CHAPTER xviii.

An Act for empowering the British Gas Light Company Limited to expend further Capital at their Staffordshire Potteries Station. [14th May 1895.]

A.D. 1895.

WHEREAS by the British Gas Light Company Limited (Staffordshire Potteries) Act 1858 the British Gas Light Company Limited (in this Act called "the Company") were empowered to maintain their then existing works mains pipes and other apparatus and to construct other works at or near Etruria in the borough of Hanley and at Brownhills in the parish of Burslem and to lay down other mains and pipes for supplying gas within certain limits therein specified all being in the county of Stafford and by the British Gas Light Company Limited (Staffordshire Potteries) Acts 1866 and 1880 further powers were conferred upon the Company and further provision was made with reference to the supply of gas within the said limits:

And whereas by the said Acts or some of them it was provided that the capital to be expended by the Company for the purposes of the said Acts should not exceed the sum of one hundred and twenty-two thousand six hundred and ten pounds the whole of which has been expended by the Company for those purposes:

And whereas the Company require and it is expedient that they should be authorised to expend further capital for the purposes of the said Acts but that object cannot be obtained 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 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 (Staffordshire Potteries) Act 1895 and the said Acts of

A.D. 1895.

1858 1866 and 1880 and this Act may be cited together as the British Gas Light Company Limited (Staffordshire Potteries) Acts 1858 to 1895.

Interpretation.

2. In this Act the expression "the undertaking" means and includes the gasworks 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 (Staffordshire Potteries) Acts 1858 to 1895.

Power to expend further capital.

3. Notwithstanding anything contained in the British Gas Light Company Limited (Staffordshire Potteries) Acts 1858 1866 and 1880 the Company may expend for the purposes of the undertaking the sum of seventy-five thousand pounds in addition to the sum of one hundred and twenty-two thousand six hundred and ten pounds already expended under the powers of the said Acts Provided always that of the said sum of seventy-five thousand pounds by this Act authorised to be further expended the sum of forty-five 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 thirty thousand pounds Provided further that the profits to be divided by the Company in respect of so much of the additional capital of forty-five 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 thirty thousand pounds or any part thereof:

Of the moneys which the Company are by this Act authorised to expend the first fifteen 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.

Power to Corporation of Hanley to appoint auditor.

5. The mayor aldermen and burgesses of the borough of Hanley may from time to time appoint a competent person as auditor for the purpose of examining the accounts of the Company in relation to the undertaking and may from time to time remove any such

auditor and appoint another in his place and such auditor may examine the accounts of the Company in relation to the undertaking annually at any time within two months after such accounts shall have been made up for the year then last past and the Company shall at all reasonable times within the said period of two months give to the auditor his clerks and assistants access to the books and documents of the Company relating to such accounts and shall afford to him and them all reasonable facilities for such examination Provided that the signature of such auditor to the published accounts of the Company shall not be necessary and he shall not be entitled to interfere in any way with the management of the undertaking.

Remuneration of auditor.

6. The remuneration of the auditor shall be from time to time fixed by the mayor aldermen and burgesses of the borough of Hanley and the Company shall contribute towards the payment of such remuneration a sum not exceeding twenty-five guineas per annum.

Amending section 23 of Act of 1866.

7. So much of section 23 of the British Gas Light Company Limited (Staffordshire Potteries) Act 1866 as provides that any person appointed by any lighting authority under that section to test the illuminating power and purity of the gas supplied by the Company shall not be a member or officer or servant of the lighting authority is hereby repealed.

Saving the right of Her Majesty in right of Her duchy of Lancaster.

8. Nothing contained in this Act or in the Acts of 1858 1866 and 1880 or in any Act or part of an Act incorporated or to be construed as one with those Acts or any of them shall extend or operate to take away prejudice or diminish any estate right privilege power or authority vested in or enjoyed or exerciseable by Her Majesty Her heirs or successors in right of Her duchy of Lancaster before the passing of the Act of 1858.

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.

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