...THE...

COMPLETE WORKS

OF

Robert G. Ingersoll

NEW YORK

C. P. FARRELL

MCMII
A NEW AND COMPLETE EDITION OF

Robert G. Ingersoll's WORKS.


The Only Authorized and Complete Edition of Ingersoll's Works ... ...

Published with the authority and supervision of the family from his manuscripts, notes, and literary memoranda.

THIS Edition of the writings of Robert G. Ingersoll justifies its description as complete. Besides including all of the author's famous lectures, addresses and orations already issued in book or pamphlet form, the volumes contain some thousands of pages of matter not hitherto published. Among his inedited writings, now first appearing, may be men-

The whole of one volume is devoted to interviews, which cover a multitude of subjects, and indeed leave hardly any topic of interest untouched. The earlier interviews dealt largely with Colonel Ingersoll's clerical critics and with theological subjects; but the scope of inquiry was gradually expanded to include political, economic and social questions, until at length his opinion came to be solicited on whatever might be uppermost for the time in the public mind, whether it were an election, a race problem, finance, woman's suffrage, marriage and divorce, socialism, labor, prohibition,
The press discovered that he had valuable ideas on art, music, the drama, literature, oratory, and allied subjects; and what he had to say about them occupies many hundreds of pages.

From his ability in other fields it may be judged how illuminating were Colonel Ingersoll's expositions of the law, how complete his mastery of the details of a case, how convincing his arguments, and how effective his addresses to court and jury. The Legal Volume contains his noted speeches in the Star Route Trials, in the Davis Will Case, in the Munn Trial (from which his universally quoted Temperance Speech is taken), and his last public address, delivered in the Russell Will Case before Vice-Chancellor Grey at Camden, New Jersey.

The patriotic and political addresses of Colonel Ingersoll are here for the first time gathered between covers. They contain utterances from which the fires of patriotism will be ever fed or renewed and discuss issues that will appear in every campaign while the Nation remains a Republic. Some of them—the Decoration Day Orations, the Soldiers' Reunion Address, the Vision of War—are classics. The Campaign Speeches are models of arguments, appeal—and ridicule. Colonel Ingersoll's political deliverances as a
whole disclose the softening influence of time and thought on a great mind from the "nine o'clock in the morning" to the afternoon of life.

The matter given precedence in this edition as might be foreseen, comprises the author's great lectures on the Bible and the Christian Religion and his discussions with theologians, amateur and professional. Among his opponents were the Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Cardinal Manning, Judge Jeremiah S. Black, and the Rev. Henry M. Field, whose defence of their faith is given in full. It is doubted that Colonel Ingersoll's replies will be found in the published writings of those authors.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

There are sixteen pictures and two fac-simile reproductions of Colonel Ingersoll's manuscript. As a frontispiece for Volume I a photogravure of the author has been prepared from a photograph taken in 1890. This faces a picture on the engraved title page, of the Birthplace of Robert G. Ingersoll at Dresden, N. Y.

In Volume II is an etched engraving of Attorney-General Ingersoll of Illinois, showing the author as he appeared in 1868 when holding the office indicated. Volume III contains a portrait taken in 1885.
This volume also contains a fac-simile manuscript of the famous poem "The Birthplace of Burns," written in the Burns cottage at Ayr, August 19, 1878.

The photogravure frontispiece of the fourth Volume is from 1897, a profile, taken when the hand of time was feeling for the tardy furrows in cheek and brow.

In Volume V we again have the orator represented in his prime, (1877), standing at ease with left hand pocketed, and there is another in profile taken in 1884.

The favorite 1876 picture, ornaments the sixth division—the book of Discussions.

Volume VII presents the last portrait made of Ingersoll, the full figure-portrait of 1899.

"With daughter's babes upon his knees, the white hair mingling with the gold," the author is shown in the photogravure preceding the title page of Volume VIII, the only group in the series. The picture fulfils the words. This volume also presents the interior of "Chatham Street Theatre," in New York City where the author was baptised in 1836, a view that is full of interest considering the infant's subsequent career.

Ingersoll with mustache and imperial, and wearing the epauletts of his colonelcy, is brought before us in unaccustomed guise by the photogravure frontispiece
of Volume IX. The picture was taken in 1862, when he was commanding officer of the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry.

Volume X contains the well known standing portrait of 1890, a photogravure.

For the illustrations of Volume XI the publishers have secured a view, of picturesque "Walston," at Dobbs Ferry-on-Hudson. Here in summer lived the great humanitarian.

The concluding volume contains a portrait taken in 1897, and a half-tone of the urn that holds the ashes of the great champion of liberty. A letter written July 20, 1899, is reproduced in fac-simile. It was the writer's last, and dealt with Cuban and Philippine affairs.

Every photogravure portrait is printed by hand on Japanese vellum paper.

Colonel Ingersoll's admirers will derive pleasure and information from the many notes, consisting for the most part of newspaper reports, attached to the public addresses, descriptive of the occasions when they were delivered and of the enthusiasm with which they were received. Some of those occasions—as the convention where was made the stirring speech nominating James G. Blaine for the Presidency, and the
meeting where Henry Ward Beecher introduced Ingersoll as the most brilliant speaker of the English language on the globe—have become historic, and their story is here fittingly preserved. The notes are frequent and copious, and, bringing the reader as they do into the immediate presence of the events they record, are of the highest importance and value.

Notice is attracted to the full contents and elaborate index of this edition. These useful adjuncts have been prepared not only at the expense of that labor and time necessary to all such compilations, but with an intelligent appreciation of the needs of those who would consult the writings of this author. The index is not the "hack-work" of a professional indexer satisfied to jot down proper names, and to note their recurrence with volume and page. Here matter explanatory of each reference is given where its importance warrants, and the reader may find that for which he seeks without opening any other volume than the one containing it. The Index embraces the titles of lectures, speeches, interviews and discussions, with their contents, the principal words of such titles being likewise ended in alphabetical order, with references to heads under which the subject is treated at length. Approaching the fulness of a concordance, the
compilation is complete without being cryptic, and is in fact what it has been said every index should be to the searcher—"a guide, philosopher and friend."

The twelve volumes contain nearly seven thousand pages, printed in large type, on finest of laid deckle-edge paper, wide margins, gilt top, and bound library style, in olive silk cloth, (Colonel Ingersoll’s favorite color), paper-label or gilt backs. A number of sets will be bound in levant.

SOLD ONLY IN SETS.
WORKS OF ROBERT G. INGERSOLL

COMMENTS ON THE AUTHOR

"Col. Ingersoll writes with a rare and enviable brilliancy."

—Wm. E. Gladstone.

"It is my strong conviction that but for orthodox animosity, Col. Ingersoll would have been President of the United States. Certainly, no man of his ability ever occupied that office. I am in hopes that the great Agnostic's biography will be completely written. It will be as striking a chapter in American history as the life of Abraham Lincoln."

—Dr. Moncure D. Conway, in


"A perfect wonder of eloquence and power, he made a speech before the Supreme Court in Washington last winter which was an absolute whirlwind and carried away in its resistless current even that august bench."

—Judge Jeremiah S. Black, in

Philadelphia Times.

"His was a great and beautiful spirit, he was a man—all man, from his crown to his foot-soles. My reverence for him was deep and genuine. I prized his affection for me, and returned it with usury."

—Mark Twain.

"I take the liberty of saying that I respect him as the man who for a full score and more of years has worked for the right in the great, broad field of humanity, and for the sake of human rights. . . . The man who—and I say it not flatteringly—is the most brilliant speaker of the English tongue of all men on this globe. But as under the brilliancy of the blaze of light we find the living coals of fire, under the lambent flow of his wit and magnificent antithesis we find the glorious flame of genius and honest thought."

"Ingersoll was one of the foremost orators of his day. Both as a forensic debator and as a public speaker and lecturer his well deserved fame has long since spread over his country and beyond. In his private life he was a most lovable man, and the charm of his personality exerted a magnetic influence over all with whom he came in contact. Besides being a born orator, he was exceptionally witty, and could move his audience to laughter as well as tears."


"Col. Ingersoll is a wonderful man, and his speech for half an hour was a revelation. 'Royal Bob,' as Garfield called him, was never in better feather and how deep he goes and how he soars."

—Walt Whitman.

"I envy the land that brings forth such glorious fruit as an Ingersoll."—Björnstjerne Björnson.

"Col. Ingersoll, the man whom above all others I should have wished and hoped to meet if ever I had visited America during his lifetime."—Algernon Ch. Swinburne.

"Col. Ingersoll, whose services for the promotion of the truth, I value most sincerely."—Ernst Haeckel.

"I constantly feel that with all his other gifts he is a born poet, and so high and fine a one that many of our modern metre-mongers might with ease walk under his instep."

—Edgar Fawcett.

"It is said of Isocrates among Athenian orators that he was 'the first who perfected prose rhythm.' It is so hard to read Attic Greek with even an approximation to the musical 'time' in which Isocrates
wrote it that those who wish to realize the meaning of this significant
compliment to his style will do well to study the rhythms of Robert
Green Ingersoll—of whom among American orators it may be said as
truly as of Isocrates among the Greek, that he first perfected the
prose rhythms of the language in which he expressed himself. Indeed,
his ear for musical ‘time’ is so nearly that of a poet, that many of his
most eloquent passages have only to be divided and capitalized pro-
perly to become blank verse, governed by recurrent vowels as are
the hexameters of Homer, the pentameters of the Greek tragedians,
or the odes of Pindar. . . . He was a man of extensive reading,
typically American in his entire freedom from any approach to social
aloofness. He was popular as an orator, primarily, because he felt
the unity of his own mind, both in its strength and in its weaknesses,
with the average mind of the average American community. His
greatest strength lies less in severity of thought, less in the piling up
of idea on idea, fact on fact, than in a compelling power of musical
expression, voicing his own emotions, and appealing to the related
emotions of his hearers through their sense of the harmonies of lan-
guage. In the ability to do this, he has not been equaled by any
other American orator. . . . His ‘Plumed-Knight’ speech is prob-
ably the most celebrated speech ever made in an American conven-
tion.”—The Library of The World’s Best Oration.

“He was one of the most eloquent and powerful orators of the
day. . . . Among modern orators he was pre-eminent for high
poetical power and command of apt and beautiful imagery in express-
ing his ideas. He had few, if any, equals in his ability to touch the
deepest chords of feeling.”

—National Encyclopædia of American Biography.
WORKS OF ROBERT G. INGERSOLL

LIST OF CONTENTS

Volume 1.
The Gods
Humboldt
Thomas Paine
Individuality
Heretics and Heresies
The Ghosts
The Liberty of Man, Woman and Child
About Farming in Illinois
What Must We Do to be Saved?

Volume 2.
Some Mistakes of Moses
Some Reasons Why Orthodoxy
Myth and Miracle

Volume 3.
Shakespeare
Robert Burns
Abraham Lincoln
Voltaire
Liberty in Literature
The Great Infidels
Which Way
About the Holy Bible

Volume 4.
Why I Am an Agnostic
The Truth
How to Reform Mankind
A Thanksgiving Sermon
A Lay Sermon
The Foundations of Faith
Superstition
The Devil
Progress
What is Religion?

Volume 5.
Six Interviews on Talmage
The Talmagian Catechism
A Vindication of Thomas Paine

Volume 6.
The Christian Religion
The Field-Ingersoll Discussion
Colonel Ingersoll on Christianity
Rome or Reason?
Is Divorce Wrong?
Divorce
Reply to Dr. Lyman Abbott
Reply to Archdeacon Farrar
Is Corporal Punishment Degrading?

Volume 7.
My Reviewers Reviewed
My Chicago Bible Class
To the Indianapolis Clergy
WORKS OF ROBERT G. INGERSOLL

The Brooklyn Divines
The Limitations of Toleration
A Christmas Sermon
Is Avarice Triumphant?
A Reply to the "Cincinnati Gazette" and "Catholic Telegraph"
An Interview on Chief Justice Comegys
A Reply to Rev. Drs. Thomas and Lorimer
A Reply to Rev. John Hall and Warner Van Norden
A Reply to the Rev. Dr. Plumb
A Reply to the New York Clergy on Superstition

Volume 8.

Interviews

Volume 9.

An Address to the Colored People
Indianapolis Speech
Speech Nominating Blaine
Centennial Oration
Bangor Speech
Cooper Union Speech
Indianapolis Speech
Chicago Speech
Eight to Seven Address
Hard Times and the Way Out

Suffrage Address
Wall Street Speech
Brooklyn Speech
Address to the 86th Illinois Regiment
Decoration Day Address
Decoration Day Oration
Ratification Speech
Reunion Address
The Chicago and New York Gold Speech

Volume 10.

Address to the Jury in the Munn Trial
Closing Address to the Jury in the First Star Route Trial
Opening Address to the Jury in the Second Star Route Trial
Closing Address to the Jury in the Second Star Route Trial
Address to the Jury in the Davis Will Case
Argument Before the Vice-Chancellor in the Russell Case

Volume 11.

Civil Rights
Trial of C. B. Reynolds for Blasphemy, Address to the Jury
God in the Constitution
A Reply to Bishop Spalding
Crimes Against Criminals
A Wooden God
Some Interrogation Points
Art and Morality
The Divided Household of Faith
Why Am I an Agnostic?
Huxley and Agnosticism
Ernest Renan
Tolstoy and "The Kreutzer Sonata"
Thomas Paine
The Three Philanthropists
Should the Chinese be Excluded?
A Word about Education
What I Want for Christmas
Fool Friends
Inspiration
The Truth of History
How to Edit a Liberal Paper
Secularism
Criticism of "Robert Elsmere,"
"John Ward, Preacher," and "An African Farm"
The Libel Laws
Rev. Dr. Newton’s Sermon on a New Religion
An Essay on Christmas
Has Freethought a Constructive Side?
The Improved Man
Eight Hours Must Come
The Jews
Crumbling Creeds
Our Schools
Vivisection
The Census Enumerator’s Official Catechism
The Agnostic Christmas
Spirituality
Sumter’s Gun
What Infidels Have Done
Cruelty in the Elmira Reformatory
Law’s Delay
Bigotry of Colleges
A Young Man’s Chances Today
Science and Sentiment
“Sowing and Reaping”
Should Infidels Send their Children to Sunday School?
What Would You Substitute for the Bible as a Moral Guide?
Governor Rollins’ Fast-Day Proclamation
A Look Backward and a Prophecy
Political Morality
A Few Reasons for Doubting the Inspiration of the Bible

Volume 12.
Tributes, Essays, Miscellany
Prefaces, Speeches, Index