



ANNO QUINQUAGESIMO

# GEORGII III. REGIS.

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## *Cap. 163.*

An Act for granting certain Powers and Authorities to a Company to be incorporated by Charter, to be called The Gas Light and Coke Company, for making Inflammable Air for the lighting of the Streets of the Metropolis, and for procuring Coke, Oil, Tar, Pitch, Asphaltum, Ammoniacal Liquor, and essential Oil, from Coal, and for other Purposes relating thereto. [9th June 1810.]

**W**HEREAS Inflammable Air, Coke, Oil, Tar, Pitch, Asphaltum, Ammoniacal Liquor, and essential Oil, may be procured from Coal: And whereas the said Inflammable Air being conveyed by means of Pipes, may be safely and beneficially used for lighting public Streets, Squares, Market Places, and large Manufactories, and for lighting private Houses; and the Coke may be beneficially employed as Fuel in private Houses and Manufactories, and the said Oil, Tar, Pitch, Asphaltum, Ammoniacal Liquor, and essential Oil, may be used and applied in various Ways with great Advantage: And whereas the Introduction of the said Articles into general Use would be greatly beneficial to the Public: And whereas the Production and beneficial Use of such Articles will be more completely and speedily effected, if His Majesty should constitute and declare, by His Charter, that such Persons as should be named therein, and be afterwards duly admitted for the Purpose of producing such Articles for the Purposes aforesaid, should be one Body Politic and Corporate, under certain Limitations to be prescribed, and that such Powers and Authorities should be given to such Body Politic and Corporate as cannot be granted without the Aid of Parliament: May it please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty,

[*Loc. & Per.*] 41 Q

His Majesty may grant a Charter to Persons admitted into the Gas Light and Coke Company, to be incorporated for the Purpose of producing Inflammable Air, Coke, &c. for lighting the Streets.

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, That in case His Majesty, by Charter, under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, shall think fit within Three Years after the passing of this Act, to declare and grant, that such and so many Persons as shall be named therein, and all and every such other Person or Persons as from Time to Time shall be duly admitted Members into their Corporation, shall be a Body Politic and Corporate, by the Name of "The Gas Light and Coke Company," to continue for and during the Period of Twenty-one Years from the Time of granting such Charter, and to declare that the said Corporation so to be made and created shall be established for the Purpose of producing Inflammable Air, Coke, Oil, Tar, Pitch, Asphaltum, Ammoniacal Liquor, and essential Oil, from Coal; such Corporation shall have Power to make Contracts with any Commissioners or Directors, or Trustees, having the Controul, Direction, or Management of the lighting of any of the Parishes or extra-parochial Places within the Cities of *London* or *Westminster*, or the Borough of *Southwark*, or any of the Liberties or Precincts thereof respectively, or any Persons, Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, willing and desirous of contracting with the said Corporation, for the lighting of any such Parishes or Places, or any Streets, Squares, public Market Places, or Manufactories or private Houses, or Places of public Exhibition, within the said Parishes or extra-parochial Places, situate within the said Cities or Liberties thereof, or Liberties or Precincts aforesaid; and to sell and dispose of such Coke, Oil, Tar, Pitch, Asphaltum, Ammoniacal Liquor, and essential Oil, and all other Products arising from Coal, under such Conditions, Limitations, and Restrictions as shall be expressed and contained in such Charter, and as are herein-after expressed.

Stock to be raised not to exceed 200,000*l.*

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Corporation to raise and contribute among themselves a Capital or Joint Stock, to be applied and used in establishing and carrying on the Undertaking and Purposes aforesaid, not exceeding the Sum of Two hundred thousand Pounds Sterling, to be subscribed in Shares of Fifty Pounds each.

100,000*l.* to be subscribed before the Corporation act.

III. Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, That the said Corporation shall not be authorized to exercise any of the Powers granted under this Act, until such Time as the Sum of One hundred thousand Pounds shall have been subscribed.

Joint Stock to be raised within Three Years.

IV. And to the Intent that sufficient Provision of Money may be made for answering and paying all just Demands upon the said Corporation, and to furnish the said Corporation with Money for its necessary and lawful Occasions; it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Corporation shall be obliged, by force and virtue of the said Charter so to be granted or made as aforesaid, to raise the full Sum of Two hundred thousand Pounds within a Period not exceeding Three Years, to be computed from the Time the said Charter of Incorporation shall be granted.

Subscribers to share in the Stock in proportion to their Subscriptions.

V. And be it further enacted, That in the said Charter for establishing the said Corporation, it shall be provided, that all and every Person or Persons by or for whom any Subscription shall be made or accepted, or any

any Payment made pursuant to the Orders of any general Court or Courts authorized by the said Charter to be held by the said Corporation for that Purpose, for or towards the raising the said Capital Joint Stock as aforesaid, his, her, or their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns respectively, shall have and be entitled to a Share of and in the said Capital Joint Stock of the said Corporation, in proportion to the Monies to which he, she, or they shall have so contributed towards making up the same, and to a proportional Share of the Profits and Advantages attending the Capital Stock of the said Corporation, and shall be admitted to be a Member or Members of the same.

VI. Provided always, and it is hereby enacted, That the several Members of the said Corporation shall respectively stand responsible and answerable for all just Debts and Demands of the Creditors of the said Corporation, to the full Amount of their several and respective Shares in the Capital of the said Joint Stock, but shall not be any further or otherwise liable, either personally or in their several and respective Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Goods, Chattels, or Effects, for any Undertakings, Engagements, Contracts, or Agreements entered into by the said Corporation, or be subject or liable by reason of his or their being Members of the said Corporation, or of any the Acts of the said Corporation, to the Statutes respecting Bankrupts, or any of them.

Subscribers liable to the Debts of the Corporation in proportion to their Share in the Stock.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the said Sum to be so subscribed shall be divided into Shares of Fifty Pounds Sterling each, and that no Person or Persons shall be a Subscriber or Subscribers for a less Sum than Fifty Pounds Sterling each; and that all Shares in the Joint Stock and Undertaking of the said Corporation, and in the net Profits and Advantages thereof, shall be deemed Personal Estate, and not of the Nature of Real Estate, and as such Personal Estate shall be transmissible accordingly.

Stock to be divided into Shares of 50l. each, and be Personal Estate.

VIII. And to the Intent that all Matters and Things touching the Concerns of the said Body Corporate may be managed and conducted in the most beneficial Manner, be it further enacted, That in such Charter for establishing the said Corporation it shall be provided, that all and every Person or Persons, who shall have subscribed for, or become entitled to, and be in the actual Possession of Two and more Shares in the said Undertaking, shall have a Vote or Votes in respect of such Shares in the General and Special Meetings of the said Body Corporate, to be held for carrying on the said Undertaking, or for any Purposes relative thereto, in proportion to the Number of Shares following; that is to say, For Two Shares, and less than Four Shares, One Vote; for Four Shares, and less than Eight Shares, Two Votes; for Eight Shares, and less than Sixteen Shares, Three Votes; for Sixteen Shares, and less than Twenty-four Shares, Four Votes; and for Twenty-four Shares and upwards, Five Votes; provided that no Person shall be entitled to give any Vote at any such Meeting or Meetings, unless such Person shall be possessed of Two Shares at least in the said Joint Stock or Undertaking, and shall have held such Shares for Six Calendar Months.

Proprietors to vote according to the Number of their Shares.

IX. And be it further enacted, That in the said Charter for establishing the said Corporation, it shall be declared, That whenever Two or more

If Two or more Persons be joint Pro-

prietors, the first named shall vote.

No Proprietor to vote if interested.

Directors to be appointed.

Two General Meetings to be held in each Year.

How Directors shall be chosen.

more Persons shall be jointly possessed of or entitled to Two or more Shares in the Joint Stock and Undertaking of the said Body Corporate, and in the Profits and Advantages thereof, such Persons shall be entitled to give their Vote or Votes in respect thereof, by the Person whose Name shall stand first in the Books of the said Body Corporate as joint Subscriber or Proprietor of such Shares; and that no Person or Persons shall vote at any of the Meetings of the said Body Corporate, or of the Governor, Deputy Governor, or Directors, to be appointed or chosen agreeable to the Direction of such Charter, upon any Question or Questions relating to the Concerns of the said Body Corporate, in which such Person or Persons shall be in any ways interested, other than as a Subscriber or Subscribers, Proprietor or Proprietors of the said Stock and Undertaking.

X. And be it further enacted, That in such Charter for establishing such Corporation it shall be provided, that there shall be from Time to Time elected, from the Members of the said Body Corporate, a Governor, a Deputy Governor, and Ten Directors of and in the said Body Corporate; and that no Director shall be a Dealer, either directly or indirectly, in any one of the Articles to be provided or manufactured by the said Corporation.

XI. And be it further enacted, That in the said Charter for establishing such Corporation, it shall be provided, that there shall be held in each Year Two General Meetings of the said Body Corporate, *videlicet*, on the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* and the Twenty-sixth Day of *December*, or within Fourteen Days next after such Days respectively, of which several Meetings Fourteen Days Notice at the least shall be given by Advertisement in the *London Gazette*, and in Four or more of the public Newspapers published in the City of *London* and County of *Middlesex*, and the First General Meeting to be held by virtue of this Act shall be holden on such of the said Days as shall first happen next after the granting of such Charter; and that all such Meetings may be adjourned from Time to Time, and from Place to Place, as shall be found expedient; and that the Subscribers and Proprietors at such General Meetings, or at any other Special Meetings to be called for that Purpose, of which Twenty-one Days Notice shall be given in the *Gazette*, and in Two daily Morning and Two daily Evening Papers, specifying the Purpose for which such Special Meeting is called, shall have Power to elect Persons not having less than Twenty-four Shares in the said Stock and Undertaking, into the Place or Places of such Governor, Deputy Governor, or Directors, who shall have quitted such Office or Offices, in pursuance of any Direction to be contained in such Charter, and to elect other Persons qualified as last aforesaid, to serve in the Place of such Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors, whose Office shall have respectively become vacant by Death, Amotion, Resignation, or Want of Qualification, or otherwise; and that at every such Meeting or Meetings, all Questions shall be decided by a Majority of Votes of the Subscribers and Proprietors present, according to their respective Number of Votes, such Votes to be taken by Ballot; and in case such Votes shall be equal, the Governor for the Time being, or in case of his Absence the Deputy Governor, or in case of the Absence of such Deputy Governor, then such Person as shall be in the Chair for the Time being, shall have a casting Vote; and that if any Governor, Deputy Governor, or Director so first to be nominated, or at any Time to be chosen, shall, during

during the Continuance of such his or their Office as aforesaid, by Transfer, Forfeiture, or otherwise, reduce his or their Number of Shares in the said Stock and Undertaking below the Number of Twenty-four Shares, then and in every such Case or Cases the Office or Offices of such Governor, Deputy Governor, and Director, shall instantly cease, determine, and become vacant, in the same and like Manner as upon the Death or Resignation of such Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors respectively; and that no Member or Members of the said Body Corporate, to be chosen Governor, Deputy Governor, or one of the Directors of the said Body Corporate, shall be capable of being so chosen, or of continuing such Governor, Deputy Governor, or one of the Directors as aforesaid, unless the said Number of Twenty-four Shares be entered and continue in the Names of such Governor, Deputy Governor, or Director or Directors respectively, in the Books of the said Body Corporate.

XII. And be it further enacted, That in the said Charter for establishing such Corporation, it shall be provided, that the said several Persons therein to be nominated and appointed the first Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors as aforesaid, who shall not resign, or be removed or become ineligible and unqualified, shall continue in their respective Offices for the Space of Four Years, and until others shall be duly elected into their Places; and that all succeeding Governors, Deputy Governors, and Directors, shall successively be chosen out of the Members of the said Body Corporate, between the Twenty-fourth Day of *May* and the Twenty-fourth Day of *June*, and the Governor and Deputy Governor so chosen as aforesaid shall severally and respectively continue in their several and respective Offices of Governor, Deputy Governor for the Space of Four Years, and until others shall be duly elected into their Places; and of the Directors so to be chosen as aforesaid, Three shall continue in Office for the Period of One Year, and other Three for the Period of Two Years, and the remaining Four for the Period of Four Years, from their being so chosen as aforesaid, to be decided by Lot.

Directors to continue in Office Four Years.

XIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That any Vacancy or Vacancies in the Offices of such Governor, Deputy Governor, or Directors respectively, by Death, Resignation, Removal, or becoming ineligible or unqualified as aforesaid, may and shall be filled up at any Special Meeting or Meetings to be called for that Purpose in manner aforesaid; and that the Person or Persons so to be chosen to fill such Vacancy or Vacancies shall continue in his or their several and respective Office or Offices for the Space of Two Years, to be computed from the next succeeding General Election of Governor, Deputy Governor, or Directors.

Vacancies in the Direction to be filled up.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Governor, or Deputy Governor, or Director so nominated, or who shall be chosen pursuant to the Directions of any such Charter, to administer an Oath as to the Possession of any Share or Shares in the said Joint Stock or Undertaking, or as to the Period of the Possession of any such Shares, and also as to the Accounts of any Person or Persons in the Employment or Service of the said Corporation, as a Treasurer, Secretary, Clerk, or other Officer or Servant of the said Corporation.

Directors authorized to administer an Oath.

[*Loc. & Per.*]

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XV. And

Special Meetings of the Proprietors may be convened.

XV. And be it further enacted, That in such Charter for establishing such Corporation it shall be provided, that if at any Time it shall appear to the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors for the Time being, at any Meeting, or to any Thirty or more of the other Subscribers or Proprietors, who shall together be Holders of Three hundred Shares at the least, to be necessary or expedient to call a Special Meeting of the Subscribers or Proprietors at large, for the Purpose of taking their Opinion and Determination upon any Matter or Thing relating to the said Body Corporate, that it shall be lawful for such Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors, of their own Authority, or at the Requisition in Writing, to be signed by such Thirty or more other Subscribers or Proprietors being Holders of at least Three hundred Shares, and which Requisition shall specify the Object of such Meeting; and in case the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors for the Time being, shall refuse or neglect, for the Space of Fourteen Days, to comply with such Requisition, then and in such Case it shall be lawful for the Subscribers or Proprietors, who shall have signed the same, to call a Special Meeting of the Subscribers and Proprietors at large, by Advertisement in *The London Gazette*, and in Four or more of the Newspapers published in the City of *London* or County of *Middlesex*, specifying the Place where and the Time when such Meeting is to be held, the Time not being less than Twenty-one Days after such Notice, and the Place somewhere in *London* or *Westminster*; and likewise specifying in such Notice the Reason for and Intention of calling such Special Meeting; and the Subscribers and Proprietors are hereby authorized to meet pursuant to such Notice, and take into Consideration the Matter or Matters to be submitted to them by the Persons calling such Special Meeting, and specified in such Notice; and the Decision and Determination of the Subscribers and Proprietors present at such Meeting, or the major Part of them, according to the Number of Votes they shall have a Right to give respecting such Matter or Matters, shall be as valid to all Intents and Purposes as if the same had been made at any General Meeting of the said Body Corporate as aforesaid.

Meetings of the Directors, and Regulations for their Proceedings.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That in such Charter for establishing such Corporation it shall be provided, that the Governor, or Deputy Governor for the Time being, and Three or more of the Directors, or any Five of the Directors, if the Governor or Deputy Governor shall not be present, but not less, shall be a sufficient Number to constitute a Meeting for the Purpose of executing all such Powers and Authorities as the Whole of the said Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors for the Time being might have executed, if assembled together; and that all Questions, Matters, and Things which shall be proposed, discussed, or considered by them, shall be decided and determined by the Majority in Number of the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors then present; and in case of an equal Division, the Governor for the Time being, or in his Absence the Deputy Governor for the Time being, shall have the casting Vote; and that if on the Day appointed for any Meeting of the said Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors, the said Governor or Deputy Governor, and Three Directors, or Five Directors, shall not attend, that then and in every such Case the Meeting shall be adjourned to the next Day by the Members or Member then present, or if none be present, by the principal or Chief Clerk to the said Body Corporate, or such other Person as shall attend in his Place.

XVII. And

XVII. And be it further enacted, That in such Charter for establishing such Corporation it shall be provided, that the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors of the said Body Corporate named in the said Charter, or to be chosen agreeable to the Direction therein to be contained, shall have the Custody of the Common Seal of the said Body Corporate, and shall have full Power and Authority to meet and adjourn from Time to Time, and from Place to Place, and to direct the Affairs and Business of the said Undertaking, as well in issuing, receiving, and laying out and disposing of all Sums of Money to be issued or received, laid out or disposed of, for the Purposes of the same, as in contracting for and purchasing Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Materials, Goods, and Chattels for the Use of the said Undertaking, and entering into Contracts for the lighting of any such Parishes, Places, Streets, Markets, Houses, or Buildings aforesaid, and in ordering, directing, and employing the Works and Workmen, and in selling and disposing of all Articles produced from Coal as aforesaid, and in placing and displacing Officers, Clerks, Agents, and Servants, and making all Contracts or Bargains touching or in anywise concerning the same, subject to such Orders, Bye-Laws, Rules, and Constitutions, as shall at any Time be duly made by the said Body Corporate, in Restraint, Controul, or Regulations of the Powers and Authorities to be granted by the said Charter or Indenture.

Power of the  
Directors.

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That in such Charter for establishing such Corporation it shall be provided, that the Treasurer or Treasurers, or other Officer or Officers of the said Body Corporate, shall not issue any Sum or Sums of Money on account of the said Body Corporate, without an Order or Orders in Writing, signed by the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being, and Three others at the least of the Directors present, or by Five Directors, at some Meeting of the said Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors; and that on the Twenty-fourth Day of *June* and the Twenty-sixth Day of *December* in every Year, or within Fourteen Days of the same respectively, a Half-yearly Dividend or Dividends shall be made by the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors for the Time being aforesaid, out of the Interest, Profit, or Advantages of the said Stock or Undertaking, at a Meeting or Meetings of the said Body Corporate, to be held at such several Times as last aforesaid respectively, unless the Subscribers and Proprietors of the said Body Corporate shall at such Meeting or Meetings declare otherwise; and such Dividend or Dividends shall be at and after the Rate of so much in the Hundred upon all and every Sum or Sums of Money paid to the said Body Corporate by such Subscribers and Proprietors, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, as the said Body Corporate shall think fit at such Meeting or Meetings to appoint and determine; provided that no Dividend shall be declared, made, or paid for Twelve Months after the Establishment of such Corporation: Provided always, that no Dividend shall be made whereby the Capital of such Company shall be in any Degree reduced or impaired; and that the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors, who shall make any such Dividends, shall be personally responsible to the Proprietors, and also to the Creditors of the said Company, for any Injury which may arise therefrom.

Treasurer  
not to issue  
Money with-  
out an Order  
from the Di-  
rectors.

Dividends  
to be made  
Half-yearly,  
&c.

XIX. And

Calls to be  
made on Sub-  
scribers.

In Default of  
Payment of  
Calls, Shares  
to be for-  
feited; but  
Notice first  
to be given.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That in the said Charter for establishing such Corporation it shall be provided, that at every General Meeting of the said Body Corporate, the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors for the Time being, in consequence of any Resolution that shall have been first passed for such Purpose, at any Meeting of such Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors for the Time being, to have been on that Account held, shall have full Power and Authority to make such Call or Calls for Money from the several Subscribers and Proprietors of the said Undertaking, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, as the said Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors shall from Time to Time find wanting and necessary for the Purposes of the Undertaking, so that no such Call do exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds for or in respect of any One Share of Fifty Pounds, and so that no Call or Calls be made but at the Distance of Five Calendar Months at least from each other, and that the Sum or several Sums of Money so to be called for shall be paid into the Hands of the Treasurer to the said Body Corporate, to be issued and applied by virtue of an Order or Orders given to him for that Purpose; and that such Order or Orders shall be signed by the Governor or Deputy Governor for the Time being, and Three of the Directors at least present, or by Five of the Directors present at some Meeting of the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors duly held, and that the said several Sums of Money so called for shall be paid at such Time and Place as shall be appointed by such General Meeting of the said Body Corporate; of which Time and Place One Calendar Month's Notice at least shall be given in *The London Gazette*, and in Four or more of the said daily Newspapers published in *London* or *Middlesex*, or in such other Manner as the said Governor, Deputy Governor, and Directors shall at any Meeting direct and appoint in that Behalf; and that if any Person or Persons shall neglect or refuse to pay his, her, or their Proportion of the Money so to be called for during the Space of Three Calendar Months next after the Time appointed for Payment thereof, then in such Case such Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing shall absolutely forfeit all his, her, or their Share, Part, and Interest in the said Undertaking and Capital Stock, and all Profit and Advantage thereof, and all Money theretofore advanced by him, her, or them on account thereof, to and for the Use and Benefit of the said Corporation; and that all Shares which shall or may be so forfeited shall or may be sold at a public Sale for the most Money that can be gotten for the same, and the Produce thereof shall go to and make Part of the Capital or Joint Stock of the said Body Corporate; but that no Advantage shall be taken of such Forfeiture of any Share in the said Undertaking as aforesaid, until after Twenty-one Days Notice shall be given by the Treasurer or Clerk to the said Body Corporate, to the Owner or Owners thereof, or Notice in Writing left at his, her, or their usual or last Place of Abode; nor unless the same shall be declared to be forfeited at the First Meeting of the Subscribers and Proprietors which shall be held not earlier than Two Months next after the said Forfeiture shall happen; and that every such Forfeiture so to be declared shall be an absolute Indemnification and Discharge to and for the Subscriber or Subscribers, Proprietor and Proprietors, or their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns so forfeiting, against all Actions, Suits, and Prosecutions for any Breach of Contract or other Agreement between such Subscriber or Subscribers, Proprietor or Proprietors, his, her, or their Executors, Ad-  
ministrators,



nistrators, Successors, or Assigns, and the said Body Corporate, with regard to the future carrying on and Management of the said Undertaking.

XX. And be it further enacted, That in the said Charter for establishing such Corporation it shall be provided, that if any Person or Persons, Subscriber or Subscribers, Proprietor or Proprietors of any Share or Shares in the said Undertaking, shall die before Payment shall have been made by him or her of the full Sum to be called for or in respect thereof as aforesaid, without having made any sufficient Provision by Will or otherwise how such Share or Shares shall be disposed of, and how the future Calls in respect thereof shall be answered, that then and in such Case the Executors or Administrators of such Proprietor, and the Trustees or Trustee, Guardian or Guardians of any Infant or other Person entitled to the Estate and Effects of such Subscriber or Subscribers, Proprietor or Proprietors, shall be indemnified against such Infant, and all other Persons whomsoever, for paying any Money which shall be called for as aforesaid in respect of the Share or Shares of such deceased Proprietor.

Executors,  
&c. indemnified in paying  
Calls.

XXI. And in order that where the original Subscriber of one or more Share or Shares in the said Undertaking shall die, become insolvent or bankrupt, or go out of the Kingdom, or shall transfer his Right and Interest to some other Person, and no Register shall have been made of the Transfer thereof with the Clerk to the said Corporation, it may not be in the Power of the said Body Corporate, or any Officer acting for the said Body Corporate, to know who is the Owner or Proprietor of such Share or Shares, in order to give him, her, or them, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, Notice or Notices of Calls to be made on such Share or Shares, and to maintain any Action or Actions against him, her, or them, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, for the Recovery of the same, or for the Purpose of safely paying to him, her, or them, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, the Interest or Dividends to which he, she, or they may be entitled by virtue thereof; be it further enacted, That in the said Charter for establishing such Corporation it shall be provided, that in all the Cases aforesaid, where the Right and Property in one or more Share or Shares in the said Undertaking shall pass from the original Subscriber or Subscribers, or any Proprietor or Proprietors thereof, to any other Person or Persons, by any other legal Means than by a Transfer or Conveyance thereof in the Form and Manner to be specified in such Charter, an Affidavit shall be made and sworn to by Two credible Persons, before One of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, stating the Manner in which such Share or Shares hath or have passed to such other Person or Persons, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, and that such Affidavit shall be transmitted to the Clerk to the said Body Corporate, to the Intent that he may enter and register the Name or Names of every such other Proprietor or Proprietors in the Register Book, or List of Subscribers and Proprietors to the said Undertaking, to be kept in the Office of the said Clerk; and that in all or any of the said Cases, it shall be lawful for the Subscribers and Proprietors at any General Meeting, after Three Calendar Months Notice shall have been given by the said Treasurer or Clerk to the Owners or Persons claiming by such Affidavit to be Owner or Owners thereof, and that such Person or Persons, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, shall not have paid his, her, or their Proportion of the Money becoming payable by virtue of any Call or Calls, and after

For ascertaining the Proprietorship of Shares in certain Cases.

[Loc. & Per.]

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Notice

Notice thereof shall have been given Three Times, at the Intervals of Ten Days between each Advertisement, in some Four Newspapers circulated in the said County of *Middlesex* and City of *London*, to declare at any General Meeting the same Share or Shares to be forfeited, and that in such Case the same shall be and become forfeited, and be sold and disposed of in such Manner as the said Subscribers and Proprietors at any Meeting or Meetings shall direct, or otherwise become consolidated in the General Fund of the said Body Corporate.

Shares may be transferred.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That in such Charter for establishing such Corporation it shall be provided, that it shall be lawful for the several Subscribers and Proprietors of the said Undertaking, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, to sell and transfer any Share or Shares of which they shall respectively be possessed; and every such Transfer shall be in the Form and to the Effect following:

Form of Transfers.

I do hereby assign and transfer to  
 his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns (or to  
 and their Successors, all my Share or Shares (specifying the Number) in  
 the Joint Stock and Undertaking of "The Gas Light and Coke Com-  
 pany," and to the net Profit and Advantages thereof, and all my Right,  
 Title, and Interest therein. Witness my Hand, this Day of  
 in the Year

Transfers to be registered.

And that every such Transfer shall be registered in the Books of the said Body Corporate, and a Copy of such Register, signed by the Clerk or other Officer of the said Body Corporate duly authorized thereto, shall be sufficient Evidence of every such Sale and Transfer, and received as such in all Disputes and in all Trials before any Court in the United Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; and that until such Transfer shall be so registered in the Books of the said Body Corporate as aforesaid, no Purchaser or Purchasers of any Share or Shares aforesaid, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, shall have any Part or Share in the said Joint Stock and Undertaking, or in the Profits and Advantages thereof, nor shall receive any Interest or Dividend for or in respect of such Share or Shares so purchased, nor be entitled to vote at any Meeting or Meetings as Subscriber or Subscribers, Proprietor or Proprietors of the said Undertaking.

Corporation not to borrow Money.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Corporation shall not borrow or take up by way of Loan any Sum or Sums of Money whatsoever, other than by a Subscription for Shares in manner and to the Extent herein-before directed.

Corporation not to light Parishes beyond the Extent of their Capital.

XXIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in the said Charter it shall be provided, that the said Body Corporate shall, upon due and reasonable Application made to them for that Purpose on the Behalf of any Parish or Parishes, or Parts of any Parish or Parishes, or extra-parochial Place or Places within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster* aforesaid, the Borough of *Southwark*, Suburbs, Precincts, and Liberties of the same Cities, undertake to furnish, and shall furnish such Parish or Parishes, or such Parts of any Parish or Parishes respectively, with a sufficient Supply of Inflammable Air, for the Purposes of lighting the said Parish or Parishes, or Part or Parts thereof, with a stronger and better Light, and at a cheaper and lower Price, all Expences included, than

than such Parish or Parishes, or Part or Parts of Parishes, could be supplied with, if lighted in the usual Manner, during the Existence of the Contract which they may enter into with the said Corporation: Provided also, that nothing herein contained shall extend to compel or require the said Body Corporate to expend any greater Sum or Sums of Money for the Purposes to be mentioned or expressed in the said Charter, than the Members of the said Corporation shall be thereby or by this Act be authorized to subscribe or contribute for the Purposes of the said Undertaking, nor to contract with any such Parish or Parishes, or Place or Places, for a less Term than Fourteen Years, but at the Option of the said Body Corporate.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That every Contract or Agreement entered into by any Parish or Parishes, or Parts of Parishes, with the said Corporation, shall contain a Clause providing that the said Contract shall be null and void, if at any Time the Price charged for Inflammable Air used in lighting the Parish shall be greater than what at the Time shall be paid for lighting any Part of *London, Westminster, or Southwark*, with Oil in the usual Manner. Contract with Parishes void if the Price for Air be greater than Oil.

XXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the said Body Corporate shall not under any Pretence or Pretences, or by any Ways or Means, contract to supply, or shall be permitted to supply with such Inflammable Air as aforesaid, for the Purposes aforesaid, any Parish or Parishes, or any Part or Parts of Parishes, that shall not lie or be situate within the Cities of *London* or *Westminster*, or one of them, or the Borough of *Southwark*, or the Suburbs, Liberties, or Precincts of the said Cities or Borough respectively, or adjacent thereto. Powers of supplying Inflammable Air limited to London, Westminster, &c.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Body Corporate shall not by any Ways or Means, or under any Device or Devices, supply or undertake to supply any Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactories, public or private Buildings whatever, with the said Inflammable Air, for any of the Purposes aforesaid, except only such House or Houses, Manufactories or Buildings, which can be supplied from such Main Pipe or Pipes as shall be laid down by the said Body Corporate for the Purposes of supplying any Parish or Parishes, or Streets, or Part or Parts of any Parish or Parishes, with such Inflammable Air for the Purposes aforesaid. Not to supply any House out of the Line of the Main Pipe.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That the said Body Corporate shall not by any Ways or Means, or under any Pretence or Pretences, contract to sell and furnish, or shall sell or furnish any Stove, or Pipe or Pipes, or Apparatus or Machinery of any Description whatever, for the Purpose of conveying, or whereby such Inflammable Air as aforesaid, or any Quantity thereof, may be conveyed into any Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactories, public or private Buildings, for the Purpose of lighting the same. No Machinery for conveying Gas to private Houses to be sold.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That in the said Charter it shall be declared, that if at any Time hereafter during the Continuance of the said Body Corporate, the said Body Corporate shall omit, neglect, or refuse to carry into Effect and fulfil the Provision hereby directed to be inserted in the said Charter, that the said Body Corporate shall, upon due and reasonable Application made to them for that Purpose on the Behalf of any Parish or Parishes, or Parts of any Parish or Parishes, extra-parochial His Majesty may declare the Charter void if the Corporation fail to fulfil the Terms of it.  
Place

Place or Places, Part or Parts thereof, within the said Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, Borough of *Southwark*, their Suburbs, Precincts, and Liberties respectively, undertake to furnish such Parish or Parishes, or such Parts, or such extra-parochial Place and Places respectively, with a sufficient Supply of Inflammable Air for the Purposes of lighting the said Parish or Parishes, or Part or Parts thereof, or such extra-parochial Place or Places respectively, Part or Parts thereof, with a stronger and better Light, and at a cheaper and lower Price, than such Parish or Parishes, or Part or Parts of Parishes, extra-parochial Place or Places, Part or Parts thereof, shall have usually been supplied with, under the Stipulations and to the Extent in the said Charter to be expressed; or shall in any Manner act contrary to or in violation of the Provision to be inserted in the said Charter, that the said Body Corporate shall not under any Pretence or Pretences, or by any Ways or Means contract to supply, or shall be permitted to supply with such Inflammable Air as aforesaid, for the Purposes aforesaid, any Parish or Parishes, Part or Parts of Parishes, extra-parochial Place or Places, or Part or Parts of such extra-parochial Place or Places, that shall not lie or be situate within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, or one of them, or in Parts adjacent to the said Cities, or within the Town and Borough of *Southwark* in the County of *Surrey*; or shall in any Manner or Respect act contrary to or in violation of the Provision to be made in the said Charter, that the said Body Corporate shall not by any Ways or Means, or under any Device or Devices, supply or undertake to supply any Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactories, public or private Buildings whatever, with the said Inflammable Air, for any of the Purposes aforesaid, except only such House or Houses, Manufactories or Buildings, which can be supplied from such Main Pipe or Pipes as shall be laid down by the said Body Corporate for the Purpose of supplying any Parish or Parishes, Part or Parts of any Parish or Parishes with such Inflammable Air for the Purpose aforesaid; or shall in any Manner or Respect act contrary to or in violation of the Provision to be contained in the said Charter, that the said Body Corporate shall not by any Ways or Means, or under any Pretence or Pretences, contract to sell or furnish, or shall sell and furnish any Stove, or Pipe or Pipes, or Apparatus or Machinery of any Description whatever, for the Purpose, or whereby such Inflammable Air as aforesaid, or any Quantity thereof, may be conveyed into any Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactories, public or private Buildings, for the Purpose of lighting the same; it shall in any or either of the said Cases be lawful for His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, by any Letters Patent under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, to revoke and make void the said Corporation, and all the Powers, Privileges, Benefits, and Advantages to be granted to such Corporation as aforesaid; and thereupon the same shall determine and become void accordingly.

Power in certain Cases to break up the Soil and Pavement of the Streets, &c. for laying Pipes, &c.

XXX. And whereas the said Inflammable Air or Gas cannot be used for lighting the public Streets, Ways, or Passages as aforesaid, unless the said Air or Gas be conveyed by Means of Pipes to be properly laid for that Purpose; be it further enacted, That if at any Time after the passing of this Act any Commissioners or Trustees, or other Persons, Bodies Politic or Corporate, in whom, by any Act or Acts of Parliament, or otherwise, the Care, Superintendance, and Controul of lighting the public Streets, Highways, Lanes, Passages, or any Part thereof, in the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, or within the Town and Borough of *Southwark* in the County of *Surrey*, should think it fit and convenient to contract with the said

said Body Corporate, or with any other Person or Persons whomsoever, to light the public Streets, Highways, Lanes, or Passages, or any Part of them, in the Cities or Town or Borough aforesaid, by Means of such Gas as aforesaid, that then and in all such Cases it shall and may be lawful for the said Body Corporate and their Successors, and for such other Person or Persons as aforesaid, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered, with the Approbation and under the Direction of such Commissioners or Trustees, by their Servants, Workmen, and others, to break up the Soil and Pavements of any such Streets, Ways, Lanes, and Passages, and dig and sink Trenches, and lay Pipes, and put Stop Cocks or Plugs, or Branches from such Pipes, in such Places as aforesaid, and in such Manner as shall be necessary for the Purpose of carrying this Act into Execution, or supplying any such Light as aforesaid, and from Time to Time to alter the Position of, and to repair, relay, and maintain such Pipes, Stop Cocks, and Plugs, and do all such other Acts, Matters, and Things as the said Body Corporate and their Successors, or such other Person or Persons as aforesaid, shall from Time to Time think necessary and convenient for completing, amending, repairing, improving, and using the same.

XXXI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Workmen employed in laying or repairing any such Pipes, shall fill in the Trenches and make good the Pavements and Roads, and carry away the Rubbish occasioned thereby as soon as conveniently may be, and in the meantime guard the Place where any Ground shall be opened, in such Manner as to prevent Accidents to Passengers, Cattle, and Carriages, and as the said Commissioners or Trustees shall direct: Provided always, that if there shall be any wilful or negligent Delay in the said Company of Proprietors, or in any of the Agents or Servants, or any such other Person or Persons as aforesaid, in filling in any such Ground, or removing Rubbish, or making good any such Pavements or Roads, then and in every such Case the said Company of Proprietors, or such other Person or Persons so offending respectively, shall, on being thereof lawfully convicted on the Oath of One credible Witness, before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the County, City, Town, Place, Division, or District where the said Offence shall be committed, forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds, which said Penalty, if not forthwith paid, shall be recovered by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the said Company of Proprietors, or such other Person or Persons, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of any such Justice or Justices of the Peace as aforesaid, and which Warrant such Justice or Justices is and are hereby empowered to grant; and such Penalty or Forfeiture, after the Charges of such Distress and Sale are deducted, shall be paid upon Demand to the Person or Persons giving Information thereof.

Workmen  
in laying or  
repairing  
Pipes to make  
good the  
Pavement.

XXXII. Provided always, That if the said Body Corporate shall contract with any such Commissioners or Trustees as aforesaid, for lighting any Parish or Place, or Part of any Parish or Place, and shall not duly perform such Contract, then and in such Case it shall be lawful for such Commissioners or Trustees to determine such Contract, giving Six Months Notice thereof; and then and in such Case, and also at the Expiration of any such Contract, it shall be lawful for the said Commissioners or Trustees either to purchase the Pipes, Cocks, Plugs, Branches of Pipes, and other Materials belonging to the said Body Corporate, and employed in lighting such Parish or Place, or Part of a Parish or Place, at a reasonable Price to be settled by Two Persons, one to be named by the said Commissioners or

If Contracts  
be not duly  
performed  
they may be  
voided on  
giving No-  
tice, &c.

Trustees, and the other by the said Body Corporate; and in case such Persons shall differ, by a Third Person to be named by such Two Persons as an Umpire between them, One Month at the least previous to the Expiration of the Term of such Contract, or to the Expiration of such Six Months Notice for determining such Contract, or to remove such Pipes, Cocks, Plugs, Branches, and other Materials, at the Expiration of such Contract or Determination thereof by such Notice, and in the meantime to permit such Commissioners or Trustees to lay such Pipes, Cocks, Plugs, Branches, and other Articles as shall be necessary for the Supply of such Parish or Place, or Part of a Parish or Place, at the Expiration or sooner Determination of such Contract.

No Pipes of Communication to be laid without Consent of the Corporation.

XXXIII. Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted, That no Person shall lay or cause to be laid any Iron, Leaden, or other Pipe, to communicate with any Pipe belonging to the said Body Corporate, or such other Person or Persons as aforesaid, without the Consent of the said Body Corporate, or the Person or Persons supplying Lights by such Pipes, first had and obtained, on pain of forfeiting the Sum of Fifty Pounds, and also the further Sum of Forty Shillings a Day for every Day such Pipe shall so remain, to be recovered by Distress and Sale of the Offender's Goods and Chattels, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of any Justice or Justices of the Peace for the County, City, Town, Place, Division, or District where the said Offence shall be committed, and which Warrant such Justice or Justices is and are hereby empowered to grant; and the Surplus, after such Penalty or Forfeiture, and the Charges of such Distress and Sale are deducted, shall be returned, upon Demand, to the Owner of such Goods and Chattels; and in case sufficient Distress cannot be found, or such Forfeiture shall not be forthwith paid, it shall be lawful for such Justice or Justices to cause such Offender or Offenders to be committed to the Common Gaol of the said County, City, Town, Place, Division, or District, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, for such Time as such Justice or Justices shall direct, not exceeding Two Calendar Months, unless such Forfeiture, and all reasonable Charges, be sooner paid and satisfied.

Penalty for damaging Pipes, &c.

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall wilfully and maliciously remove, take away, destroy, damage, or injure any or any Part of any Pipe, Post, Plug, or other Matter or Thing actually in use during the Existence of any Contract with any Parish or Parishes, for the Purpose of fulfilling such Contract, every Person so offending in any of the respective Premises, and being thereof lawfully convicted on the Oath of One credible Witness, before One or more Justice or Justices for the County, City, Town, Place, Division, or District where the said Offences shall be committed, shall forfeit and pay to the aforesaid Body Corporate and their Successors, or such other Person or Persons as aforesaid, double the Amount of the Damage proved upon Oath to be done, at the Discretion of such Justice or Justices, such Penalty, together with reasonable Costs, to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Offender, returning the Overplus (if any); or such Offender shall and may be committed to the Common Gaol of the said County, City, Town, Place, Division, or District, for any Time not exceeding Three Months, at the Discretion of the Justice or Justices before whom such Offender shall be committed.

Appeal may be made to Quarter Sessions.

XXXV. And be it further enacted, That any Person or Persons thinking himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Judgment or Determination

nation of any Justice or Justices of the Peace, relating to any Matter or Thing in this Act mentioned or contained, may within Six Calendar Months next after such Order, Judgment, or Determination shall have been made or given, (first giving Fourteen Days Notice of such Complaint to the Person or Persons against whom such Complaint is intended to be made), complain to the Justices of the Peace at the General Quarter Sessions to be held in and for the County in which the Cause of Appeal shall arise, who shall in a summary Way either hear and determine the said Complaint at such General Quarter Sessions, or if they think proper may adjourn the Hearing thereof to the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held for such County; and the said Justices may, if they see Cause, mitigate any Forfeiture or Fine, and may order any Money to be returned which shall have been levied in pursuance of such Determination, and may also order and award such further Satisfaction to be made to the Party injured as they shall judge reasonable; but no Proceedings to be had and taken in pursuance of this Act shall be quashed or vacated for want of Form, or be removed by Certiorari, or any other Writ or Process whatsoever, into any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster* or elsewhere; any Law or Statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

XXXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall have the Effect of depriving any Person or Persons of any Right which he or they at present possess, or of interfering with any Right which he or they may hereafter acquire, of lighting Streets or Houses with Gas Lights, or in any other Manner: Provided also, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to defeat, abridge, alter, obstruct, or in any Manner interfere with the Powers and Authorities of the Commissioners or Trustees for lighting or paving, or of the Commissioners of Sewers, or the New River Company, or any other Company established for the Supply of Water in or for any of such Parishes or Places, or any Part or Parts thereof, or the Rights of any Person or Persons to make, enlarge, repair, or amend any Vault under any Street within such Parishes or Places: Provided also, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to prevent any Person or Persons from proceeding against the said Company, or against any of their Officers, Servants, or Workmen, in respect of any Works of the said Company, or the Method which shall be employed by them for furnishing such Light as aforesaid, as a public or private Nuisance, or from bringing any Action against the said Company, or any of their Officers, Servants, or Workmen, for any Injury sustained by reason of any such Works or Method of lighting, whether such Injury shall proceed from the Nature of such Method of lighting, or the Carelessness or want of Skill of the Persons employed therein.

Rights of  
Persons to  
light Streets,  
&c. not to be  
affected.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be a Public Act, and shall be judicially taken Notice of as such by all Judges and Justices, and others, without being specially pleaded.

Public Act.

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