ANNO DECIMO SEPTIMO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

Cap. xvii.

An Act for supplying with Gas *Ramsbottom* and other Places in the Parish of *Bury* in the County Palatine of *Lancaster*. [12th *May* 1854.]

WHEREAS *Ramsbottom*, *Holcome*, *Edenfield*, *Tottington Higher End*, *Tottington Lower End*, *Walmsley-cum-Shuttleworth*, and *Elton*, all in the Parish of *Bury* in the County Palatine of *Lancaster*, are not at present sufficiently supplied with Gas, and it would be of great Advantage to the Inhabitants of those Places if Gasworks were constructed for effectually supplying the same with Gas: And whereas the Parties herein-after mentioned, with others, are willing to supply the said Places with Gas, but they cannot do so 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,

8 & 9 Vict. c. 16. and 10 & 11 Vict. c. 15. incorporated.

I. That the several Acts of Parliament following, (that is to say,) "The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," and "The Gasworks Clauses

Clauses Act, 1847," shall be incorporated with and form Part of this Act.

"Quarter Sessions."

II. That the Expression "Quarter Sessions" in the said incorporated Acts shall be construed to mean the Quarter Sessions for the County of *Lancaster* holden by Adjournment at *Salford*.

Short Title.

III. That in citing this Act in other Acts of Parliament, and in legal Instruments, it shall be sufficient to use the Expression "The *Ramsbottom* Gas Act, 1854."

8 & 9 Vict. c. 18. incorporated.

IV. That "The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," shall be incorporated with and form Part of this Act, and the Provisions of the said Lands Clauses Consolidation Act shall be applicable to the Undertaking hereby authorized, except as herein-after mentioned.

Company not to take Land without Consent.

V. Provided always, That nothing in the said Lands Clauses Consolidation Act contained shall authorize the Company to take or use any Land, unless with the Consent of and by Agreement with the Owners, Lessees, and Occupiers thereof.

Limits of Act.

VI. That the Limits of this Act shall extend to and include the several Townships, Villages, or Places of *Ramsbottom*, *Holcome*, *Edenfield*, *Tottington Higher End*, *Tottington Lower End*, *Walmsley-cum-Shuttleworth*, and *Elton*, all in the Parish of *Bury* in the County of *Lancaster*.

Company incorporated.

VII. That *Lawrence Duckworth*, *George Duckworth*, *Thomas Elton*, *Thomas Pilling*, *Richard Pickup*, *James Pickup*, *George Ramsbottom*, *Richard Wild*, *Thomas Wallwork*, *James Whittaker*, and all other Persons and Corporations who have already subscribed or shall hereafter subscribe to the Undertaking, and their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, shall be united into a Company for the Purpose of making and supplying Gas within the Limits of this Act, and for making Gasworks for that Purpose, with proper Works and Conveniences connected therewith, according to the Provisions in this and the said incorporated Acts contained, and for the Purposes aforesaid such Company shall be incorporated by the Name of "The *Ramsbottom* Gas Company," and by that Name shall be a Body Corporate, with perpetual Succession, and shall have Power to purchase and hold Lands for the Purposes of the said Undertaking.

Power to purchase Land limited.

VIII. That it shall not be lawful for the Company to purchase or hold for the Purposes of the Undertaking more than Four Acres of Land.

IX. That

IX. That the Capital of the Company shall be Ten thousand Pounds. Amount of Capital.

X. That the Number of Shares into which the said Capital shall be divided shall be One thousand, and the Amount of each Share shall be Ten Pounds. Shares.

XI. That Two Pounds *per* Share shall be the greatest Amount of any One Call which the Company may make upon the Shareholders, and that Two Third Parts of the Amount of a Share shall be the utmost aggregate Amount of the Calls to be made in any One Year upon any Share, and that Three Months at the least shall intervene between successive Calls. Calls.

XII. That it shall be lawful for the Company to borrow on Mortgage or Bond any Sums of Money not exceeding in the whole the Sum of Two thousand and five hundred Pounds, but no Part of such Sum shall be raised until the whole of the said Capital Sum of Ten thousand Pounds shall have been subscribed for, and One Half thereof shall have been actually paid up. Power to borrow on Mortgage.

XIII. That it shall be lawful for the Mortgagees of the Company to enforce the Payment of the Arrears of Principal and Interest due on any such Mortgages by the Appointment of a Receiver; and in order to authorize the Appointment of such Receiver, in the event of the Principal Monies not being duly paid, the Amount owing to the Mortgagees by whom Application for such Receiver shall be made shall not be less than One thousand Pounds in the whole. Arrears may be enforced by Appointment of a Receiver.

XIV. That the First Ordinary Meeting of the Company shall be held within Three Months next after the passing of this Act, and the subsequent Ordinary Meetings of the Company shall be held in the Months of *February* and *August* in every Year, and the First of such subsequent Ordinary Meetings shall be held in the Month of *February* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five; and such Meetings, whether Ordinary or Extraordinary, shall be held at some Place in the Parish of *Bury* aforesaid. First and other Meetings.

XV. That the Quorum for any General Meeting of the Company shall be Five Shareholders holding in the aggregate not less than Five hundred Pounds in the Share Capital of the Company. Quorum of General Meetings.

XVI. That the Number of Shareholders on whose Requisition an Extraordinary Meeting may be required to be convened shall be not less Number of Shareholders to convene

Extraordinary Meetings.

less than Five Shareholders holding in the aggregate not less than One thousand Pounds in the Share Capital of the Company.

Number and Qualification of Directors.

XVII. That (subject to the Provisions herein contained for reducing the Number of Directors) the Number of Directors shall be Ten, and the Qualification of a Director shall be the Possession in his own Right of Five Shares in the Undertaking.

Power to vary the Number of Directors.

XVIII. That it shall be lawful for the Company from Time to Time to reduce the Number of Directors of the Company, but the whole Number of Directors after such Reduction as aforesaid shall not be less than Three.

First Directors.

XIX. That *Lawrence Duckworth*, *George Duckworth*, *Thomas Elton*, *Thomas Pilling*, *Richard Pickup*, *James Pickup*, *George Ramsbottom*, *Richard Wild*, *Thomas Walwork*, and *James Whittaker* shall be the First Directors of the Company.

Power to construct Gasworks.

XX. That, subject to the Provisions in this and the said incorporated Acts contained, it shall be lawful for the Company from Time to Time to construct and maintain such Gasworks and Apparatus, and such Buildings, with Approaches thereto, upon the Lands belonging to the Company, or hereby authorized to be purchased by them, and to do all such other Acts as they shall think necessary for supplying the Inhabitants within the Limits of this Act with Gas, and to supply such Gas upon such Terms as shall be agreed upon between the Company and the Persons supplied therewith, and to sell and dispose of the Coke and other Residuum arising from the Materials used in the Manufacture of Gas in such Manner as the Company may think proper.

Distance between Gas Pipes and Water Pipes.

XXI. That every Gas Pipe of the Company in any Street within the Limits of this Act shall be laid, where practicable, at the Distance of Two Feet at the least from any Pipe of the *Haslingden and Rawtenstall* Waterworks Company then previously laid down.

Gas Pipes crossing Water Pipes.

XXII. Provided always, That where it is necessary to lay any Gas Pipe across any Water Pipe of the *Haslingden and Rawtenstall* Waterworks Company previously laid down, the Gas Pipe shall be laid as nearly as practicable at Right Angles with the Water Pipe.

Saving Rights of the Haslingden and Rawtenstall Waterworks Company.

XXIII. Provided always, That nothing in this Act contained shall repeal, alter, or prejudice any of the Rights, Powers, or Authorities vested in the *Haslingden and Rawtenstall* Waterworks Company.

XXIV. That

For the Protection of existing Gas Pipes.

XXIV. That if in laying down any Pipes within the Limits of this Act the Company shall do any Damage to or shall interfere with any existing Gas Pipe, the Company shall forthwith make good such Damage, and replace the said Pipe, so that the Passage of Gas through the same shall in nowise be obstructed or prevented.

Power to lay Pipes for lighting Buildings.

XXV. That, subject to the Provisions in this and the incorporated Acts contained, it shall be lawful for the Company to lay any Pipe, Branch, or other Apparatus from any Main or Branch Pipes into, through, or against any Building, for the Purpose of lighting the same, and to provide and set up any Apparatus necessary for securing to any Buildings a proper and complete Supply of Gas, and for measuring and ascertaining the Extent of such Supply.

Consumers may be required to consume Gas by Meter.

XXVI. That every private Consumer of the Gas of the Company shall, upon Request in Writing by the Company, consume Gas by Meter, to be found and provided by the Company, if the Consumer shall not think fit to provide the same at his own Expense.

Limiting Price of Gas.

XXVII. The maximum Price of Gas charged to the Consumers of Gas by Measure shall not exceed Six Shillings *per* Thousand Cubic Feet.

Pipes to be distinguished by a Mark.

XXVIII. That all Pipes which shall be laid down by the Company within the Limits of this Act shall be of such Construction or shall be so marked as that the same may be easily distinguishable from the Pipes of any other Company or Persons supplying Gas or Water within the same Limits.

Recovery of Money by Distress.

XXIX. That all Sums of Money due to the Company for the Supply of Gas, or for the Hire of Meters or Gas Fittings, and the Amount of which is less than Twenty Pounds, may be levied by Distress; and any Justice, on Application by the Company, shall issue his Warrant accordingly, and One such Warrant may include in the Body thereof or in a Schedule thereto several Names and several Sums.

Costs of Distress.

XXX. That any Justice who issues any such Warrant of Distress may order that the Costs of the Proceedings for the Recovery of such Money 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.

Expenses of Act.

XXXI. That all the Costs, Charges, and Expenses of applying for and obtaining this Act or incident thereto shall be defrayed by the Company.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1854.