of this, the printing of the Certificates of Membership, which was contemplated, will be in abeyance for the present.

Doctor Titus Munson Coan was elected Treasurer of the association relieving Gen'l Wilson, who had held temporarily the Treasurership.

A stirring letter from Col. Richard Henry Savage was read in reference to a most uncalled for and unjust criticism upon one of his late novels. His just indignation was warranted by the criticism and the letter was placed on file to swell the volume of Authors' grievances.

Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox presented an invitation from Mrs. Kate Tannatt Woods, cordially welcom-