ANNO VICESIMO OCTAVO & VICESIMO NONO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

Cap. cclxxxvi.

An Act for granting certain Powers to the *Bromley* Gas Consumers Company, Limited.

[5th *July* 1865.]

WHEREAS in the Year One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four certain Persons formed themselves into a Company, under the Name of "The *Bromley* Gas Consumers Company," registered under the Authority of the Act Seventh and Eighth *Victoria*, Chapter 110., and subsequently registered by the Title of "The *Bromley* Gas Consumers Company, Limited," under "The Joint Stock Company's Act, 1856:" And whereas the present Capital of the Company is Fifty thousand Pounds divided into Ten thousand Shares of Five Pounds each, and a Sum of Five thousand Pounds has been borrowed by the Company: And whereas the said Company have constructed Gasworks, and are now lighting with Gas the greater Portion of the Parish of *Bromley* and some Portions of the Parishes of *Chislehurst* and *Beckenham*, all in the County of *Kent*, to the great Advantage and Convenience of the Inhabitants: And whereas it is expedient that the Company should be re-incorporated under this Act, and that Powers for the Supply of Gas within the Limits of this Act, and other Powers, should be conferred upon them; but for such Purposes the Authority of Parliament is necessary: 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 for all Purposes as "The *Bromley* Gas Act, 1865."

8 & 9 Vict. c. 16., 10 & 11 Vict. c. 15. and 26 & 27 Vict. c. 118. incorporated.

2. "The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," Parts I. and II. of "The Companies Clauses Act, 1863," and "The Gasworks Clauses Act, 1847," shall be incorporated with and form Part of this Act.

Construction of Terms.

3. In construing this Act and the Portions of the Act incorporated herewith, the following Expressions shall have the several Meanings hereby attached to them: "the original Company" shall mean "The *Bromley* Gas Consumers Company, Limited;" the Expression "the Company," or "the Promoters of the Undertaking," or "the Undertakers," shall respectively mean the Company incorporated by this Act; "the Special Act" shall mean this Act; "the Works," the Gasworks; "the Undertaking" shall mean the Gasworks of the Company;" Superior Courts," or "Court of competent Jurisdiction," shall be read and have Effect as if the Debt or Demand with respect to which the Expression is used, were a common Simple Contract Debt, and not a Debt or Demand created by Statute.

Limits of Act.

4. The Limits of this Act shall comprise and include the several Parishes, Townships, Hamlets, or Places of *Bromley*, *Mottingham*, *Chislehurst*, *Orpington*, *Farnborough*, *Keston*, *Hayes*, *West Wickham*, and so much of the Eastern Portion of the Parish of *Beckenham* as is separated from the Remainder of the said Parish by the public Road or Highway leading from *Bromley* by the *Shortlands* Station of the *London*, *Chatham*, *and Dover* Railway Company to *Pythell Green*, and thence to *Hayes*, together with the said Road or Highway, and all Land lying within Three hundred Feet thereof.

Provisions of 23 & 24 Vict. c. 125. ("The Metropolis Gas Act") not to apply.

5. None of the Provisions of "The Metropolis Gas Act, 1860," shall apply to the District within the Limits of this Act, notwithstanding that the same or any Portion thereof may at any Time hereafter be included within the Limits of the "Metropolis" as defined by the said Act, or within any Extension thereof which may hereafter be made under the Provisions of an Act of the 18th and 19th *Victoria*, Chapter 120.

Incorporation of Company.

6. The *Bromley* Gas Consumers Company, Limited, is hereby dissolved, and the several Persons or Corporations who immediately before the passing of this Act were Proprietors of Shares in such Company,

Company, and all other Persons and Corporations who shall hereafter subscribe to the Undertaking, and their respective Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, shall be and they are hereby united and incorporated into a Company, by and under the Name of "The *Bromley* Gas Consumers Company," and by that Name shall be a Body Corporate, with perpetual Succession, and shall have a Common Seal, and shall and may sue and be sued, and shall have Power to purchase and hold Lands for the Purposes of the Undertaking, subject to the Restrictions and Provisions herein contained.

Present Property vested in Company incorporated by this Act.

7. All Lands, Works, Erections, Buildings, Rights, and Easements, Monies, Securities, Deeds, Contracts, Agreements, Papers, Books, Plans, Choses in Actions, Effects, Claims and Demands, Rights and Remedies whatsoever, which immediately before the passing of this Act were vested in the original Company, or any Person on their Behalf, or of or to which the original Company or any Persons on their Behalf, were seised, possessed, or entitled, either at Law or in Equity, or otherwise howsoever, and all Mains, Pipes, Plugs, Lamps, Irons, Retorts, Gauges, Meters, Apparatus, Stock, Matters, and Things which have been by them purchased or provided, laid down, erected, or placed, in any Place or House within the Limits of this Act, and which immediately before the passing of this Act were the Property of or belonging to the original Company or any Person on their Behalf, shall be and the same are hereby vested in the Company, to the same Extent and for the same Estate and Interest as the same respectively were at the Time of the passing of this Act vested in the original Company or any Person on their Behalf, and may be held, used, and enjoyed accordingly.

Deed of Settlement to be void, without Prejudice to Remedies for antecedent Branches thereof.

8. Subject to the Provisions of this Act, the Deed of Settlement and all the existing Regulations of the original Company shall, as to any future or prospective Operation thereof, from and after the passing of this Act, be wholly void and of none Effect; and the several Persons who have executed the same, or who at the Time of the passing of this Act may be Members of or Shareholders in the original Company, and their respective Heirs, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, shall immediately from and after the passing of this Act stand and be by virtue of this Act released and discharged from any future Obligation to observe, perform, abide by, fulfil, or conform to the said Deed of Settlement and existing Regulations, and the Covenants or Agreements therein respectively contained, or any of them.

Saving previous Rights and Liabilities.

9. Notwithstanding the Dissolution of the original Company, and the Avoidance of the said Deed of Settlement and Regulations, and except as is by this Act otherwise expressly provided, everything before the passing of this Act done or suffered by or with reference

to

to the original Company shall be as valid as if that Company had not been dissolved; and such Dissolution and this Act respectively shall accordingly be subject and without Prejudice to everything so done or suffered, and to all Rights, Liabilities, Claims, and Demands, both present and future, which if such Company had not been dissolved and this Act had not been passed would be incident to and consequent on any and everything done or suffered, and with respect to all such Rights, Liabilities, Claims, and Demands the Company shall to all Intents and Purposes represent and be deemed a Continuation of the original Company: Provided always, that the Generality of this Enactment shall not be limited or confined by any of the Provisions of this Act.

Contracts prior to Act to be binding.

10. All Deeds, Bonds, Contracts, and Agreements, Securities, Orders, Resolutions, and Proceedings, and other Acts and Things done, made, instituted, executed, or entered into before the passing of this Act by, with, or with reference to the original Company, and now in force, shall be as binding and of as full Force and Effect in all respects against, in favour of, or with reference to the Company, and may be enforced as fully and effectually as if, instead of the original Company, the Company had been a Party or privy thereto.

Actions, &c. not to abate.

11. Nothing in this Act contained shall release, discharge, or suspend any Action, Suit, or other Proceeding at Law or in Equity which shall be pending by or against the original Company, but any such Action, Suit, or other Proceeding may be maintained, prosecuted, or continued by, in favour of, or against the Company (as the Case may be) in the same Manner and as effectually and advantageously as the same might have been maintained, prosecuted, or continued by, in favour of, or against the original Company.

Gas Rates due to be recovered by Company.

12. All Gas Rates and Rents which immediately before the passing this Act were due and payable or accruing due and payable to the original Company shall be payable to and may be collected and recovered by the Company, in like Manner as the Gas Rates and Rents by this Act authorized to be taken.

Debts due to and by original Company to be paid to and by Company.

13. All Persons who immediately before the passing of this Act owed any Sum of Money to the original Company, or to any Person on their Behalf, shall pay the same, with all Interest (if any) due or to accrue due for the same, to the Company; and all Debts and Monies which immediately before the passing of this Act were due or owing by or recoverable from the original Company, or for the Payment of which the original Company are or but for this Act would be liable, shall be paid, with all Interest (if any) due or to accrue due thereon, by or be recoverable from the Company.

14. Every

Officers to continue.

14. Every Manager, Clerk, or other Officer and Servant of the original Company in Office at the passing of this Act shall hold and enjoy his Office and Employment, with the Salary thereunto annexed, and be deemed an Officer or Servant of the Company, until he be removed from such Office and Employment, and shall have the like Power and Authority for the Purposes of this Act, and be subject to the like Power of Removal, Rules, Regulations, Pains, and Penalties, in all respects whatsoever, as if he had been appointed under this Act.

Capital.

15. The Capital of the Company shall be Seventy thousand Pounds, and shall consist of Seven thousand Shares of Ten Pounds each, subject to the Provisions herein-after contained as to the Creation of Half Shares of Five Pounds each.

Appropriation of Part of Capital.

16. Subject to the Provisions of this Act, Fifty thousand Pounds of the said Capital shall be appropriated to the several Persons and Corporations who immediately before the passing of this Act were Proprietors of or interested in the Capital of the original Company, in proportion to their respective Shares or Interest at that Time in the Capital of the original Company; and so much of the said Fifty thousand Pounds as is equal to the nominal Value of all the Shares in the said Capital of the original Company (other than Shares held singly or odd Shares remaining after dividing by Two any odd Number of Shares held by the same Person or Persons) is hereby vested in the several Persons and Corporations who immediately before the passing of this Act were Proprietors of or interested in the Shares of the Capital of the original Company (other than the Shares so held singly and such odd Shares as aforesaid) in proportion to their respective Shares or Interests at that Time in the Capital of the original Company, and subject to all Calls and other Payments to which the Shares so held by them in such Capital were liable at the passing of this Act.

Half Shares to be created for certain Purposes.

17. And whereas divers of the Shareholders in the Capital of the original Company are the Holders of One Share only, or of an odd Number of Shares in that Capital: Therefore the Company may and shall, at the First Ordinary General Meeting held after the passing of this Act, create such Number of Shares (to be called Half Shares) of Five Pounds each in the Capital of the Company as shall be equal to the Number of single Shares in the Capital of the original Company which shall at the Time of the passing of this Act be held separately as aforesaid, and of the single Shares which will remain after dividing by Two every odd Number of Shares held by the same Shareholder or Shareholders in the Capital of the original Company; and upon the Creation of such Half Shares One of such Half Shares shall be appropriated to and be vested in the Proprietor or Proprietors respectively

respectively of each such single Share as aforesaid, or his or her then legal Representative or Representatives: Provided always, that every Two such Half Shares shall be deemed to represent and be in lieu of One of the Shares of Ten Pounds each of which the Capital of the Company is by this Act declared to consist, and all such Half Shares shall form Part of the Fifty thousand Pounds of that Capital by this Act appropriated to the Proprietors of the original Company; provided also, that if at any Time after the Creation of such Half Shares Two of such Half Shares shall become vested in the same Person or Persons or Corporation, such Two Half Shares shall immediately thereupon become *ipso facto* consolidated into One Share of Ten Pounds, and shall for ever thereafter be dealt with accordingly.

Half Shares to be numbered.

18. Such Half Shares shall be numbered consecutively, beginning with Number One, and every such Share shall be distinguished by its appropriate Number; and after the Consolidation of any Half Shares into Shares of Ten Pounds each the last-mentioned Shares shall be numbered consecutively next after the then existing Shares of Ten Pounds each, and shall thenceforth be distinguished by their appropriate Numbers.

As to the Word "Share" in incorporated Acts.

19. In construing this Act, and in connexion with this Act, the Clauses and Provisions of "The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," and of "The Companies Clauses Act, 1863," incorporated with this Act, the Word "Share" shall, when necessary, include "Half Share."

Company to call in and cancel existing Share Certificates, and issue new Certificates in lieu thereof.

20. The Company shall call in and cancel the existing Certificates of Shares in the original Company, and issue in lieu thereof Certificates of the substituted Shares in the Form and under the Conditions prescribed by "The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845;" but the Holders of such existing Certificates of Shares shall not be entitled to any Certificates of Proprietorship under this Act until they shall have delivered up to the Company to be cancelled the Certificates of Proprietorship issued to them before the passing of this Act, or shall have proved to the reasonable Satisfaction of the Directors the Loss or Destruction thereof.

Existing Trusts, &c. attached to new Shares.

21. Every Share so appropriated as aforesaid shall vest in the Person or Corporation entitled thereto upon the same Trusts, and subject to the same Powers, Provisions, Declarations, Agreements, Charges, Liens, and Incumbrances, as immediately before the passing of this Act affected the then existing Shares or Share in the Capital of the original Company for which it is substituted, and so as to give Effect to and not revoke any Will or Testamentary Disposition of or affecting such then existing Shares or Share.

22. The

Creation and Issue of new Shares.

22. The Company may from Time to Time raise by the Creation and Issue of new Ordinary Shares of Ten Pounds each, or of new Ordinary Stock, or of new Preference Shares of Ten Pounds each, or of new Preference Stock, or by any or either of those Modes, the whole or any Part of the Sum of Twenty thousand Pounds, in addition to the existing Capital of Fifty thousand Pounds: Provided always, that no Share or Stock, Part of such Capital of Twenty thousand Pounds, shall be issued by the Company or shall vest in the Person accepting the same until not less than Twenty *per Centum* on the nominal Amount thereof shall have been paid up thereon.

Limit of Dividends on new Capital.

23. It shall not be lawful for the Company in any Year to make out of their Profits any larger Dividend on the additional Share Capital of Twenty thousand Pounds to be raised under the Powers of this Act than Seven Pounds by the Year in respect of every One hundred Pounds actually paid of such Ordinary Capital, or Six Pounds by the Year in respect of every Hundred Pounds actually paid up of such Preference Capital.

Power to borrow on Mortgage.

24. The Company may, when and so soon as One Half of the existing Capital of Fifty thousand Pounds has been paid up, from Time to Time borrow on Mortgage any Sums not exceeding in the whole, together with any Sums previously borrowed by them, and then remaining due, the Sum of Twelve thousand five hundred Pounds; and the Company may, when and so soon as the said additional Capital of Twenty thousand Pounds is subscribed for or taken, and One Half thereof has been paid up, borrow on Mortgage any further Sum or Sums not exceeding in the whole Five thousand Pounds; but the Powers of borrowing under this Act shall not arise until the Company shall prove to the Justice who is to certify, under the Fortieth Section of "The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," before he so certifies, that the whole of the then Capital of the Company has been Subscribed for or taken *bonâ fide*, and is held by Subscribers or their Assigns, and that such Subscribers or their Assigns are legally liable for the same, and also that One Half of such Capital has been paid up, of which Proof having been given the Certificate of such Justice under that Section shall be sufficient Evidence.

Priority of former Mortgages.

25. All Mortgages granted by the original Company before the passing of this Act, and which are in force at the Time of the passing of this Act, shall during the Continuance thereof, and as regards the Lands, Hereditaments, and Property therein comprised, have Priority over all Mortgages to be granted by virtue of this Act.

Arrears may be enforced by Appoint-

26. The Mortgagees of the Company may enforce the Payment of the Arrears of Principal and Interest due on such Mortgages by the Appoint-

ment of a Receiver.

Appointment of a Receiver, and the Amount owing to the Mortgagees by whom Application for such Receiver may be made shall not be less than One thousand Pounds.

Application of Money.

27. All Money to be raised under the Provisions of this Act by means of Shares or Stock or by Exercise of the Powers of borrowing shall be applied to the Purposes by this Act authorized, and to no other Purpose.

General Meetings.

28. The First Ordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Company shall be held in the Month of *February* One thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and the future Ordinary General Meetings shall be held in the Month of *February* in every Year, or at such other stated Periods as shall be appointed for that Purpose from Time to Time by a General Meeting of the Company.

Number and Qualification of Directors.

29. The Number of Directors shall be Seven, and the Qualification of a Director shall be the Possession in his own Right of Twenty Shares at the least in the Undertaking, but the Number and Qualification of Directors may from Time to Time be varied by a General Meeting, so that such Number do not exceed twelve or be less than Four.

First Directors.

30. The Persons who at the Time of the passing of this Act are the Directors of the original Company shall be the First Directors of the Company, and they shall continue in Office until the First Ordinary Meeting to be held in the Year One thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and at such Meeting the Shareholders present personally or by proxy shall elect a new Body of Directors, or Directors to supply the Places of those not continued in Office, the Directors appointed by this Act being eligible as Members of such new Body.

Powers as to Maintenance of Gas-works, &c.

31. The Company may from Time to Time maintain, alter, and improve their existing Gasworks, and may do all such Acts as they think proper for supplying Gas within the Limits of this Act, and may make, store, and supply Gas accordingly, and may manufacture, sell, provide, supply, and deal in Coke, Coal, Tar, Pitch, Asphaltum, Ammoniacal Liquor, Oil, and other Products and Residuum of any Materials employed in or resulting from the Manufacture of Gas, and also Meters, Fittings, Tubes, Pipes, and other Articles and Things in any way connected with Gasworks or with the Supply of Gas, as they from Time to Time shall think fit.

Power to lay Pipes against Buildings.

32. The Company, with the Consent of the Owner and Occupier of any Buildings, may lay any Pipe, Branch, or other necessary Apparatus from any Main or Branch Pipe, into, through, or against such Building, for the Purpose of lighting it, and may, with the like Consent,

Consent, provide and set up any Apparatus necessary for securing to such Building a proper and complete Supply of Gas, and for measuring and ascertaining the Extent of such Supply, and may from Time to Time, with the like Consent, repair, replace, alter, or discontinue and remove any such Pipe, Branch, or Apparatus.

Consumers may be required to consume by Meter.

33. Every Consumer of Gas supplied by the Company shall, on being required by the Compauy so to do, consume such Gas by Meter, and all such Meters shall be subject to the Provisions of the Act for regulating Measures used in Sales of Gas, and until a Meter be examined and stamped under the Provisions of that Act it shall be approved by the Company, and may from Time to Time be examined and tested by them, and Meters may be provided, sold, or let to Hire by the Company to the Consumer.

Register of Meters primâ facie Evidence.

34. The Register of the Meter shall be *primâ facie* Evidence of the Quantity of Gas consumed by any Customer of the Company, and in respect of which any Rent is charged and sought to be recovered by the Company.

Limiting the Price of Gas.

35. The Price to be charged by the Company for Gas supplied to Persons who shall burn the same by Meter shall not exceed Six Shillings *per* One thousand Cubic Feet.

Quality of Company's Gas.

36. All the Gas supplied by the Company shall be of such Quality as to produce from an Argand Burner having Fifteen Holes and a Seven-inch Chimney, and consuming Five Cubic Feet of Gas *per* Hour, a Light equal in Intensity to the Light produced by Fourteen Sperm Candles of Six in the Pound burning One hundred and twenty Grains *per* Hour.

Company to erect a Meter to test Quality of Gas.

37. The Company shall, within Twelve Months from the passing of this Act, cause to be erected in some Part of their Works, fit for testing all the Gas provided by the Company, an Experimental Meter furnished with an Argand Fifteen-hole Burner and a Seven-inch Chimney or other approved Burner and Chimney capable of consuming Five Cubic Feet of Gas *per* Hour, with other necessary Apparatus so situated or arranged as to test the illuminating Power of all the Gas supplied to the Consumers.

As to testing the Quality of Gas.

38. It shall be lawful for Two Justices, on the Application of any Consumers of the Gas of the Company, not being less than Five in Number, by Order in Writing to appoint some competent Person to proceed to the Works of the Company, and the Person so appointed, on giving Six Hours previous Notice in Writing to the Company, may, at any reasonable Hour in the Daytime, on producing the said Order, enter

enter on the Premises of the Company, and in the Presence of the Superintendent or other Officer of the Company make Experiment of the illuminating Power of the Gas by means of the Experimental Meter and other Apparatus before mentioned, and the Company and their Officers shall afford all reasonable Facilities and Assistance for the making of such Experiment; and if it shall be proved to the Satisfaction of any Two Justices, not being Directors or Shareholders of the Company, after hearing the Parties, that the illuminating Power of the Gas supplied by the Company did not, when so tested as aforesaid, equal the illuminating Power by this Act prescribed, or that the Company or their Officers refused to afford such reasonable Facilities as aforesaid, or hindered or prevented the making of such Experiment, in any such Case the Company shall, unless reasonable cause be shown to the Justices for the Deficiency in the illuminating Power, forfeit such Sum not exceeding Twenty Pounds as the Justices shall determine, under the Circumstances of the Case.

Costs of Experiments by whom to be paid.

39. The Costs of and attending such Experiment, including the Remuneration to be paid to the Person making the same, and the Costs of the Proceedings before the Justices, shall be ascertained by such Justices, and in the event of any Penalty being imposed on the Company shall be paid together with such Penalty by the Company, but in the event of the Gas being found when tested to be of not less illuminating Power than is by this Act prescribed, or in the event of no Penalty being imposed, such Costs shall be awarded to be paid by such Consumers, as the Case may be, to the Company, and shall be paid or levied accordingly.

Fraudulently injuring Meters.

40. Every Person who shall wilfully, fraudulently, or by culpable Negligence injure or suffer to be injured any Meter or Fittings belonging to the Company, or shall fraudulently alter the Index to any Meter from duly registering the Quantity of Gas supplied, shall, without Prejudice to any other Right or Remedy for the Protection of the Company or the Punishment of the Offender, for every such Offence forfeit and pay to the Company a Sum not exeeeding Five Pounds, and the Company may, in addition thereto, recover the Amount of any Damages by them sustained, and the Company may also discontinue the Supply of Gas to the Person so offending, and notwithstanding any Contract previously existing; and the Existence of artificial Means for causing such Alteration or Production, when such Meter shall be under the Custody or Control of the Consumer, shall be *primâ facie* Evidence that the same has been fraudulently, knowingly, and wilfully caused by the Consumer using such Meter.

Power to remove Meters and Fittings.

41. The Company, by their Agents or Workmen, after giving Twenty-four Hours Notice in Writing to the Occupier, or if unoccupied

cupied then to the Owner or Lessee of any Land, House, or Building in which any Pipes, Mains, Meters, or Fittings belonging to the Company are laid or fixed, and through or in which the Supply of Gas shall from any Cause not created by the Company be discontinued, may enter such Land, House, or Building between the Hours of Nine in the Forenoon and Four in the Afternoon, and may remove such Pipes, Mains, Meters, or Fittings, but repairing all Damages caused by such Removal; and every such Notice shall be served by being delivered to the Person for whom it is intended, or left at his usual or last known Place of Abode, or sent by Post addressed to such Person, or, if such Person or his Address be not known to the Company, then by being affixed on some conspicuous Part of such Land, House, or Building.

Sums undisputed may be recovered by Distress.

42. All Sums of Money due to the Company for the Supply of Gas, or for the Hire or fixing of Meters or Fittings, and all Damages, Costs, and Expenses by this Act directed to be paid, and the Amount of which shall not be *bonâ fide* disputed, may (the Party in default being first duly summoned) be levied by Distress, and any Justice, on Application, may issue his Warrant accordingly.

Contents Warrant.

43. Any One Summons or Warrant issued for any Purposes of this Act may contain in the Body thereof or in a Schedule thereto several Names and several Sums.

Warrant may include Costs.

44. Any Justice issuing a Warrant of Distress for any of the Purposes of this Act may Order that the Costs of the Proceedings for the Recovery of the Money to be levied shall be paid by the Person liable to pay such Money, and such Costs shall be ascertained by the Justice, and shall be included in the Warrant of Distress for the Recovery of such Money.

Recovery of Sums by Action.

45. Whenever any Person neglects to pay any Rent or Sum due to the Company, the Company may recover the same, with full Costs of Suit, in any Court of competent Jurisdiction; and the Remedy of the Company under this Enactment shall be in addition to their other Remedies for the Recovery of such Rent or Sum.

Penalties not cumulative.

46. Penalties imposed on the Company for one and the same Offence by several Acts of Parliament shall not be cumulative, and for this Purpose this Act and the Act incorporated herewith shall be deemed several Acts.

Liability to Gas Rate not to disqualify Justices.

47. No Justice shall be disqualified from acting in the Execution of this Act by reason of his being liable to the Payment of any Gas Rent, Rate, or other Charge under this Act.

48. The

Arrangements with neighbouring Companies.

48. The Company may from Time to Time agree in Writing with any Company supplying or having Power to supply Gas within the Limits of this Act for determining the Bounds beyond which the Parties to any such Agreement shall not supply Gas without the Consent in Writing of the other Party to such Agreement, and thenceforth during the Continuance of such Agreement the Portion of the Parish, Township, Hamlet, or Place beyond such Bounds shall be deemed to be without the Limits of the Company which shall so have agreed not to supply Gas therein; and every such Agreement may from Time to Time be varied or annulled by the mutual Consent in Writing of the Parties thereto: Provided always, that every such Agreement made between the Company and any adjoining Gas Company before the passing of this Act shall be as valid and of the same Force and Effect as if made subsequently to the passing of this Act, but not further or otherwise.

Rent for Gas and Fittings under Twenty Pounds.

49. In addition to the Power given by "The Gasworks Clauses Act, 1847," in this Behalf, the Company may recover the Rent of any Gas or the Price or Rent of any Pipe, Burner, Meter, Lamp, or Fittings supplied, sold, delivered, or let to Hire by the Company, together with the Expense of cutting off the Service Pipe or Gas, by Action in any Court of competent Jurisdiction, although the Demand in respect thereof may be less than Twenty Pounds.

Expenses of Act.

50. All the Costs, Charges, and Expenses of and incident to the passing of this Act and preparatory thereto shall be paid by the Company.

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