contracts, mortgages and instruments so signed and sealed by the persons authorized as aforesaid, and all such notes and bills so signed, drawn or accepted by the persons 5 authorized as aforesaid, shall be valid and binding on the said Company, and be held to be the act and deed of the said Company. nor shall the fact of the person or persons signing or sealing the same, render them in liable to be questioned by any party except the said Company: Provided that no bond, Proviso. bill, note, contract, or other instrument, signed by any such Officer or Officers of the said Company, shall be of any force or effect 15 or binding upon the said Company, unless the same shall have been so signed and sealed under the authority of the Directors as aforesaid, nor in any action, suit or proceeding, to which the said Company shall be 20 a party, shall the election of the President, Vice President or Directors, nor the authority of any party signing any instrument purporting to be executed by the said Company, nor the authority of any Advocate or Attor-25 ney to appear and act on behalf of the said Company, be liable to be questioned by any party except the said Company, nor shall it be necessary for the Company in any suit, to prove the election or appointment or authority of any President or Vice President or 30 any Director, but the same shall be presumed in favor of the said Company, unless disputed by the said Company.

VIII. And be it enacted, That all acts Validity of done by any meeting of the Directors, or by affected by 35 any person acting as a Director shall, notwith- certain defects, standing it shall afterwards be discovered that there was some defect or error in the appointment or qualification of any person attending such meeting as a Director or acting 40 as aforesaid, be as valid as if such person had been duly appointed and was qualified to be a Director.