CHAPTER xxxviii.

An Act for empowering the British Gas Light Company Limited to extend their Works and to expend further Capital at Norwich. [2nd July 1896.]

A.D. 1896.

WHEREAS by the British Gas Light Company Limited (Norwich) Act 1858 (in this Act referred to as "the Act of 1858") the British Gas Light Company Limited (in this Act called "the Company") were empowered to lay down mains and to supply gas in the city and county of Norwich and the liberties and precincts thereof and also in the suburbs of the said city and by the British Gas Light Company Limited (Norwich) Act 1875 (in this Act referred to as "the Act of 1875") further powers were conferred upon the Company and further provision was made with reference to the supply of gas within the limits of the Act of 1858:

And whereas by the said Acts the capital which the Company were authorised to expend for the purposes of the said Acts was limited to the sum of two hundred thousand pounds the whole of which has been expended by the Company for those purposes:

And whereas in order to meet the increasing demand for the supply of gas within the said limits it is expedient that the Company should be authorised to extend their gasworks upon the additional lands described in the schedule to this Act adjoining the site upon which their present works at or near to Bishop Bridge in the hamlet of Thorpe in the county of the city of Norwich are situate and that the Company should be empowered to expend further capital for those and other purposes connected with their undertaking at Norwich:

And whereas the objects aforesaid cannot be attained without the authority of Parliament:

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and

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Commons in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows (that is to say) :—

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the British Gas Light Company Limited (Norwich) Act 1896 and the said Acts of 1858 and 1875 and this Act may be cited together as the British Gas Light Company Limited (Norwich) Acts 1858 to 1896.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act the expression "the undertaking" means and includes the gasworks and lands and works connected therewith vested in or constructed or to be constructed by the Company under the authority of the British Gas Light Company Limited (Norwich) Acts 1858 to 1896.

Power to expend further capital.

3. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Act of 1858 and the Act of 1875 the Company may expend for the purposes of the undertaking including the purchase of the lands described in the schedule to this Act the sum of eighty-five thousand pounds in addition to the sum of two hundred thousand pounds already expended under the powers of the said Acts Provided always that of the said sum of eighty-five thousand pounds by this Act authorised to be further expended the sum of thirty-three thousand pounds and no more may be so expended out of the capital stock of the Company and the Company may from time to time borrow on mortgage in respect of such further capital so authorised sums not exceeding in the whole the sum of fifty-two thousand pounds Provided further that the profits to be divided by the Company in respect of so much of the additional capital of thirty-three thousand pounds as may from time to time be actually expended shall not exceed five pounds per centum per annum whether such capital shall be issued as ordinary capital or as preference capital and that the rate of interest to be paid upon any sums so borrowed on mortgage shall not exceed four pounds per centum per annum And the Company shall not have power to convert into shares or stock the said sum of fifty-two thousand pounds or any part thereof Of the moneys which the Company are by this Act authorised to expend the first forty thousand pounds shall be expended out of moneys borrowed on mortgage and all moneys to be borrowed for the purposes of this Act shall be borrowed on the best terms obtainable at the time of borrowing the same.

Provisions of Act of 1858 to apply to capital expended under this Act.

4. Except as herein otherwise expressly provided all the provisions of the Act of 1858 respecting the capital thereby authorised to be expended shall apply to the capital by this Act authorised to be expended.

Extension of works for manufacture

5. Notwithstanding anything in the Act of 1858 or the Act of 1875 contained the Company may upon the lands described in the

schedule to this Act if and when acquired by them construct make and maintain alter improve and enlarge extend renew and discontinue works for the manufacture storage and supply of gas and for the manufacture conversion utilisation and storage of residual products producible or resulting from or used in the manufacture of gas and may manufacture store and supply on and from the said lands and works gas and such residual products and may erect make and maintain thereon all such buildings works apparatus and conveniences as may be necessary or expedient for the purposes aforesaid: A.D. 1896. of gas and residual products.

Provided always that no lands within the limits of the Act of 1858 shall be used by the Company for the purpose of manufacturing gas or residual products except the lands referred to in section 11 of the Act of 1858 and the lands described in the schedule to this Act and no lands within the said limits shall be used by the Company for the storage of gas except the lands in this proviso before referred to and the lands described in the schedule to the Act of 1875.

6. Notwithstanding anything contained in section 7 of the Act of 1875 the gas to be supplied by the Company within the limits of the Act of 1858 shall from and after the thirty-first day of December one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six be of such quality as to produce from the prescribed burner a light equal in intensity to that produced by fifteen sperm candles of six in the pound burning one hundred and twenty grains per hour and all gas so supplied by the Company shall not exhibit any trace of sulphuretted hydrogen when tested in accordance with the rules prescribed in that behalf in Part II. to the Schedule A annexed to the Gasworks Clauses Act 1871 and shall not contain more than twenty-five grains of sulphur in any other form than sulphuretted hydrogen in every one hundred cubic feet of gas or a greater quantity of ammonia than five grains in every one hundred cubic feet of gas Provided that no penalty shall accrue or be recoverable against the Company if it be proved to the satisfaction of the justices referred to in section 36 of the Gasworks Clauses Act 1871 that the deficiency of illuminating power or excess of sulphur was occasioned by unavoidable cause or accident or in the case of an excess of sulphur unless that excess shall have amounted to two grains upon the average of six consecutive week days or five grains upon any one day. Amending section 7 of Act of 1875 as to illuminating power.

7. The Act of 1858 shall be read as if the mayor aldermen and citizens of the city of Norwich had been named therein instead of the local board and notwithstanding anything contained in Provisions as to auditor.

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section 18 of that Act the said mayor aldermen and citizens shall have power at any time to remove the present auditor or any future auditor to be appointed by them and to appoint another in his place The examination of the Company's books accounts and papers and of their clerks or servants as provided by section 22 of the said last-mentioned Act shall be held at the Company's office in London Section 23 of the Act of 1858 is hereby repealed and the remuneration of any auditor shall be from time to time fixed by the said mayor aldermen and citizens and the Company shall contribute towards such remuneration the sum of thirty guineas per annum.

Copy of Act to be registered.

8. The Company shall forward to the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies a printed copy of this Act and it shall be recorded by him and if such copy is not forwarded within three months from the passing of this Act the Company shall incur a penalty not exceeding two pounds for every day after the expiration of those three months during which the copy is omitted to be forwarded and every director and manager of the Company who knowingly and wilfully authorises or permits such default shall incur the like penalty and every penalty under this Act shall be recoverable summarily.

Expenses of Act.

9. The costs charges and expenses preliminary to and of and incidental to the preparing applying for obtaining and passing of this Act or otherwise relating thereto shall be paid by the Company.

The SCHEDULE referred to in the foregoing Act.

A certain piece of land situate in the hamlet of Thorpe in the county of the city of Norwich containing one acre one rood and eight perches with the dwelling-house stables and buildings standing thereon and belonging or reputed to belong to the British Gas Light Company Limited and in the occupation of that Company and of Joseph Henry Brockbank and lying on the east side of and adjoining the public road leading to the Cavalry Barracks and called Bishop Bridge Road and on the west side of and adjoining the existing works of the Company and bounded on the north by a fence separating the said piece of land from premises belonging or reputed to belong to Amelia Gissing and in the occupation of William Halpin and on the south partly by buildings and premises belonging or reputed to belong to Messrs. Youngs Crawshay and Youngs and in the occupation of Harrison Mason and partly by buildings and premises belonging or reputed to belong to Elizabeth Weeds and Maria Weeds conjointly and in the occupation of John Death Charles Carter and others.

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