

MEMBERS OF CINCINNATI BURNS CLUB

To the Members of the Burns Club of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Cincinnati, January, 7th, 1861.

According to the authentic records now in possession of the Burns Club of Cincinnati, it was first instituted as a regularly organized Club, with Officers, By-Laws, Constitution, etc., in the month of December, 1839, and was re-organized, with the present By-Laws and Constitution on the 11th of January, 1852.

For eight or ten years previous to 1839 it was customary for the admirers of Burns, in and about Cincinnati, to meet informally, on the 25th day of January, to offer libations and other sacrifices to the memory of Scotland's greatest Bard; and when we know by oral confession that such gentlemen as Messrs. Buchanan, Walker, Sir, O'Shaughnessy, Thomson, Adams, Shelwell, McAlpine, McCandless, Wellstood, and many similar genial spirits met together on these nights, we can not but regret that no written record was kept of the fun and sentiment, the melody and poetry, elicited on such occasions under the inspiration of the name of Robert Burns.

Having no evidence that these happy meetings were held under a positive organization as a Club, though doubtless with all the feelings of our poet--- "Man to man, the world ow'r, shall brithers be" ---we cannot claim a more ancient birth as a Club than the year 1839. Since that time the meetings have been regular and happy, and the first published notice of the anniversary meeting is in the Daily Gazette of January, 1843, when Captain Robert Sir presided, with all his usual tact and overflowing love of human kind.

The names entered in the books of the Burns Club of Cincinnati now number 460, all having been active and contributing members. Of these, alas! nearly one hundred are dead, and their memories are fresh with us. Peace be with them!

The Club is now in a vigorous and prosperous condition. We invite new members to join us, and beseech our old members to reunite with us at the next Anniversary, for "the days of auld lang syne."

SIGNED BY

JOHN JEFFREY, President.
JOS. TORRENCE, 1st Vice President.
J. B. WARREN, 2d Vice President.
PETER CLARKE, Treasurer.
THEO. CHAMBERLIN, Secretary,

} Officers elected in 1860.