CHAPTER xxi.

An Act to incorporate and confer powers on the Leighton Bussard Gas and Coke Company. [11th May 1891.] A.D. 1891.

WHEREAS in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five certain persons formed themselves into a company under the name of the Leighton Bussard Gas and Coke Company for the purpose of lighting with gas the town and parish of Leighton Bussard and adjacent places in the counties of Bedford and Buckingham and the said Company have constructed gasworks at Leighton Bussard and are lighting the said town and adjacent places with gas and carrying on the business usually carried on by gas companies:

And whereas the said Company were in the month of December 1857 incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act 1856:

And whereas the capital of the said Company (in this Act referred to as "the old company") consists of twelve thousand one hundred and six pounds and ten shillings divided into four hundred and fifty-five shares of twenty-one pounds each and two hundred and forty-three shares of ten pounds ten shillings each all of which are fully paid up and the old company owe no money by way of loan:

And whereas the demand for the supply of gas in and around the town of Leighton Bussard and adjacent places has increased and is increasing and in order the better to meet such demand it is expedient that the old company be dissolved and re-incorporated with the powers and subject to the provisions of this Act:

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

1. This Act may be cited as the Leighton Bussard Gas Act 1891. Short title.

[*Price* 1*s.* 3*d.*]

A.D. 1891.

Incorporation of Acts.

2. The following Acts and parts of Acts (that is to say):—

The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845;

Part I. (cancellation and surrender of shares) Part II. (additional capital) and Part III. (debenture stock) of the Companies Clauses Act 1863 (as amended by the Companies Clauses Act 1869); and

The Gasworks Clauses Act 1847;

are (subject to the provisions of this Act) incorporated with and form part of this Act and the Gasworks Clauses Act 1871 shall apply to the undertaking of the Company by this Act incorporated as if the same had been authorised by this Act.

Interpretation.

3. In this Act the several words and expressions to which meanings are assigned by the Acts wholly or partly incorporated herewith shall have the same respective meanings unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction:

The expression "the Company" means the Company incorporated by this Act;

The expressions "the works" and "the gasworks" respectively mean and include the gasworks and works connected therewith by this Act vested in or authorised to be made or maintained by the Company and any improvement thereof which they may construct under the powers of this Act;

The expression "the undertaking" means the undertaking of the Company;

The expression "the deed of settlement" includes all supplemental deeds of settlement:

In the Acts incorporated with this Act and for the purposes of this Act—

The expression "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 simple contract debt and not a debt or demand created by statute.

Limits of Act.

4. The limits of this Act with respect to the supply of gas shall be the parish of Leighton Bussard the hamlet of Heath and Reach in the county of Bedford and the parish of Linslade in the county of Buckingham.

Dissolution of old company and incorporation of the Company.

5. From and after the passing of this Act the old company shall be dissolved and the several persons and corporations who immediately before the passing of this Act were shareholders of that company and all other persons and corporations who have subscribed to or who shall hereafter become proprietors in the under-

taking and their executors administrators successors and assigns respectively shall be and they are hereby united into a company for the purpose herein-after mentioned and shall be incorporated by the name of "The Leighton Bussard Gas Company" and by that name shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal with power to purchase take hold and dispose of lands and other property for the purposes of this Act.

General powers of the Company.

6. The Company shall be established for the purpose of manufacturing and supplying gas within the limits of this Act and they may make sell and dispose of coke coal-tar pitch asphaltum and ammoniacal liquor oil and all other products refuse or residuum arising remaining produced by resulting or obtained from the manufacture of gas or the materials used therein and may manufacture and sell such articles as can be produced from or by means of the several matters and things aforesaid or any of them and may manufacture and sell let hire or deal in fit up fix and repair meters pipes fittings gas-engines gas-stoves and other apparatus for warming lighting cooking or producing motive power by gas and may but only for the purposes of the Company within the limits of this Act contract for take and use any leave license or authority to work use exercise or put in practice any invention or inventions under any Letters Patent made or to be made granting any right or privilege of working using exercising or vending any invention in relation to the manufacture and distribution of gas the utilisation of the residual products arising from the manufacture of gas or otherwise in relation thereto (but not so as to acquire an exclusive right to the working use exercise or putting in practice of any such invention or inventions) and generally carry on the business usually carried on by gas companies or which is or may become incident thereto.

Present property of old company vested in the Company.

7. Subject to the provisions of this Act all the lands gasworks erections buildings rights and easements which immediately before the passing of this Act were vested in the old company or any person in trust for them or to which the old company were in anywise entitled and all mains and pipes plant plugs lamps irons retorts guages meters lamp-posts syphons apparatus stock effects matters and things which have been by them purchased provided laid down erected or placed in any place or house within the limits of this Act or which immediately before the passing of this Act were the property of the old company and all moneys securities credits choses in action books papers plans effects and other property whatsoever which immediately before the passing of this Act belonged to the old company or to any trustees on their behalf

A.D. 1891.

and the benefit of all contracts and engagements entered into by or on behalf of that company and immediately before the passing of this Act in force 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 were previously to the passing of this Act vested in the old company or any trustees on their behalf and may according to the provisions of this Act be held and enjoyed sued for and recovered maintained altered discontinued removed dealt with and disposed of by the Company as they think fit.

Deed of settlement of the old company to be void without prejudice to remedies for antecedent breaches thereof.

8. Subject to the provisions of this Act and as from the date of the passing thereof the deed of settlement of the old company shall as to any prospective operation thereof be wholly void and the Company and the shareholders shall be exempted from all the provisions restrictions and requirements of any Act which applied to the old company and the shareholders thereof as such but nothing in this Act contained shall release or discharge any person from any liability or obligation in respect of any breach of the provisions of the said deed of settlement incurred before the passing of this Act but such liability or obligation in respect of any such breach shall continue and save as in this Act otherwise provided may be enforced by or on behalf of the Company as nearly as may be in like manner as the same might have been enforced by or on behalf of the old company if this Act had not been passed.

Nothing to affect previous rights and liabilities.

9. Except as is by this Act otherwise expressly provided everything before the passing of this Act done or suffered by or with reference to the old company or the shareholders thereof as such shall be as valid as if the Company had not been incorporated and the said deed of settlement had not been avoided by this Act and such incorporation and avoidance 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 the Company were not incorporated and the said deed of settlement were not avoided by this Act and this Act were not passed would be incident to or consequent on any and every thing so done or suffered and with respect to all such rights liabilities claims and demands the Company and their shareholders and property shall to all intents and purposes represent the old company and the shareholders thereof as such and the property of the old company as the case may be and the generality of this enactment shall not be restricted by any of the other provisions of this Act.

Contracts prior to Act to be binding.

10. Except as is by this Act otherwise specially provided all purchases sales conveyances grants assurances deeds securities

contracts bonds and agreements entered into or made before the passing of this Act by to or with the old company or any trustees or persons acting on behalf of that company or by to or with any other person to whose rights and liabilities they have succeeded and now in force shall be as binding and of as full force and effect in every respect against or in favour of the Company and may be enforced as fully and effectually as if the Company had been a party thereto instead of the old company or the trustees or persons acting on behalf of the old company.

Actions &c. not to abate.

11. Nothing in this Act contained shall release discharge or suspend any action suit or other proceeding in any court of justice which was pending by or against the old company or any shareholder thereof in relation to the affairs of the old company or to which the old company or any shareholder thereof in relation to such affairs were parties immediately before the passing of this Act but such action suit or other proceeding may be maintained prosecuted or continued by or 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 or in favour of or against the old company or any shareholder thereof if this Act had not been passed the Company and the shareholders therein being in reference to the matters aforesaid in all respects substituted for the old company and its shareholders respectively.

Trustees of old company to be indemnified.

12. Every trustee or other person in whom or in whose name any lands works buildings easements rights property or effects belonging to the old company were vested immediately before the passing of this Act and who (being authorised so to do) entered into any bond covenant contract or engagement in respect of the same or otherwise on behalf of the old company shall be indemnified out of the funds and property of the Company against all liability (including costs charges and expenses) which he may sustain or incur or be put unto by reason of his having entered into such bond covenant contract or engagement.

Company to satisfy liabilities of old company.

13. From and after the passing of this Act and except as is by this Act otherwise expressly provided the Company shall in all respects be subject to and shall discharge all obligations and liabilities to which the old company immediately before the passing of this Act were subject and shall indemnify the shareholders directors officers and servants of the old company and their respective representatives from all such obligations and liabilities and from all expenses and costs in that behalf.

Recovery of gas-rents and money due.

14. All gas-rents and sums of money which immediately before the passing of this Act were due or accruing to the old company

A.D. 1891.

shall be payable to and may be collected and recovered by the Company in like manner as if they had become payable for the like matters supplied or done under this Act.

As to payment of debts owing before passing of Act.

15. All persons who immediately before the passing of this Act owed any money to the old company or to any person on their behalf shall pay the same with all interest (if any) due or accruing upon the same to the Company and all debts and moneys which immediately before the passing of this Act were due or recoverable from the old company or for the payment of which the old company were or but for this Act would be liable shall be paid with all interest (if any) due or accruing upon the same by or be recoverable from the Company.

Certificates and transfers to remain in force.

16. Notwithstanding the avoidance of the said deed of settlement all certificates (until cancelled under the powers of this Act) sales transfers and dispositions heretofore made or executed under the said deed of settlement for and with respect to any shares in the old company shall remain in full force and continue and be available in all respects as if the said deed of settlement had not been avoided.

Books and writings continued evidence.

17. All documents books and writings which if the said dissolution and avoidance had not taken place would have been receivable in evidence shall be admitted as evidence in all courts of justice and elsewhere notwithstanding such dissolution and avoidance.

Officers to continue until removed.

18. All officers and servants of the old company who were in office immediately before the passing of this Act shall hold and enjoy their respective offices and employments together with the salaries and emoluments thereunto annexed until they shall resign the same or be removed therefrom by the Company and shall be subject and liable to the like conditions obligations pains and penalties and to the like powers of removal and to the like rules restrictions and regulations in all respects whatsoever as if they had been appointed under this Act.

Present register of shareholders to be continued.

19. The books kept by the old company for entering the names and designations of the shareholders thereof with the numbers of their shares and the proper distinguishing numbers of such shares shall until some other register of shareholders shall be provided by the Company continue to be kept for the same purpose by the Company and be taken and considered as the register of shareholders required to be kept by the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845.

Capital.

20. The capital of the Company shall be twenty-seven thousand one hundred and six pounds and ten shillings whereof twelve thousand

one hundred and six pounds and ten shillings is in this Act called "the original capital" and fifteen thousand pounds is in this Act called "the additional capital" and shall be raised in manner herein-after mentioned.

Company to create stock.

21. The Company may and shall at the first ordinary meeting of the proprietors of the Company held after the passing of this Act create stock to the amount of twelve thousand one hundred and six pounds and ten shillings which may be called "Leighton Bussard Gas Original Stock" and is in this Act referred to as original stock.

Vesting of original stock in present shareholders.

22. The original stock shall be vested in the several persons who immediately before the passing of this Act were the registered shareholders of the old company in substitution for the existing shares of the old company twenty-one pounds of original stock being substituted for every share of twenty-one pounds and ten pounds and ten shillings of original stock being substituted for every share of ten pounds and ten shillings and all original stock so vested shall be subject and liable to the same trusts powers provisions declarations agreements charges liens and incumbrances as immediately before the passing of this Act affected the shares or share for which the same is substituted and every deed agreement or other instrument or any testamentary disposition shall take effect with reference to the whole or a proportionate amount of the substituted original stock as the case may be.

Company shall call in and cancel existing share certificates and issue new certificates in lieu thereof.

23. The Company shall call in and cancel the existing certificates of shares in the old company and issue in lieu thereof certificates of original stock 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 Company the loss or destruction thereof.

Power to Company to raise additional capital.

24. The Company may from time to time raise all or any part of the additional capital by this Act authorised by the creation and issue of new ordinary shares or stock or new preference shares or stock or partly by one mode and partly by the other but the Company shall not issue any share of less nominal value than ten pounds nor shall any such share or stock vest in the person or corporation accepting the same unless and until the full nominal amount of such share or stock if such share or stock shall be issued at or

A.D. 1891.

above par together with any premium obtained upon the sale thereof shall have been paid in respect thereof. Provided that the Company shall not create and issue under the powers of this Act any greater nominal amount of capital than shall be sufficient to produce including any premiums that may be obtained on the sale thereof the sum of fifteen thousand pounds Provided also that the Company shall not create and issue within the year following the passing of this Act any greater nominal amount of capital than shall be sufficient to produce in manner aforesaid five thousand pounds or within any subsequent year two thousand pounds The Company may convert into stock the whole or any part of their additional capital when fully paid up.

Profits of the Company limited.

25. Except as by this Act prescribed the Company shall not in respect of any one year make out of their profits any larger dividend on the original capital than ten pounds and on the additional capital than seven pounds in respect of every one hundred pounds actually paid up of such capital as shall be issued as ordinary capital or six pounds in respect of every one hundred pounds actually paid up of such capital as may be issued as preference capital.

Dividends on different classes of shares or stock to be paid proportionately.

26. In case in any half year the funds of the Company applicable to dividend shall be insufficient to pay the full amount of dividend at the prescribed maximum rate on the original stock and on the new ordinary shares or stock in the capital of the Company a proportionate diminution shall be made in the dividend of each class.

New shares or stock to be offered by auction or tender.

27. Notwithstanding anything in this Act contained the Company shall when any new shares or stock created under the powers of this Act are to be issued and before offering the same to the holder of any other shares or stock in the Company and whether the original stock of the Company is at a premium or not offer the same for sale by public auction or by tender in such manner at such times and subject to such conditions of sale as the Company shall from time to time determine Provided that at any such sale no single lot shall comprise more than one hundred pounds nominal value of shares or stock and that the reserved price put upon such shares or stock shall not be less than the nominal amount thereof and notice of the amount of such reserved price shall be sent by the Company in a sealed letter to the Board of Trade not less than twenty-four hours before the day of auction or the last day for the reception of tenders as the case may be and such letter may be opened after such day of auction or last day for the reception of tenders and not sooner and provided

that no priority of tender shall be allowed to any holder of shares or stock in the Company except that if any bidding or offer by tender of any holder or holders of shares or stock be the same in amount as any bid or offer made by any other person the bidding or offer of such holder or holders of shares or stock shall be accepted in preference.

Time for paying up shares or stock sold by auction.

28. It shall be one of the conditions of any sale of shares or stock under this Act that the whole nominal amount thereof together with any premiums given by any purchaser at such sale shall be paid to the Company within three months after such sale.

Notice to be given as to sale &c. of shares or stock.

29. The intention to sell any such shares or stock by auction or by tender shall be communicated in writing to the Secretary of the Committee of the London Stock Exchange at least twenty-eight days before the day of auction or the last day for the reception of tenders as the case may be and notice of such intention shall be duly advertised once in each of two consecutive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating within the said town of Leighton Bussard.

Shares or stock not sold by auction or by tender to be offered to shareholders.

30. When any shares or stock created under the powers of this Act have been offered for sale by auction or tender and not sold the same shall be offered at the reserved price put upon the same respectively for the purpose of sale by auction or tender to the holders of ordinary shares or ordinary stock of the Company:

Provided always that any shares or stock so offered and not accepted within the time prescribed by this Act shall again be offered for sale by auction or tender in the manner and subject to the provisions of this Act with respect to the sale of shares and stock.

Application of premium arising on issue of shares or stock.

31. Any sum of money which shall arise by way of premium from the issue of any such shares or stock after deducting therefrom the expenses of and incident to such issue shall not be considered as profits of the Company but shall be expended in extending or improving the works of the Company or in paying off money borrowed or owing on mortgage by the Company and shall not be considered as part of the capital of the Company entitled to dividend.

Power to borrow in respect of original capital.

32. The Company may at any time and from time to time after the passing of this Act borrow on mortgage of the undertaking in respect of the original capital of twelve thousand one hundred and six pounds ten shillings any sums not exceeding in the whole three thousand pounds.

Power to borrow in respect of

33. The Company may from time to time subject to the provisions of this Act borrow on mortgage of the undertaking any sum

A.D. 1891.

additional capital.

or sums not exceeding in the whole one-fourth part of the amount of the additional capital by this Act authorised to be raised and at the time actually issued by shares or stock but no part thereof shall be borrowed until the whole of the shares or stock at the time issued together with the premium (if any) realised on the sale thereof shall have been fully paid up and the Company have proved to the justice who is to certify under the fortieth section of the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 before he so certifies that such shares and stock and premium (if any) have been issued and fully paid up and upon production to such justice of the books of the Company and of such other evidence as he shall think sufficient he shall grant a certificate that the proof aforesaid has been given which certificate shall be sufficient evidence thereof.

Appointment of receiver.

34. The mortgagees of the Company may enforce payment of arrears of interest or principal or principal and interest due on their mortgages by the appointment of a receiver In order to authorise the appointment of a receiver in respect of arrears of principal the amount owing to the mortgagees by whom the application for a receiver is made shall not be less than one thousand pounds in the whole.

As to conversion of borrowed money into capital.

35. The Company shall not have power to raise the money by this Act authorised to be borrowed on mortgage or any part thereof by the creation of shares or stock instead of borrowing or to convert into capital the amount borrowed under the provisions of this Act unless in either case all dividends upon such shares or stock whether ordinary or preferential are limited to a rate not exceeding five pounds per centum per annum.

Debenture stock.

36. The Company may create and issue debenture stock subject to the provisions of Part III. of the Companies Clauses Act 1863 but notwithstanding anything therein contained the interest of all debenture stock and of all mortgages at any time created and issued or granted by the Company under this or any subsequent Act shall subject to the provisions of any subsequent Act rank pari passu (without respect to the dates of the securities or of the Acts of Parliament or resolutions by which the stock and mortgages were authorised) and shall have priority over all principal moneys secured by such mortgages Notice of the effect of this enactment shall be endorsed on all mortgages and certificates of debenture stock.

Priority of mortgages and debenture stock

37. All money to be raised by the Company on mortgage or debenture stock under the provisions of this Act shall have priority against the Company and the property from time to time of the

Company over all other claims on account of any debts incurred or engagements entered into by them after the passing of this Act Provided always that this priority shall not affect any claim against the Company or their property in respect of any rent-charge granted or to be granted by them in pursuance of the Lands Clauses Acts or in respect of any rent or sum reserved by or payable under any lease granted or made to the Company in pursuance of any Act relating to the Company which is entitled to rank in priority to or pari passu with the interest or dividend on their mortgages or debenture stock.

over other debts &c.

38. All moneys raised under this Act whether by shares stock debenture stock or borrowing shall be applied for the purposes of this Act and for the general purposes of the Company being in all cases purposes to which capital is properly applicable.

Application of moneys.

39. All meetings of the Company shall be held at the Company's Office in Leighton Bussard or at such other place as the directors may from time to time appoint.

Place for meetings.

40. The first ordinary meeting of the Company shall be held within three months next after the passing of this Act and the future ordinary meetings of the Company shall be held in the month of February in every year or at such other time as shall be appointed for that purpose by an order of a general meeting.

Ordinary meetings.

41. The quorum of all general meetings whether ordinary or extraordinary shall be seven shareholders present in person or by proxy holding not less in the aggregate than one thousand pounds in the ordinary capital of the Company.

Quorum for meetings of Company.

42. The scale on which the shareholders of the Company shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the Company shall be—

Scale of voting.

For one share and not exceeding five shares one vote;
For more than five but not exceeding ten shares two votes;
For more than ten but not exceeding fifteen shares three votes;
For more than fifteen and less than twenty shares four votes;
For twenty shares five votes; and
For every ten shares beyond the first twenty shares one additional vote:

Provided that no shareholder shall be entitled to vote except in respect of shares which shall have been registered in his name three months at least before the date of the meeting unless such shares have been acquired or shall have come by bequest or by marriage or by succession to an intestate estate or by any deed of settlement after the death of any person who shall have been entitled to the dividends of such shares:

A.D. 1891.

For the purposes of this section every ten pounds of original stock shall be deemed equivalent to one ordinary share of ten pounds in the capital of the Company.

Number of directors.

43. Subject to the section of this Act the marginal note whereof is "First directors" the number of directors shall be seven but the Company may decrease or again increase the number so that the number be not less than three nor more than seven.

Qualification of directors.

44. The qualification of a director shall be the possession in his own right of not less than one hundred pounds of original stock or ten fully paid-up ordinary shares.

Quorum.

45. The quorum of a meeting of directors shall be three.

First directors.

46. Francis Bassett, Theodore Harris, John Tindall, Robert Tindall, Edward Lawford, William Sharp Page, Robert Richmond, Frederick Pledger, and William Green shall be the first directors of the Company and shall continue in office until the first ordinary meeting held after the passing of this Act.

Election of directors.

47. At that meeting the shareholders present in person or by proxy shall (subject to the section of this Act the marginal note whereof is "Number of directors") elect a new body of directors or directors to supply the place of those directors to a number not exceeding seven the directors appointed by this Act being (if they continue qualified) eligible for re-election and at the first ordinary meeting to be held in every year after the first ordinary meeting the shareholders present in person or by proxy shall (subject to the power herein-before contained for varying the number of directors) elect persons to supply the places of the directors then retiring from office agreeably to the provisions of the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 and the several persons elected at any such meeting being neither removed nor disqualified nor having resigned shall continue to be directors until others are elected in their stead in manner provided by the same Act.

As to auditors.

48. The prescribed number of auditors shall be one The auditor need not hold shares in the Company.

Company may sell or lease lands not required.

49. The Company may from time to time sell for all their estate and interest therein or lease for any term or terms not exceeding seven years any lands vested in or acquired by them and which may not be required for the purposes of the Company Provided that the Company shall not erect or permit the erection on such lands as may be let or retained of any buildings other than buildings to be used in connexion with their undertaking.

Power to purchase lands by

50. The Company may for the purposes of their undertaking purchase take and hold (by agreement but not otherwise) in addition

to the lands described in the schedule to this Act any lands and hereditaments not exceeding in the whole two acres which the Company may from time to time require for the purposes of their works and undertaking but no lands shall be used by the Company for the purpose of manufacturing gas or residual products except the lands described in Part I. of the Schedule to this Act and no lands shall be used by the Company for the storage of gas except the lands described in Parts I. and II. of the said Schedule unless with the previous consent in writing of the owner lessee or occupier of every dwelling-house within three hundred yards of the limits of the land where such gas is to be stored. A.D. 1891. agreement. Gas not to be manufactured or stored except on land scheduled.

51. The Company shall not under the powers of this Act without the consent of the Local Government Board purchase or acquire in any city borough or urban sanitary district or in any parish or part of a parish not being within an urban sanitary district ten or more houses which after the passing of this Act have been or on the fifteenth day of December last were occupied either wholly or partially by persons belonging to the labouring class as tenants or lodgers. Restriction on taking houses of labouring class.

For the purposes of this section the expression "labouring class" includes mechanics artisans labourers and others working for wages hawkers costermongers persons not working for wages but working at some trade or handicraft without employing others except members of their own family and persons other than domestic servants whose income does not exceed an average of thirty shillings a week and the families of any such persons who may be residing with them.

52. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Company may from time to time maintain alter improve enlarge extend and renew or discontinue their existing gasworks upon the lands on which the same are erected or any part thereof and which are described in Part I. of the Schedule to this Act and they may also on those lands erect lay down provide and from time to time maintain alter improve enlarge extend and renew or discontinue additional and other gasworks retorts gasholders receivers drains sewers mains pipes meters lamps lamp-posts burners stop-cocks machinery and other works and apparatus and conveniences and may do all such acts as they may think proper for making and storing gas and 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 tar pitch asphaltum ammoniacal oil and all other products or residuum of any materials employed in or resulting from the manufacture of gas and also meters fittings tubes pipes and other Powers as to construction and maintenance of gasworks &c.

A.D. 1891.

articles and things in any way connected with gasworks or with the supply of gas as they may from time to time think fit.

For the protection of railway companies.

53. In laying down executing or effecting the repairs and renewals of any mains pipes or other works upon across over under or in any way affecting the railways lands or property now or hereafter belonging to used or occupied by any railway company either solely or jointly with any other railway company or the bridges approaches viaducts stations or other works or any level crossings of such railways the same shall be done under the superintendence and to the reasonable satisfaction of the principal engineer of such railway company and only according to such plans to be submitted to and in such manner as shall be previously reasonably approved by him and in all things by and at the expense of the Company who also shall make good and repair the roads over any such bridges level crossings and approaches which such railway company is or may be liable to maintain and which may be disturbed or interfered with by or owing to any operations of the Company and all such works matters and things shall be constructed executed and done so as not to cause any injury to such railways bridges level crossings approaches viaducts stations works lands or property or interruption to the passage or conduct of traffic over such railways or at any station thereon and if any such injury or interruption shall arise from or be in any way owing to any of the acts operations matters and things aforesaid or the bursting leakage or failure of any main pipe or culvert in under or near to any bridge or level crossing the Company shall make compensation in respect thereof to such railway company the amount of such compensation together with full costs to be recoverable from the Company by all and the same means as any simple contract debt is recoverable.

Power to lay pipes against buildings.

54. The Company with the consent of the owner and occupier of any building may lay any pipe branch or any 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 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 discontinue and remove any such pipe branch or apparatus.

Company to pay interest on money deposited as security for gas charges &c.

55. If any person is required by the Company to give to them security for the payment of the price or rent of a meter the Company shall pay interest after the rate of four pounds per centum per annum on every sum of ten shillings deposited by way of such security for every six months during which the same remains in their hands.

A.D. 1891.

Prepayment in certain cases.

56. Where the Company deem it necessary so to do they may require payment for gas required to be supplied for a period of six months or any shorter period and in such case may refuse to supply gas unless the estimated cost thereof for such period as the Company may from time to time fix be prepaid and at the end of each such period the Company shall be paid or shall repay any excess or deficiency of money actually payable for gas so supplied and the Company shall pay or allow interest after the rate of not less than four pounds per centum per annum on every sum of ten shillings so prepaid during each such period as aforesaid.

Limiting price of gas.

57. The price to be charged by the Company for gas supplied by them to persons who shall burn the same by meter shall not at any time exceed five shillings per one thousand cubic feet within the radius of one mile from the Market Cross in the town of Leighton Bussard and six shillings per one thousand cubic feet beyond that radius.

Discounts.

58. The Company may if they think fit allow discounts or rebates not exceeding in any case twenty per centum to consumers of gas in consideration of prompt payment of gas-rents or of large consumption upon such scale and subject to such conditions and regulations as may be prescribed by special contract in writing between the Company and any of such consumers Provided that such discounts or rebates shall be of equal amount under like circumstances to all consumers.

Pressure of gas.

59. All gas supplied by the Company to any consumer of gas shall be supplied at such pressure as to balance a column of water from midnight to sunset not less than six-tenths of an inch and from sunset to midnight not less than eight-tenths of an inch in height at the main as near as may be to the junction therewith of the service pipe supplying such consumer and any gas examiner appointed under the Gasworks Clauses Act 1871 may subject to the terms of his appointment from time to time test the pressure at which the gas is supplied and may for that purpose open any street road passage or place vested in or under the control of any local or road authority and the provisions of the Gasworks Clauses Act 1871 with reference to testing of gas and to penalties shall mutatis mutandis apply to such testing of pressure Provided that on each occasion of such testing at least two hours' previous notice in writing shall be given to the Company of the time and place at which the same shall be conducted to enable them to be represented.

Quality of gas.

60. The prescribed number of candles shall be fifteen.

Testing place.

61. Within six months from the passing of this Act a testing place shall be provided at the works of the Company.

A.D. 1891.

Burner.

62. The prescribed burner shall be Sugg's London Argand Burner No. 1 with a six-inch by one and three-quarter inch glass chimney but if at any time the gas flame tail over the top of that glass a six-inch by two-inch chimney shall be used.

Shareholder may be a member of sanitary authority.

63. No shareholder secretary auditor or treasurer of the Company shall by reason of being a shareholder be disqualified from being or acting as a member of or clerk to any sanitary authority or any body of commissioners under and by virtue of any Act of Parliament passed or that may be passed for the better paving cleansing lighting watching or improving any parish or place within the limits of this Act or in anywise connected therewith or be liable to any penalty as such notwithstanding that the sanitary authority of which he is a member or the commissioners acting under and by virtue of such Acts may enter into any contract with the Company or the directors for the time being Provided that no such shareholder being a member of such sanitary authority or commissioners shall be entitled to vote in or concerning any such contract but this prohibition may be dispensed with by the Local Government Board.

Contracts for supplying gas for public purposes.

64. The Company may from time to time enter into and fulfil any contract or arrangement with any sanitary authority having powers within any part of the limits of this Act or any corporation bodies or persons for the supply of gas by the Company for public purposes within the limits of this Act for any period not exceeding under any one such contract or arrangement seven years and may from time to time by mutual consent vary suspend or rescind any such contract or arrangement or enter into or carry into effect other contracts or arrangements in lieu thereof or in addition thereto.

As to sale of Company's undertaking.

65. If a local board be constituted for the town or parish of Leighton Bussard and the local board should apply to Parliament for an Act or to the Local Government Board for a Provisional Order to be confirmed by Act of Parliament for the purchase of the undertaking of the Company upon such terms and conditions as shall be agreed on between the said local board and the Company or as failing agreement shall be settled by arbitration the Company shall not oppose such application except in so far as may be necessary in order to secure the insertion in such Act or Order of clauses to protect their interests with respect to such purchase and for that purpose the Company shall be at liberty to petition either or both Houses of Parliament and to appear on such petition by counsel agents and witnesses if they think fit.

Costs of Act.

66. All the costs charges and expenses of incident and preliminary to the preparing and applying for obtaining and passing of this Act and otherwise in relation thereto shall be paid by the Company.

The SCHEDULE referred to in the foregoing Act.

PART I.

LANDS on which the COMPANY may manufacture GAS and RESIDUAL PRODUCTS and store GAS.

Certain lands now belonging or reputed to belong to the old company situate in the said parish of Leighton Bussard containing seven acres two roods and nineteen perches or thereabouts and on which the works of the old company are carried on bounded as follows:—On the north by Grovebury Road and land belonging or reputed to belong to the trustees of the late Charles Ridgway on the east by land belonging or reputed to belong to George Gamaliel Aveline the said trustees of the late Charles Ridgway and Joseph Hopkins respectively and on the west by the Dunstable Branch of the London and North-Western Railway.

PART II.

ADDITIONAL LANDS on which the COMPANY may store GAS.

Also a piece or parcel of land containing about one rood and twenty perches situate in the said parish of Leighton Bussard belonging or reputed to belong to the old company and in their occupation and bounded as follows:—On the north by properties belonging or reputed to belong to George Sanders and Henry Pettit respectively on the south by land belonging or reputed to belong to Joseph Hopkins on the east by a private roadway and on the west by the Billington Road.

Also a piece or parcel of land containing about eight perches situate in the said parish of Leighton Bussard belonging or reputed to belong to the old company on which they now store gas bounded as follows:—On the east by the Billington Road on the south-west by land belonging or reputed to belong to Henry Pettit and on the north-west by land belonging or reputed to belong to Fanny Bushell.

Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,

FOR

T. DIGBY PIGOTT, Esq., C.B., the Queen's Printer of Acts of Parliament.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE, EAST HARDING STREET, FLEET STREET, E.C.; or
JOHN MENZIES & Co., 12, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, and
88 and 90, WEST NILE STREET, GLASGOW; or
HODGES, FIGGIS, & Co., 104, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.