INGERSOLL, THE ORATOR

His Famous "Plumed Knight" Speech at Cincinnati.

(Colonel Alexander K. McClure in Chicago Inter-Ocean.)

No other name was so widely and so earnestly discussed in the homes of the land during the last half century as that of Robert G. Ingersoll. At the time of his death he was the most eminent opponent of revelation in this or any other country, and his importance was greatly magnified by the tendency of pulpit disputants to engage in public controversy with those who questioned revealed religion. He was one of the ablest and most successful popular disputants the nation ever produced, and he was as incisive and logical as he was eloquent. He was an able lawyer, and, with his masterly power of analysis and his complete historical knowledge, he always had the usually untrained clerical disputants at a disadvantage, and I believe that, with the added importance given to him by this unwise clerical controversy, he did more to unsettle belief in revelation than all the other teachers of unbelief during the last century.

Strange as it may seem, Ingersoll was the son of a Congregational clergyman, and he was born in Dresden, N. Y., on the 11th of August, 1833. His father was a minister of unusually broad views for that day, which at times caused some dissension in his parish, but never reached the point of causing a severance between pastor and flock. The family moved to Illinois when Robert was 10 years of age. He acquired a fair education, studied law, and when admitted to the bar located in Shawneetown, Ills., to practice with his brother Eben. Both took an active part in politics, and finally, in 1857, they moved to Peoria, where they soon rose to distinction as members of the bar, and Robert was prominent as a Democratic leader, while Eben was equally prominent as a Republican leader.

In 1860 Robert was the Democratic candidate for congress, but was defeated, and four years later his brother Eben was elected to congress in the same district, to fill the vacancy created by the death of Owen Lovejoy, and was thrice re-elected, serving from 1864 to 1871. When civil war came Robert entered the Union service as colonel of the Eleventh Illinois cavalry, and his war experience speedily transformed him into an aggressive Republican. In 1866 he became the Republican attorney general of the state, but until 1876 it could not be said of him that he had attained a national reputation. He was well known within his state, but had seldom, if ever, been heard in the east. He had on several occasions delivered public addresses, in which, in a very cautious manner, he questioned the acceptance of revelation, but he was not generally known as a champion of unbelief.

I attended the Cincinnati convention in 1876, and was surprised to learn that the important task of presenting Blaine as a candidate to the convention had been assigned to Robert G. Ingersoll. I could not recall that I had ever heard his name mentioned, although I had known his brother Eben as an able and efficient Republican congressman. Indeed, there was general surprise among Blaine's friends, especially in the east, that a man unknown to fame had been selected by Blaine himself to make the presentation speech.

A large majority of the delegates and spectators at the convention had never seen or heard of Ingersoll, and his appearance was looked for with unusual interest, as it was generally assumed that Blaine well understood who could best advocate his claims to the presidency before an eminently able representative body. The convention was sincerely in sympathy with Blaine and a majority of the delegates really desired his nomination. In fact, a majority of the delegates voted for Blaine at one time or another, but never on the same ballot.

The Pennsylvania delegation was held in leading strings by Cameron, then secretary of war, who was chairman of the delegation, and who had carried instructions for Hartranft for president, solely for the purpose of taking the large Pennsylvania vote from Blaine, and other delegates friendly to Blaine were hindered from coming to him in time to effect his nomination. It was a Blaine convention, however, and a body of delegates devoted to so magnetic a leader as Blaine could not but be most enthusiastic in his cause.

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When President McPherson announced that the name of James G. Blaine would now be presented to the convention by Robert G. Ingersoll there was instant silence throughout the large assembly as Ingersoll came forward with elastic step and beaming face to plead the cause of the man whom he then and there made known to the country and the world as the "Plumed Knight" of Republicanism.

Ingersoll was perfectly self-possessed, and his round, smoothly shaven face, flashing eye, and benignant expression at once gave promise of an unusually forceful address. He had not spoken five minutes until he had the convention wrought up to the wildest enthusiasm, and he was halted time and again in his impressive sentences by the cheers which arose and echoed through the large auditorium; and when he closed there was not a friend or foe of Blaine in the convention who did not feel that Blaine must win an easy triumph.

I have heard nearly all the great speeches made in national conventions during the last half century, and recall but five which made imperishable impressions, and the greatest of these was that of Ingersoll nominating Blaine. I never before or since heard a public speech that approached it in the grandeur of eloquence and in the magnitude of forcefulness, and I believe that it is now accepted as the greatest political address delivered in the history of American politics. I well remember the criticism I made upon it at the time, saying that I now understood how the immortal speech of Patrick Henry declaring "Give me liberty or give me death," might have been as impressive as it has been represented. I heard Conkling, who was a man of greater intellectual force than Ingersoll, deliver the most memorable speech of his life, presenting the name of Grant to the national convention in 1880, but grand and eloquent and impressive as was the deliverance of Conkling, it did not approach the impressiveness of Ingersoll's presentation of Blaine.

Dougherty delivered the most elegant and inspiring oration of his life presenting the name of Hancock to the Democratic national convention in Cincinnati in 1880, but it was a beautiful poem compared with the trip-hammer persuasiveness of Ingersoll. Cockran won national fame in the Democratic convention of 1892, when, backed by the solid delegation of his state against Cleveland, he delivered a protest against Cleveland's nomination that greatly staggered the Cleveland forces and would have defeated Cleveland's nomination had a second ballot been reached, but while Cockran had the element of oratorical power approaching that of Ingersoll, he lacked the exquisite elegance and sympathetic touch which his hearers exhibited by Ingersoll.

Bryan won his nomination for the presidency in the national Democratic convention of 1896 by one of the most skillful and impassioned speeches ever delivered on such an occasion. He knew that his audience was made up of discordant elements, without harmonious leadership, and all uncertain as to the final action of the body, and just at the right time he effaced the doubts and differences of the delegates by a well chosen exhibition of matchless rhetoric and nominated himself; but such a speech would have fallen on listless ears at Cincinnati in 1876.

The impression made on the convention by Ingersoll's speech presenting the name of Blaine for the presidency was not of the fitful type that is made by a beautiful oration, but it left impressions which were never effaced during the entire sessions of the body. Speeches presenting other candidates were forgotten. While all were creditable, they were dwarfed into insignificance by the great deliverance of Ingersoll. Had a ballot been taken at any time during that day, Blaine would undoubtedly have been nominated for president, and I never witnessed a more earnest struggle on the part of the friends of a candidate to force a ballot, or more desperate efforts made by the opposition to postpone a ballot until the next day. The friends of Blaine fought resolutely to continue the session, and meant to extend it even into the night if necessary, but the desperation of the opposition made them prepare for such an emergency, and when the shadows of darkness began to fall upon the body it was found that the gas had been cut off from the building, and that no lights could be obtained.

An adjournment was thus forced, and never have I witnessed in a national political body such desperate and successful efforts of the minority to prevent the delegates from expressing their honest preferences for president. The Blaine forces were under divided control, and it was not until the third day that the friends of Blaine were able to force the convention to a ballot, during which time a number of the commercial votes from the south were lined up against him, and on the fifth ballot the stampede to Hayes began that carried him to a majority on the seventh, receiving 384 votes to 351 for Blaine.

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No man ever sprang into national—indeed, international—fame so suddenly as did Robert G. Ingersoll. The convention had full representation, and a large attendance of spectators from every state and territory of the Union, and they all carried back to their homes the story of the wonderful orator who had pleaded the cause of the "Plumed Knight." It was discussed in every newspaper, and thus made known to every community throughout the entire country, and then none outside of his state, and probably but few in it, had ever heard of his peculiar religious views. I remember the surprise with which I read the first publication made on the subject in an Illinois newspaper, declaring that the great speech made by the newly crowned Republican leader at Cincinnati had come from an infidel, but it was generally received as a campaign scandal, and little attention was paid to it. Ingersoll was in great demand in the campaign, and he delivered several great speeches, but he confined himself nearly or entirely to the middle states.

Soon after the presidential election Ingersoll was invited to deliver one of the Star course series of lectures, then in very successful operation in Philadelphia, under the management of Mr. Pugh, and was paid a very liberal compensation. It was Mr. Pugh's custom to have some citizen of Philadelphia preside at each of these lectures and introduce the speaker, and he requested me to preside at Ingersoll's lecture. I then, for the first time, became somewhat intimately acquainted with Ingersoll, and was greatly fascinated by his genial, sympathetic nature, and his brightness and versatility as a conversationalist. He had not then developed in open hostility to revelation, and he was not regarded as aggressively heterodox in his views.

His address was one of the most interesting and plausible lectures to which I have ever listened, and I never heard a more subtle and searching assault upon the accepted doctrine of revelation than he gave without a single specially offensive expression. He had a thoroughly orthodox audience that crowded the vast auditorium of the Academy of Music from parquet to dome, but while most of them regretted the trend of his address, they could not point out specially offensive utterances.

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Ingersoll at once became very popular as a lecturer, and delivered the same address in the leading cities of the east, and also in the west, and it was not until he was forced into public dispute by some more zealous than wise pulpit orators that he developed into an aggressive blasphemer of revealed religion. He was bitterly assailed by religious enthusiasts, often with more invective than logic, and it was the utterances of these pulpit disputants that gave Ingersoll the keynote of his most effective arguments against revelation.

He was not an atheist; he never denied or acknowledged the existence of a God, but he swept away all revelation as the merest fiction, and, while his class of hearers had changed, he could always command the largest audiences of any platform lecturer. I heard him several years after he had delivered his first address in Philadelphia, and was startled at his blatant blasphemy of everything pertaining to revealed religion.

The late Chief Justice Black, a devoted religionist of the Campbellite faith and certainly one of the ablest disputants of his day, finally delivered a broadside against Ingersoll and his teaching in the North American Review. But, dispassionately judging the controversy from the standpoint of merit, he was outclassed by Ingersoll. I watched and studied Ingersoll's many disputes with great interest, and I believe that his influence for propagating unbelief was vastly magnified by the public controversy forced upon him. He was greatly aided in his advocacy of unbelief by the personal respect he commanded from all who knew him as he was, and by his conspicuously pure, sympathetic and philanthropic life that stood before the world without a blemish.

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After Hayes became president in 1877, Ingersoll located in Washington, where I met him frequently and learned to know him well. Aside from his offensive and ostentatious denial of revelation, he was one of the purest and loveliest characters I have ever known. He was a thorough agnostic, holding that men should believe only that which they could understand. He did not deny that there must be some great first cause, but he assumed that he was refused all information relating to it, and, therefore, he simply bowed to the inevitable, and held that if immortality was the destiny of man, his fitness for the new life must be attained by a blameless life here. He accepted the doctrine of evolution as accountable for human and animal life, but he did not explain the existence of the heavenly bodies in their spheres, because he did not know. He did not wholly reject the theory of immortality. On the contrary, one of the most beautiful addresses he ever delivered was at the grave of his brother Eben, in which he referred to the possibility of immortal life. It is evident that his brother shared his convictions, as the only ceremony on his funeral occasion was the exquisite eulogy delivered by Robert.

In my many meetings with Ingersoll, on only one occasion did he introduce the subject of religion, and then he did it in rather a jocular manner. He said: "Of course, you have too much sense to believe the story of Eden and of the flood and the immaculate conception, and the resurrection, etc.; why don't you discuss these questions?" I answered: "Assuming, for the sake of argument, that the Bible is a fable, the Christian religion is the grandest the world has ever known; it is the protection of the sanctity of the home, of law and order in the community, and of the supremacy of government, and it has elevated men and women more than all other agents combined toward the high standard of manhood and womanhood and humanity for which you are earnestly pleading; let it be effaced, and tell me what you have to offer that would be equal to, or better than, *Christianity?*"

The only answer that Ingersoll could make was that the laws of humanity, when once made supreme by the teaching of men and women, would give us a faultless life with human sorrows reduced to a minimum. The subject was speedily changed, and I never again heard him discuss the question. After hearing his second lecture, in which he first aggressively blasphemed religion, I never again was among his auditors.

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No man ever lived a more blameless life personally than did Robert G. Ingersoll, in both public and private, and he had many devoted friends at the bar and among personal acquaintances who did not sympathize with his views as to revelation. His home was the sacred altar of his life, and his household gods worshiped him. He never offensively corrected a child, or denied it any pleasures it sought beyond advising it with a tender affection that usually commanded obedience. His children were as free to take his money and spend it as he was himself, and when they made mistakes he would gladly teach them the error, and thus always enjoyed their implicit confidence.

The result was that his children grew up to mature years as part of himself, believing that his religion was the best the world could know, because it brought no shadows to their home. He would leave the most important professional duties at any time to take up the cause of the helpless, and many hundreds of whom the world has no knowledge shed scalding tears over his death. He was thoroughly sincere in all things, incapable of deceit, and disarmed his bitterest foes by his gentleness of speech and generous philanthropy.

I saw Ingersoll on several dinner occasions at the Clover club, where he met some of the most brilliant men of the land from different sections of the country, and when he would enter the club he was usually greeted with the song, "In the Sweet Bye and Bye," but he welcomed the song with the most genial smile, and when opportunity came always acquitted himself delightfully, without offense to any. I never saw him ruffled in temper, and at times, when under special provocation on social occasions, his exhaustless fund of wit was always ready to enable him to meet the assault without obtruding his peculiar views upon the guests. He died as he expected, and hoped to die, in active harness, and while his teachings were severely and justly criticised by the religious men of the country, even those who had been his severest critics in life were compelled to pay the highest tribute to the intellectual power, to the purity of character, and to the generous humanity of Robert G. Ingersoll.

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An engineer on one of the roads entering here, in speaking last night of fast runs said: "Although my machine is not slow, once let a cold get six hours the start of me and my machinery is no match for it. I have for years kept a bottle of Kemp's Balsam constantly in my cab, and when a cough or cold gets a start of this standard remedy it is indeed a "cold day." Price, 25c and 50c. For sale by Godbe-Pitts Drug company.

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Z. C. M. I.

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$13.50 Suits for	$9.00	$30.00 Suits for	$20.00
$15.00 Suits for	$10.00	$35.00 Suits for	$23.35
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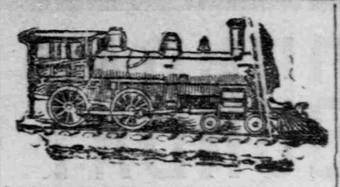

THE DENVER & RIO GRANDE AND THE RIO GRANDE WESTERN

Current Time Table.
In Effect April 3, 1902.

LEAVE SALT LAKE CITY.

No. 6—For Grand Junction, Denver and points east ..... 8:30 a.m.
No. 2—For Provo, Grand Junction and all points east ..... 3:15 p.m.
No. 4—For Provo, Grand Junction and all points east..... 8:30 p.m.
No. 10—For Bingham, Lehi, Provo, Heber, Mt. Pleasant, Manti, Marysvale and intermediate points .. .. 8:00 a.m.
No. 8—For Eureka, Payson, Heber, Provo and intermediate points ..... 5:00 p.m.
No. 11—For Ogden and all intermediate points ..... 6:10 p.m.
No. 5—For Ogden and the west.. 9:50 a.m.
No. 3—For Ogden and the west..11:00 p.m.
No. 1—For Ogden and the west..12:45 p.m.
No. 42—For Park City ..... 8:15 a.m.

ARRIVE SALT LAKE CITY.

No. 12—From Ogden and all intermediate points ..... 9:10 a.m.
No. 5—From Provo, Grand Junction and the east ..... 9:35 a.m.
No. 1—From Provo, Grand Junction and the east .....12:35 p.m.
No. 3—From Provo, Grand Junction and the east .....10:50 p.m.
No. 9—From Provo, Bingham, Eureka, Marysvale, Manti and intermediate points ..... 6:00 p.m.
No. 6—From Ogden and the west 8:20 a.m.
No. 2—From Ogden and the west 3:05 p.m.
No. 4—From Ogden and the west 8:10 p.m.
No. 7—From Eureka, Payson, Heber, Provo and intermediate points ....10:00 a.m.
No. 41—From Park City:..... 5:15 p.m.

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Time Table In Effect April 1, 1902

ARRIVE.

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From Ogden and intermediate points ..... 9:10 a.m.
From Callentes, Milford, Nephi, Provo and intermediate points.. 9:35 a.m.
From Ogden, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Omaha, Denver and San Francisco ..... 3:05 p.m.
From Garfield Beach, Tooele and Terminus ..... 5:00 p.m.
From Tintic, Mercur, Nephi, Provo and Manti ..... 6:00 p.m.
From Preston, Logan, Brigham, Ogden and intermediate points. 6:50 p.m.
From Ogden, Butte, Portland, San Francisco ..... 8:10 p.m.

DEPART.

For Ogden, Cache Valley, Omaha, Chicago, Denver, Kansas City and St. Louis ..... 7:00 a.m.
For Garfield Beach, Tooele and Terminus ..... 7:45 a.m.
For Tintic, Mercur, Provo, Nephi and Manti ..... 7:55 a.m.
For Ogden, Butte, Helena, Portland, San Francisco and intermediate points ..... 9:45 a.m.
For Ogden, Omaha, Chicago, Denver, Kansas City, St. Louis and San Francisco.....12:50 p.m.
For Ogden, Denver, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis and Chicago ..... 6:00 p.m.
For Provo, Nephi, Milford, Callentes and intermediate points. 7:05 p.m.
For Ogden, Butte, Helena, Portland, San Francisco and intermediate points .....10:50 p.m.

T. M. SCHUMACHER, Act. Traffic Mgr.
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Delinquent Notice.

BEN BUTLER MINING & MILLING company. Location and principal place of business Salt Lake City, Utah. Notice.—There are delinquent upon the following described stock, on account of assessment No. 9, of one (1) cent per share, levied on the 20th day of June, 1902, the several amounts set opposite the names of the respective shareholders, as follows:

Name.	No. Cert.	No. Shares.	Amt. Due.
V. P. Wells	188	1,000	$10.00
J. Oberndorfer	418	1,000	10.00
Theodore Meyer	435	1,000	10.00
D. H. Peery, jr.	607	500	5.00
D. H. Peery, jr.	612	500	5.00
Lulu M. Sherraden	614	100	1.00
Rasmus Anderson	692	500	5.00
M. M. Miller, part of	812	453	4.53
W. R. Sibley	924	500	5.00
Dan O'Leary	940	500	5.00
Dan O'Leary	979	1,000	10.00
A. P. Mayberry	997	1,000	10.00
H. S. Joseph	1060	500	5.00
Merden Saw, part of	1013	266	2.66
E. C. Coffin & Son	1033	300	3.00
Mrs. Theodore Krauss, part of	1049	917	9.17
Ben D. Luce	1081	200	2.00
Dan O'Leary	1095	500	5.00
Barnett & Langley	1150	500	5.00
A. H. Shorten, part of	1162	454	4.54
J. Oberndorfer	1188	100	1.00
Barnett & Langley	1190	23	.23
Henry Love	1210	1,000	10.00
Ed. Rodman	1221	100	1.00
C. E. Hudson	1238	50	.50
H. M. Moran	1249	200	2.00
G. A. Andreen, part of	1279	455	4.55
Mrs. Fanny Wolf	1284	2,000	20.00
Dan O'Leary	1360	1,000	10.00
M. M. Miller	1367	500	5.00
Dan O'Leary	1381	500	5.00
M. M. Miller	1407	500	5.00
Dan O'Leary	1408	500	5.00
Barnett & Langley	1410	25	.25
Barnett & Langley	1411	100	1.00
Mrs. Memphis Williams	1432	500	5.00
C. H. Valentine	1497	500	5.00
W. H. Williams	1509	500	5.00
H. J. Hassell	1512	2,000	20.00
J. Oberndorfer	1578	1,000	10.00

And in accordance with law and an order of the board of directors, made on the 20th day of June, 1902, so many shares of each parcel of such stock as may be necessary will be sold at the company's office, rooms 304 and 305 Progress building, Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 16th day of August, 1902, at 2 o'clock p. m., to pay the delinquent assessment thereon, together with the cost of advertising and expense of the sale.

A. L. JACOBS, President.

E. D. R. THOMPSON, Secretary.
First publication July 26, 1902.

OFFICE OF THE EAGLE & BLUE Bell Mining company. Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Eagle & Blue Bell Mining company is hereby called to be held at the office of said company, Room No. 507 Progress Building, Salt Lake City, Utah, at 11 o'clock a. m. on August 18th, 1902, for the purpose of considering and acting upon the proposition to ratify the action of the board of directors in making a certain contract for the sale and lease of all the property of this company, and such other business as may properly come before said stockholders' meeting.

SARAH A. M'CHRYSTAL, President.
W. R. WALLACE, Secretary.

Dated July 16th, 1902.

Assessment No. 1.

OFFICE OF THE UNCLE SAM CONsolidated Mining company. Location and principal place of business, Salt Lake City. Notice is hereby given that at a meeting of the directors, held on the 23d day of July, 1902, an assessment of 3 cents per share was levied on the capital stock of the corporation, payable Aug. 25, 1902, to B. G. Raybould, secretary and treasurer, at the office of the company, at the Utah National bank, of Salt Lake City. Any stock upon which this assessment may remain unpaid on the 25th day of August, 1902, will be delinquent and advertised for sale at public auction, and unless payment is made before, will be sold on the 11th day of September, 1902, to pay the delinquent assessment, together with the cost of advertising and expenses of sale.

B. G. RAYBOULD, Secretary.

Date of first publication, July 24th, 1902.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE Third judicial district of the state of Utah, in and for Salt Lake county. In the matter of the estate of Herman Teddar, deceased. Notice of sale of real estate. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of an order of the said Third district court of the state of Utah, in and for Salt Lake county, made on the 27th day of June, 1902, in the matter of the estate of Herman Teddar, deceased, the undersigned, administrator of the estate of said deceased, will sell at private sale to the highest bidder, for cash, and subject to confirmation by said district court, on Thursday, the 14th day of August, 1902, at 12 o'clock noon, at the office of C. S. Price, attorney, 22 East First South street, in the city and county of Salt Lake, all of the right, title and interest of said Herman Teddar at the time of his death, and of his estate, in and to all that parcel, piece or lot of land, situate in said county and known and described as follows:

An undivided one-third (⅓) interest in and to the "Wide West" lode mining claim, being mineral entry No. 732 and lot No. 289, and situate in the West Mountain mining district, Salt Lake county, Utah.

Terms, cash upon confirmation.

T. B. O'REILLY, Administrator.

Assessment Notice.

THE TOMBOY GOLD & COPPER MINing company. Location of mines, Bingham mining district. Principal place of business, Salt Lake City, Utah. Notice is hereby given that at a meeting of the directors of the Tomboy Gold & Copper Mining company, held on the 18th day of July, 1902, an assessment of one-fourth (¼) of a cent per share was levied on the capital stock of the corporation, payable on or before August 18th, 1902, to the secretary, No. 19 Commercial block, Salt Lake City, Utah. Any stock upon which the assessment may remain unpaid on the 18th day of August, 1902, will be delinquent and advertised for sale at public auction, and unless payment is made before, will be sold on the 18th day of September, 1902, to pay the delinquent assessment, together with cost of advertising and expenses of sale.

E. W. DUNCAN, President.
C. R. EPPERSON, Secretary.

Notice of Special Meeting of the Stockholders of the American Mines Company.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, whereas the time for the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of The American Mines company having passed, there will be a special meeting of said stockholders held at the office of the American Mines company, Room 427 Dooly Block, Salt Lake City, Utah, at 5 p. m. on the 13th day of August, 1902.

The purpose of this meeting is to elect a new board of directors and transact such other business as may legally come before it.

By order of the president and secretary.

ARTHUR BUCKBEE, President.
JOHN W. BURTON, Secretary.