

Centre College Laws (1822)

From the February 15, 1822, minutes of the Centre College Board of Trustees

RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BOARD

Chapter I

There shall be two regular meetings of the Board in each year semiannually on the 3rd Monday in January and July, the latter being Commencement. The Board shall likewise be convened whenever the Chairman or any three members of it shall direct in writing. When such extraordinary meeting is ordered due notice thereof shall be given in the Olive Branch published in Danville and by the Clerk personally to such members as may be convenient.

The Rules and Regulations of the House of Representatives of Kentucky so far as the same are applicable shall govern the Board in its deliberation proceedings.

The Trustees are to attend at Commencement and if practicable on days of public examination and exercises.

Chapter II

At each January meeting of the Board the following committees shall be appointed. A committee of three to inspect the buildings and other property of the College and to cause all necessary repairs to be made. A committee of three to superintend the Collection of debts and to examine the accounts of the Treasurer and to report at each Stated meeting of the Board and a Committee of three to inspect the library and philosophical apparatus and to examine the accounts of the Librarian and to report at each Stated meeting of the Board.

Chapter III

The Chairman of the Board shall be authorised to draw in favour of the Treasurer from time to time for all dividends arising upon stock belonging to the College his order being attested by the Clerk.

It shall be the duty of each member of the Board to visit the College as often as his convenience will permit.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE COLLEGE

Chapter I

All damages done to glass or any part of the College edifice or furniture shall be repaired by the student or students by whom the damage was done within ten days, if not shall be subject to a fine to be assessed by the faculty not exceeding ten dollars besides the amount of the injury, which if not paid by the student or his parent or guardian within one month after notice such student or students be by the faculty suspended.

Chapter II

It is particularly enjoined upon the students to attend divine worship. Same when on the Sabbath.

Chapter III

Every student shall deport himself towards the President, professors and instructors and each of them with all possible respect. He shall observe the strictest decorum while in the class, neither doing nor countenancing anything which may tend to incommode his instructor or divert the attention of his fellow students.

No student shall possess or exhibit any indecent picture, nor purchase nor read any lascivious or indecent books and if any student shall be convicted thereof or of swearing profanely, playing at any unlawful game or other gross immorality, he shall be punished according to the nature of his offense.

No student shall quarrel with, insult, or abuse a fellow student, nor any other person whatever. No student shall go to a tavern nor any other public house for the purpose of entertainment or amusement without permission from an instructor, -nor shall he associate nor keep company with persons of bad character.

No hallooing, loud talking, whistling, jumping or other disturbing noise or act shall be permitted in the buildings of the College, nor disorderly conduct in the town by a student, nor shall any student disturb or attempt any imposition on his fellow student in any manner whatsoever.

If any student offending against the laws should presume to leave the College without a certificate from the faculty of his conduct or standing whilst there, it shall be at the discretion of the faculty to make the name of such offender public with the nature of the offense.

No student shall engage or assist in any theatrical performance unless permitted by the faculty.

The students shall treat all persons with whom they have intercourse with decency and respect and shall on all occasions observe the commands of the officers.

Chapter IV

The punishments of the College are as follows:

Private admonition [~~"public admonition" was removed in the April 29, 1822, minutes~~] or reprehension, admonition before the professors and instructors, admonition before the class of the offender or in the presence of a select number of persons, public reprehension and admonition in the presence of all the students, degradation in the class or to a lower class, suspension from the privileges of the institution, dismissal from the College without expulsion, and lastly, public expulsion. Except the first and third, which may be applied by any instructor, the application of the other punishments according to the degree of the offense shall be made by the faculty. The professors and tutors are authorised to make use of the rod as a punishment on all offenders under the age of 12 years [~~changed to 15 in April 29, 1822, minutes~~].

Every professor shall cause an exact roll to be kept of each class attending upon his instruction. The roll shall be punctually called over at the hour of attendance and all absentees marked. An abstract of this roll insofar as it relates to each student shall be transmitted semiannually to his parent or guardian.

Chapter V

Complaint of misdemeanor in a student must be made in the first instance to the President or one of the professors, who unless the offense be so flagrant as in his judgement to require the interference of the faculty shall privately admonish the offender, and upon failure of success may at his discretion bring the offender before the faculty.

The punishment of public admonition, degradation, suspension, dismissal and expulsion shall be inflicted only in virtue of an act of the faculty with the advice and concurrence of five Trustees.

A student whom it may be necessary to bring before the faculty shall have due notice of the time and place of its meeting and shall be allowed to defend himself.

When a charge of misconduct shall be preferred against a student, the faculty shall have power to require the attendance of any student to testify against the delinquent and it shall be the duty of such witness to disclose his knowledge of the facts touching said charge. On pain of being guilty of contumacy, provided that no student shall be compelled to give testimony which may condemn himself.

All public punishments shall be according to the written form which shall be read aloud by the President or one of the professors and shall be entered on the records of the faculty.

Chapter VI

There shall be annually a public examination in the presence of the faculty , a Committee of the Trustees and such other persons as may choose to attend, beginning on the first Wednesday before Commencement in the studies of the preceding year. Every member of a class shall attend punctually and orderly and answer such questions as the President or any instructor or any member of the Committee of Trustees may propose.

The Examinations are to be close and rigid, every student being left to stand or fall upon his proper merits, due tenderness being at the same time shown, that the effects of perturbation may be avoided as much as possible.

At the close of every examination the students shall be ranked according to their respective merits.

Honorary testimonials of the first, second and third grades decorated with the seal of the College and with suitable devices shall be adjudged at the annual examination to such students as may distinguish themselves.

No student who shall obtain an Honorary testimonial of the first grade twice in succession shall be a competitor for a premium thereafter unless he shall appear to have grown negligent in which case he shall lose the premium implied by exclusion and be again put on the list of competitors.

The names of all students who shall obtain Honorary testimonials or possess the honor of exclusion from competition shall be announced by the President at the public commencement and he shall also confer these testimonials in the presence of the assembly.

Two weeks shall be allowed for revision previous to the annual examination.

Chapter VII

Previous payment of all College dues and the return of all books taken by a candidate from the library are also required before any Honorary distinction is conferred.

There shall be one vacation from commencement for six weeks. The stated exercises after those in the morning will not be required on the days of public exhibition nor on Christmas day nor on the 4th day of July.

No student shall be absent a day without leave granted for some good reason by the instructors whose exercises he is required to attend, nor shall he prolong the absence beyond the time granted. If his absence exceeds three months his relation to the College will cease without some cause be assigned satisfactory to the faculty.

Chapter VIII

LIBRARY

A Librarian shall be appointed by the faculty from among the instructors or students every year. He shall arrange and number the Books belonging to the Library, make a catalogue thereof, and have repairs when necessary made.

No person except a professor, officer or Trustee shall be admitted to the Library or to handle or to use the books.

Those students who shall pay to the Treasurer half yearly one dollar and a half shall be entitled to the use of the books, except such as the faculty shall direct not to be taken out of the Library.

The Librarian is responsible for the contributions of students to whom he shall give the use of the books. He is to attend at the Library at 12 o'clock on every Friday except during vacation to deliver and receive books, of which he shall keep an account as well as of the condition in which the books are when taken out and returned.

No student shall keep a book longer than as follows: To wit, a folio two months, a quarto one month and any other book two weeks. No person shall lend out a book appertaining to the Library. Every person receiving books shall be responsible for their safe return and for all injuries done to them whilst in his possession. If any volume shall be lost, defaced or otherwise injured, a sum shall be paid equivalent to the damage incurred or

the work of which the volume makes a part shall be replaced at the option of the Librarian, subject to the right of appeal on the part of the student to the faculty.

On the first day of January and the first day of July annually the Librarian shall render to the Treasurer an account of all students who shall have had the use of the Library during the preceding six months and shall also pay over to him any money -- that he may have received on account of the Library during the same period.

TUITION

The following rules to commence and be in force from and after the 15th day of April 1822.

That the price of Tuition be as follows: To wit, for instruction in the Languages at the rate of Forty Dollars per year and for instruction in the sciences at the rate of Fifty Dollars per year, all the students engaged in the study of any science to be deemed a student of the sciences.

No student shall be received for a less time than six months or the residue of the year remaining at the time of admission.

The Tuition fees shall be paid quarterly in advance or secured by a note payable to the Board to be approved by the Clerk.

If the Tuition fees of any student shall at any time be in arrears for the term of three months, such student shall be by the faculty suspended until all arrearages be paid.

If any youth of good morals and promising talents be desirous of admission to the College and shall be unable to pay the Tuition fees, the faculty by the advice of seven members of the Board may give him instruction gratis, provided that the number of students so admitted shall never exceed six without consent of the Board.

OF THE FACULTY, THE PRESIDENT, AND OTHER PROFESSORS

[This section is from the April 29, 1822, minutes]

Chapter I

The faculty consists of the President, Professors and other instructors of the College for the time being. The Faculty is charged with the immediate government and direction of the College. It is to attend to the enforcement of the laws and regulations which shall be prescribed from time to time by the Trustees. The President is to preside at meetings of the faculty which is to decide by the greater number of votes that of the President always being one to give validity to the decision of the majority.

The Faculty is to designate the books to be read and the course of study to be pursued by the classes during the period of their study.

It shall be the duty of the President to take charge of the College generally to superintend the buildings grounds and moveable property belonging to it, to report to the Committee of repairs such damages as may need repair and to report to the

Trustees as occasion shall require concerning the state of the College and concerning such measures as may conduce to its further prosperity.

He shall have power to visit the classes and any of the departments of the College. He shall also have power to give such directions and perform such acts generally not inconsistent with the Laws of the College nor the Ordinances of the Trustees nor the regulations of the faculty as shall in his judgment promote the interest of the Institution.

He shall preside at Commencement and on occasions of exhibitions and examinations. He is charged with instruction in Logic Rhetoric and Moral Philosophy.

The President shall furnish to the Clerk of the Board, two months previous to each annual Commencement a report of the names of the students who have attended the College during the session and the length of time of their continuance.

The Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy is charged with instruction in that branch and with the care of such of the Philosophical apparatus as shall be assigned to his department by the President.

The Professor of Languages is charged with instruction in the Greek and Latin languages and with Grecian and Roman antiquities. He is under the direction of the President also charged with the Grammar School and is to be assisted with such Tutors as the Trustees may for this purpose appoint.

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