



ANNO PRIMO

GEORGIIV. REGIS.

Cap. lvi.

An Act for lighting with Gas the Town and Suburbs
of *Shrewsbury*, in the County of *Salop*.

[8th July 1820.]

WHEREAS the Town of *Shrewsbury* is a large and populous Place, as are also the Precincts and Suburbs thereof, which are now insufficiently lighted; and it would be of great Advantage to the Inhabitants thereof, and to the Public at large, if the Streets and other public Passages and Places were better lighted: And whereas Inflammable Air or Gas derived from Coal, Oil, or other Substances, may be conveyed by means of Pipes, and be safely and beneficially used for lighting the several Streets, Highways, Squares, Market Places, and other Places within the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs, and for lighting Shops, Inns, Taverns, private Houses, Manufactories, and other Buildings; and the Coke arising therefrom may be beneficially employed as Fuel in private Houses and Manufactories; and the Oil, Tar, Pitch, Asphaltum, Ammoniacal Liquor, and Essential Oil procured from Coal and other Substances, may be used and applied in various other Ways with great Advantage: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King'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, That *William Altree, George Asterley, William Atcherley, Charles Bage, William Bayley, John Beck, Charles Bigg, Joseph Birch, John Buckdale, Blakeway Clerk, Samuel Butler Doctor in Divinity, Richard Cartwright,*

Company in-
corporated.

[Local.]

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John

John Carline, William Clement, William Cludde, Thomas Cooke, Ann Corbet Widow, Charles T. Clarke, Richard Clemson, Richard Drinkwater junior, John Eaton, John Eaton junior, John Edgerley, John Edgerley junior, Griffith Francis Dorsett Evans, Jane Evans, George Grant, Cyrus Gittins, Thomas Green, Nathaniel Harris, John and Edward Haycock, Thomas Hancorn, Richard Hilditch, Edward Hughes, Benjamin Jones, Robert Jones, Edward Jones, Andrew Jones, William Egerton Jeffreys, William Jones, Edward Keysell, John Kite, Richard Lethbridge, Thomas Lloyd, George Lowe, John Maxon, Edward Matthews, William Niccolls, William Nickson, Hugh Owen Clerk, Harriet Owen, Robert Oakley, Lissey Ann Powys Widow, John Price, Elizabeth Phillips, William Pryce, Thomas Pryce, Daniel Pritchard, John Peplow, John Rocke Clerk, John Ruscoe, William Stratham, John Stead, John Stanton, John Skrymsber, John Straphen, William Shakeshaft, William Turner, Edward Tomkies, Samuel Tudor, Charles Thomas, Samuel Taylor, Ferdinand Wheeler, John Watton, Charles Wollaston, Theodosius Wood, John Wingfield Clerk, John Williams, Thomas Wilkes, John Wilde Clerk, John Wood, Sarah Wilkinson, William Wilding, and George Young, and all and every such other Person or Persons as from Time to Time shall become a Subscriber or Subscribers, and be duly admitted a Proprietor or Proprietors as herein-after mentioned, and their respective Successors, Executors, Administrators and Assigns, shall be and they are hereby declared to be One Body Politic and Corporate, by the Name of 'The Shrewsbury Gas Light Company,' and by that Name shall have perpetual Succession and a Common Seal, and by that Name shall and may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded at Law or in Equity, and shall and may prefer and prosecute any Bill or Bills of Indictment against any Person or Persons who shall commit any Felony, Misdemeanor, or other Offence indictable by the Laws of this Realm; and that the said Company shall be established for the Purpose of manufacturing Inflammable Air or Gas, and for disposing of the same within the said Town of Shrewsbury, and the Precincts and Suburbs thereof, together with any other Product obtainable from Coal or Oil, or other Substance from which Gas is produced; and shall have full Power to make Contracts or agree with any Commissioners, Directors, Trustees, Surveyors of Highways, or other Persons having the Controll, Direction, or Management of the lighting of the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs, or any Part or Parts thereof respectively, or with any Person or Persons, or Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or Corporation or Corporations Aggregate or Sole, who may be willing and desirous of contracting or agreeing with the said Company for the lighting of the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs, or any or either of them respectively, or of any public Streets, Roads, Squares, or Market Places, or of any Manufactories or Places of public Exhibition, Shops, Inns, Taverns, or other Buildings or private Houses, or any of them, within the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs respectively, and to sell and dispose of such Inflammable Air or Gas and other Products as afore-said.

Their Style
and Powers.

Power to
make Con-
tracts.

Power to
contract for
the Purchase
of Lands and
Buildings.

II. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Company (or their Committee of Management), and they are hereby empowered to treat, contract, and agree for the absolute Purchase of any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments within the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs, which the said Company shall deem requisite for the Purposes of this Act, (not exceeding Five Acres of Land in
the

the whole) with any Body Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or any Tenant or Tenants for Life, or in Fee Tail general or special, or with any Feoffees in Trust, Trustees, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, or Committees of or for Lunatics or Idiots, or other Trustees whomsoever, or with any Femes Covert who are or shall be seised, possessed of, or interested in their own Right, or with any other Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate whomsoever, who shall be willing to sell the same for the Uses and Purposes of this Act; and upon Payment of the Purchase Money for any such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to the Parties or Persons respectively entitled thereto, or upon Payment thereof into the Bank of *England* in Manner by this Act directed (as the Case may be), such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments may be taken and used for the Purposes of this Act; and it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Company to hold any such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments so to be purchased, without incurring or being subject or liable to any of the Penalties or Forfeitures of the Statutes of Mortmain, or of any other Law or Statute whatsoever.

III. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, and all Tenants for Life, or in Fee Tail general or special, and all Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees for Lunatics and Idiots, and other Trustees whomsoever, not only for and on Behalf of themselves, their Heirs and Successors, but also for and on Behalf of their Cestuique Trusts respectively, whether Infants or Issue unborn, Lunatics, Idiots, Femes Covert, or other Person or Persons under any Disability of acting for himself, herself, or themselves, and also to and for all Femes Covert, who are or shall be seised, possessed of, or interested in their own Right; and to and for all and every Person and Persons whomsoever who are or shall be seised, possessed of, or interested in any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Part thereof, which shall be thought necessary by the said Company to be purchased as aforesaid for the Uses and Purposes of this Act, to treat, contract, and agree with the said Company for the Sale thereof, or of any Part thereof, and to sell and convey all or any Part thereof, and all Estate, Right, Title and Interest whatsoever of, in, and to the same, to the said Company, for the Purposes of this Act; and all Contracts, Bargains, Sales and Conveyances which shall be so made by virtue and in pursuance of this Act, shall without any Fine or Fines, Recovery or Recoveries (or other Conveyances or Assurances in the Law whatsoever, and without Enrolment) be good, valid, and effectual to all Intents and Purposes, not only to convey the Estate and Interest of the Person and Persons conveying, but also to convey all Right, Estate, Interest, Use, Property, Claim and Demand whatsoever, of their said several Cestuique Trusts, and all Persons whomsoever claiming or to claim by, from, or under them, and of all Persons entitled in Remainder or Reversion expectant on any such particular Estate; and the same shall be deemed and considered to bar the Dower and Dowery of such Person and Persons, and all Estates Tail, and other Estates in Possession, Reversion, Remainder or Expectancy, and the Issue and Issues of such Person and Persons claiming under them, as effectually as Fines or common Recoveries would do if levied or suffered by the proper Parties in due Form of Law,

Bodies Politic, &c. empowered to sell.

Law, any Law, Statute or Usage, or any other Matter or Thing whatsoever to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding; and all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations Aggregate or Sole, and all Tenants for Life, or in Fee Tail general or special, and all Feoffees in Trust, Executors, Administrators, Husbands, Guardians, Committees, Trustees, and all and every other Person and Persons, is and are and shall be hereby indemnified for what he, she, or they shall do by virtue and in pursuance of this Act.

Directing
Application
of Purchase
Money when
amounting to
200l. or up-
wards.

IV. And be it further enacted, That if any Money shall be contracted or agreed to be paid for any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to be purchased by virtue of the Powers of this Act, for the Purposes thereof, which shall belong to any Body Politic, Corporate, Collegiate, or Ecclesiastic, Tenant for Life or in Tail, Trustee, Feme Covert, Infant, Lunatic, or Person or Persons under any Disability or Incapacity as aforesaid, such Money shall, in case the same shall amount to or exceed the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, with all convenient Speed be paid into the Bank of *England*, in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the High Court of Chancery, to be placed to his Account there, *ex parte Shrewsbury Gas Light Company*, together with the Name or Names of such Person or Persons, as any Four or more of the Committee of Management of the said Company shall, by Writing signed by them, direct and appoint, to the Intent that such Money shall be applied, under the Direction and with the Approbation of the said Court, to be signified by an Order made upon a Petition to be preferred in a summary Way by the Person or Persons who would have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the said Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, in the Purchase of the Land Tax, or towards the Discharge of any Debt or Debts, or such other Incumbrance, or Part thereof, as the said Court shall authorize to be paid, affecting the same Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or affecting other Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, standing and being settled therewith, to the same or the like Uses, Intents or Purposes; or where such Money shall not be so applied, then the same shall be laid out and invested, under and with the like Direction and Approbation of the said Court, in the Purchase of other Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, which shall be conveyed and settled to, for, and upon such and the like Uses, Trusts, Wills, Intents, and Purposes, and in the same Manner as the Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, which shall be purchased, taken, or used for the Purposes of this Act, stood and were settled and limited, or such of them as at the Time of making such Conveyance and Settlement shall be existing undetermined, and capable of taking Effect; and in the meantime and until such Purchase shall be made, the said Money shall, by Order of the said Court, upon Application thereto, be invested by the said Accountant General in his Name, in the Purchase of Three Pounds *per Centum* Consolidated, or Three Pounds *per Centum* Reduced Bank Annuities; and in the meantime, and until the said Bank Annuities shall be ordered by the said Court to be sold for the Purposes aforesaid, the Dividends or Annual Produce of the said Consolidated or Reduced Bank Annuities shall from Time to Time be paid, by Order of the said Court, to the Person or Persons who would for the Time being have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the said Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments so hereby directed to be purchased, in case such Purchase or Settlement were made.

V. Pro.

V. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Money so contracted and agreed to be paid for any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be purchased for the Purposes aforesaid, and belonging to any Body Politic, Corporate, Collegiate, or Ecclesiastic, Tenant for Life or in Tail, Trustee, Feme Covert, Infant, Lunatic, or any Person or Persons under Disability or Incapacity as aforesaid, shall be less than the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, and shall exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds, then and in all such Cases the same shall, at the Option of the Person or Persons for the Time being entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments so purchased, or of his, her, or their Guardian or Guardians, Committee or Committees, in cases of Infancy, Idiocy, or Lunacy, to be signified in Writing under their respective Hands, be paid into the Bank in the Name and with the Privity of the Accountant General of the High Court of Chancery, and be placed to his Account as aforesaid, in order to be applied in Manner herein-before directed; or otherwise the same shall be paid, at the like Option, to Two Trustees, to be named by the Person or Persons making such Option, and approved by Four or more of the said Committee of Management, (such Nomination and Approbation to be signified by Writing under the Hands of the nominating or approving Parties), in order that such Principal Money and the Dividends arising thereon may be applied in any Manner herein-before directed, so far as the case shall be applicable, without obtaining or being required to obtain the Direction or Approbation of the High Court of Chancery.

Directing Application of Purchase Money when less than 200l., and exceeding 20 l.

VI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That where such Money so contracted and agreed to be paid as last before mentioned, shall not exceed the Sum of Twenty Pounds, then and in all such Cases the same shall be applied to the Use of the Person or Persons who would for the Time being have been entitled to the Rents and Profits of the Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments so to be purchased for the Purposes of this Act, in such Manner as the said Committee of Management, or any Four or more of them, shall think fit; or in any Cases of Infancy, Idiocy, or Lunacy, then to his, her, or their Guardian or Guardians, Committee or Committees, to and for the Use and Benefit of such Person or Persons so entitled respectively.

Directing Application of Purchase Money not exceeding 20l.

VII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That where by reason of any Disability or Incapacity of the Person or Persons, or Corporation entitled to any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to be purchased under the Authority of this Act, the Purchase Money for the same shall be required to be paid into the High Court of Chancery, and to be applied in the Purchase of other Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, to be settled to the like Uses in pursuance of this Act, it shall be lawful for the said Court to order the Expences of all Purchases from Time to Time to be made in pursuance of this Act, or so much of such Expences as the said Court shall deem reasonable, to be paid by the said Company, who shall from Time to Time pay such Sums of Money for such Purposes as the said Court shall direct.

Expences of Purchases may be allowed by the Court to be paid by the Company.

VIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That where any Question shall arise touching the Title of any Person to any Money to be paid into the Bank of *England*, in the Name and with the Privity of

In case of questionable Title to the Money, Per-

sons in Possession of the Lands to be deemed entitled thereto until the contrary shall be shewn.

the Accountant General of the High Court of Chancery in pursuance of this Act, for the Purchase of any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be purchased with any such Money, or to the Dividends or Interest of any such Bank Annuities, the Person or Persons who shall have been in Possession of such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments at the Time of such Purchase, and all Persons claiming under such Person or Persons, or under the Possession of such Person or Persons, shall be deemed and taken to have been lawfully entitled to such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, according to such Possession, until the contrary shall be shown to the Satisfaction of the said Court; and the Dividends or Interest of the Bank Annuities to be purchased with such Money, and also the Capital of such Bank Annuities, shall be paid, applied, and disposed of accordingly, unless it shall be made appear to the said Court that such Possession was a wrongful Possession, and that some other Person or Persons was or were lawfully entitled to such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or to some Estate or Interest therein.

On Payment of Purchase Money, Premises to be vested in the Company.

IX. And be it further enacted, That upon Payment of the Money so contracted or agreed to be paid for the Purchase of such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, by the said Company to the Party or Parties or Person or Persons respectively entitled to such Monies, or their Agents, or upon Payment thereof into the Bank of *England*, for the Purpose of being disposed of in Manner herein-after directed as the Case may be, and upon the Conveyance in Manner herein-after directed of such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, all the Estate, Right, Title, Interest, Use, Trust, Property, Claim, and Demand in Law or Equity of the Party and Parties and Person and Persons respectively, to whom or for whose Use she same shall be paid, in, to, or out of such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, shall vest in the said Company and their Successors for ever, for effecting the Uses and Purposes of this Act.

Form of Conveyance.

X. And be it further enacted, That all Sales, Conveyances, and Assurances of any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments to be made to the said Company and their Successors, shall be made in Form or to the Effect following; (that is to say),

‘ I [or We, as the Case may be] of
 ‘ in Consideration of the Sum of paid to me [or us],
 ‘ or into the Bank of *England* [as the Case may be] by the Company of
 ‘ Proprietors established under or by virtue of an Act, passed in the First
 ‘ Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth, intituled [here insert the
 ‘ Title of this Act] do hereby grant and release to the said Company and
 ‘ their Successors, all [here describe the Premises to be conveyed], and
 ‘ all my [or our] Right, Title, and Interest in and to the same, and
 ‘ every Part thereof; to hold to the said Company and their Successors
 ‘ and Assigns for ever [or, as the Case may be] during all the Remainder
 ‘ of my [or our] Term, Estate, or Interest in the said Premises. In
 ‘ Witness whereof I [or we] have hereunto set my Hand and Seal [or our
 ‘ Hands and Seals] this Day of in the Year
 ‘ of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and

Re-sale of Lands not wanted.

XI. And whereas the said Company, under the Provisions of this Act, may purchase Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, which may be found not necessary or not wanted for the Purposes thereof; be it therefore

therefore further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Company to sell and dispose of, and by Indenture or Indentures under their Common Seal, to grant and convey by way of absolute Sale in Fee Simple, for a Consideration in Money, all or any Part or Parts of the Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, which may have been so purchased, and which shall not be wanted for the Purposes of this Act; and upon Payment of the Money which shall arise by or from the Sale or Sales of such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or of any Part or Parts thereof, it shall and may be lawful for the Treasurer for the Time being to the said Company to sign and give a Receipt or Receipts for the Money for which the same shall be sold, which Receipt or Receipts shall be sufficient Discharges to any Person or Persons for the Money therein and thereby expressed or acknowledged to be received; and such Person or Persons having *bonâ fide* paid the same shall not afterwards be answerable or accountable for any Loss, Misapplication, or Nonapplication of such Purchase Money, or any Part thereof.

XII. And be it further enacted, That the Capital or Joint Stock of the said Company, to be applied and used in establishing and carrying on the Undertaking and Purposes aforesaid, shall not exceed in the whole the Sum of Eight thousand Pounds, the whole of which Sum shall be subscribed before any Works are begun; and that the said Sum of Eight thousand Pounds shall be divided into Shares of Ten Pounds Sterling each; and that the Shares in the said Undertaking, and in the net Profits and Advantages thereof, shall be deemed Personal Estate, and not of the Nature of Real Property, and as such Personal Estate shall be transmissible accordingly.

Joint Stock
not to exceed
8000l. in
Shares of
10l. each,
and to be
Personal
Estate.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That in case the aforesaid Sum of Eight thousand Pounds herein-before mentioned to have been subscribed, shall be found insufficient for making, completing, and maintaining the said Undertaking hereby authorized to be made, and defraying all necessary Charges relating thereto, then and in such Case it shall be lawful for the said Company and Subscribers to raise and contribute among themselves, in such Shares and Proportions as to them shall seem meet, or by the Admission of new Subscribers, any further or other Sum of Money for completing and perfecting their Undertaking, not exceeding the Sum of Two thousand Pounds; and every Subscriber towards raising such further Sum of Money, shall be a Proprietor in the said Undertaking, and shall have a like Vote for himself or herself, or his or her Proxy, in respect of every Share in the said additional Sum to be raised, and shall also be liable to such Forfeitures, and stand interested in all the Profits and Powers of the said Undertaking, in proportion to the Sum he, she, or they shall or may subscribe thereunto, as generally and extensively to all Intents and Purposes as if such further or other Sum hereby allowed to be subscribed for or raised had been originally Part of the said Sum of Eight thousand Pounds; any thing herein contained to the contrary hereof in anywise notwithstanding.

Power to
raise a fur-
ther Sum of
Money, if
necessary, by
Subscrip-
tions.

XIV. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That the said Company shall not borrow or take up by way of Loan any Sum or Sums of Money whatsoever, other than by a Subscription of Shares in Manner and to the Extent herein-before directed.

Company not
to borrow
Money.

XV. And

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

XV. And be it further enacted, That all and every Person or Persons by or for whom any Subscription shall be made or accepted, or any Payment made pursuant to the Orders of any General Meeting or Meetings to be held by the said Company for that Purpose, for or towards the raising of the said Capital Sums of Eight thousand Pounds and Two thousand Pounds as aforesaid, or any Part thereof respectively, his, her, or their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns respectively (no such Subscription being less than Ten Pounds) shall have and be entitled to a Share of and in the said Capital Joint Stock of the said Company in proportion to the Monies which he, she, or they shall have so contributed towards making up the same, and shall have and be entitled to a proportionable Share of the Profits and Advantages attending the Capital Stock of the said Company, and shall be admitted to be a Proprietor or Proprietors of and in the same; but no Person shall stand in the Books of the said Company as Proprietor of any fractional Part of a Share.

Subscribers liable to the Debts of the Company in proportion to their Shares in the Stock.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That the several Persons composing the said Company shall severally and respectively stand responsible and answerable for all just Debts and Demands of the Creditors of the said Company, to the full Amount of their several and respective Shares in the Capital of the said Joint Stock.

Names of Proprietors to be entered, and Certificate of their Shares delivered them.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Company, or the Committee of Management to be appointed by virtue of this Act, shall and they are hereby required to cause the Names and Designations of the several Persons who have subscribed or shall subscribe for or be entitled to a Share or Shares in the said Undertaking, with the Number of such Share or Shares, and also the proper Number by which every Share shall be distinguished, to be fairly and distinctly entered into a Book to be kept by their Clerk or Clerks; and after such Entry a Certificate shall be signed by the Chairman and Clerk or Clerks, and delivered to every Proprietor upon Demand, specifying the Share or Shares to which he or she is entitled in the said Undertaking; and such Certificate shall be admitted in all Courts whatsoever as Evidence of the Title of such Proprietor, his or her Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, to the Share or Shares therein specified; but the Want of such Certificate shall not hinder or prevent the Owner of any of the said Shares from selling or disposing thereof.

For ascertaining the Proprietorship of Shares in certain Cases.

XVIII. And whereas in case any original Holder or Proprietor 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 or her Right and Interest to some other Person, and no Register shall have been made of the Transfer thereof with the Clerk or Clerks to the said Company, it may not be in the Power of the said Company, or any Officer acting for the said Company, to learn who is or are the Owner or Proprietor, or Owners or Proprietors of such Share or Shares, in order to give him, her, or them, or his, her, or their Executors, Administrators, Successors, or Assigns, Notice or Notices of Calls to be made on such Share or Shares, and to maintain any Action or Actions, Suit, or other Proceedings against him, her, or them, or his, her, or their Executors, Administrators, Successors, or Assigns, for the Recovery of the same, or for the Purpose of safely paying to him, her, or them, or his, her, or their
Executors,

Property in such Share or Shares, without Proof of the Concurrence of the other Proprietor or Proprietors of such joint Share or Shares.

XXII. And be it further enacted, That the several Persons who have subscribed, or shall hereafter subscribe, for and towards the said Undertaking, shall and they are hereby required to pay the Sum or Sums of Money by them respectively subscribed for, or such Parts or Proportions thereof as shall from Time to Time be called for pursuant to or by virtue of the Powers and Directions of this Act, at such Times and Places, to such Person or Persons, and in such Manner as shall be ordered and directed by the Committee of Management herein-after mentioned; and in case any Person or Persons shall neglect or refuse to pay any such Money at such Times and in such Manner as shall be ordered and directed by the Committee of Management as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the said Company to sue for and recover the same, together with lawful Interest from such appointed Time of Payment, in any Court of Law or Equity, or in any Court of Record, from such Person or Persons, or in Cases where Two or more Persons shall have been jointly subscribed for, or be jointly possessed of any one Share in the said Undertaking, then from all any or either of such Persons.

To compel Payment of Subscriptions, by Action against the Subscriber.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That at the First General Meeting of the Proprietors to be held next after the passing of this Act, or at an Adjournment thereof, a Committee for managing the Affairs of the said Company shall be elected out of the Proprietors or Subscribers of Shares of and in the said Undertaking; and that such Committee shall consist of Seven Proprietors or Subscribers; and when elected they shall be the Committee of Management for managing the Affairs of the said Company, until others shall be chosen in their Stead as herein-after mentioned.

Committee of Management.

XXIV. Provided and be it further enacted, That no Person shall be eligible to be elected one of the Committee for managing the Affairs of the said Undertaking unless at the Time of the Election he shall be entitled to Five Shares in the said Undertaking.

No Person to act as Committee-man unless possessed of Five Shares.

XXV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if any Person who shall be elected a Member of the said Committee of Management shall be or become a Dealer, either directly or indirectly, in any one of the Articles to be manufactured, provided or used by the said Company, or shall offer to take, and succeed in taking, or shall participate in any Manner in any Work to be done for the said Company, every such Person shall be disqualified to vote in any Matters to be discussed and argued by the said Committee of Management, and shall cease to be a Member thereof; and that if any Person to be appointed by virtue of this Act a Member of the said Committee shall at any Time cease to be a Proprietor of Five Shares in the said Undertaking, or shall refuse or neglect to attend any Five successive Meetings of the said Committee, every such Person shall be thereby disqualified from acting or voting at such Committee, and shall cease to be a Member thereof.

Committeemen contracting for Work, cease to have a Voice in the Committee in any Matters wherein they are individually concerned.

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That at the General Meeting which shall be held in the Month of *September*, which will be in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty-one, or at some Adjournment thereof,

Annual Election of new Committee.

For supply-
ing Vacan-
cies.

Notices of
Meetings, &c.
how to be
given.

Members of
Committee
may resign.

Meetings of
the Commit-
tee, and
Regulations
for their
Proceedings.

thereof, and at every General Meeting which shall be held afterwards in the said Month of *September*, or at some Adjournment thereof, a new Committee of Management of Seven of the Proprietors of Shares in the said Undertaking shall be elected in the Place of the former Committee of Management; nevertheless any of the said former Committee whose Office shall have then expired, shall (if otherwise eligible) be again immediately re-eligible; and that every Vacancy in the Committee of Management, by Death, Resignation, or becoming disqualified, shall be filled up by the said Committee until the next General Meeting, or until a Special Meeting be called for that Purpose; and that the Person or Persons so to be chosen to fill such Vacancy or Vacancies shall (being duly qualified) continue in Office upon the same Terms, and only for the same Period as the Person whose Place he shall supply would have continued if his Office had not been vacated before the Time at which he must necessarily have gone out of the Office: Provided always, that all Notices by this Act directed to be given of any General or Special Meetings or Adjournments respectively, or to any of the said Proprietors upon any particular Occasion, and not otherwise provided for in this Act, shall be given to the said several Proprietors, or to such individual Proprietors respectively by Letters from the Clerk of the said Company, sent by the Post to each and every of the said Proprietors entitled to vote at such Meetings respectively, or to the individual Proprietor entitled to such Notice (as the Case may be); and that such Notices shall be deemed and considered the same as personal Notice; provided also, that if at such General Meeting, or at any Special Meeting of the said Company, to be held under the Powers herein contained, there shall not be Persons present, either as Principals or Proxies, who shall be possessed of or entitled unto at least Two hundred Shares in the said Undertaking, no Business shall be transacted at any such Meetings except adjourning the same: Provided always, that it shall be lawful at any Time for any Member of the Committee to resign, by giving Ten Days Notice in Writing to the Clerk of the said Company, or leaving the same at his Office.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Committee of Management shall or may hold their First Meeting within Ten Days after their being appointed, at such Time and Place within the said Town, Precincts or Suburbs of *Shrewsbury*, as they shall think proper, and shall have full Power and Authority to adjourn such First Meeting, and again to meet and adjourn from Time to Time and from Place to Place as they shall think fit; and the said Committee of Management shall from Time to Time appoint One of the said Committee present to preside as Chairman; and that all Questions, Matters and Things which shall be proposed, discussed, or considered by the said Committee of Management at any of their Meetings, shall be decided and determined by a Majority in Number of Members present, (the Number present not being less than Four); and in case of an equal Number of Votes upon any Question, including the Vote of the Chairman for the Time being, such Chairman shall have the decisive and casting Vote; and that if on the Day appointed for any Meeting of the said Committee, Four Members qualified to vote shall not attend, that then and in every such Case the Meeting shall be adjourned till such Time as the Members or Member then present, or if none be present, as the Clerk of the said Company, or such other Person as shall attend in his or their Place, shall appoint; and that any Two or more Members of the
Committee

Committee may at any Time when they shall think fit, call a Meeting of the Committee by Notice in Writing, signed by such Two or more Members, to be sent by the Post or otherwise, to the Residence or Address of every Member of such Committee.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That the Committee of Management for the Time being shall have the Custody of the Common Seal of the said Company, and shall have full Power and Authority to call the General Meeting, and also to call any Special Meetings of the said Company, for any Purposes they may think proper, and to appoint the Time and Place of holding such General and Special Meetings, so as such General Meeting be in the Month of *September*; and generally 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 in making and entering into Contracts and Agreements for the lighting of the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs, or any of the Streets, Roads, Squares, Market-places, Manufactories, Places of public Exhibition, Shops, Inns, Taverns, or other Buildings, private Houses, or any other Place or Places whatever within the Town, Precincts, and Suburbs aforesaid, or any Part thereof, and in ordering, directing, and employing the Works and Workmen, and in selling and disposing of all Articles produced as aforesaid, and in appointing or placing and displacing any Clerk, Engineer, Agent, Servant, Secretary or other Officer of the said Company (except the Treasurer or Treasurers) with such Salaries, Gratuities, or other Recompence as to such Committee shall from Time to Time seem meet, and making, enforcing, or rescinding any Contracts and Bargains touching or in anywise concerning the same; subject to such Orders, Bye-laws, Rules, and Regulations as shall at any Time be duly made by the said Company, in Restraint, Controul or Regulation of the Powers and Authorities by this Act granted.

Power of
Committee
of Manage-
ment.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That the said Committee of Management shall also have full Power and Authority to make such Call or Calls for Money from the several Proprietors of the said Undertaking, their Executors, Administrators, Successors and Assigns, as such Committee of Management shall from Time to Time find wanting and necessary for the Purposes of the said Undertaking, so that no one such Call do exceed after the Rate of Twenty Pounds *per Centum* upon or for or in respect of every one such Share; and so that no Call or Calls be made but at the Distance of One Month 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 Company for the Time being, at such Time and Place as shall be appointed by such Committee, of which Time and Place Ten Days Notice at least shall be given by a Letter from the Clerk to each Person liable to pay such Call, such Letters to be sent by the Post, or in such other Manner as the said Committee of Management shall direct or appoint in that Behalf; and that if any Person or Persons shall neglect or refuse to pay his, her, or their Proportions of the Money so to be called for, during the Space of One Month next after the Time appointed for Payment thereof, together with lawful Interest for the same

To make
Calls, &c.

On Non-pay-
ment of Calls
Shares to be
forfeited;

[Local.]

19 C

from

but Notice to
be given.

The Remain-
der to revert
to former
Owners.

Executors,
&c. indemni-
fied on pay-
ing Calls.

Regulations,
as to General
and Special

from such appointed Time of Payment, then and in such Case it shall be lawful for the said Company, at some General or Special Meeting to be held after such Neglect, to declare that the Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing shall absolutely forfeit all his, her, or their Share, Part, or 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, and from thenceforth the said Share or Shares so declared to be forfeited, and all the Profit and Benefit thereof, shall be vested in the said Company, their Successors and Assigns, to and for the Uses and Purposes hereinafter mentioned; and that it shall and may be lawful for the said Company, or their Committee for the Time being, to sell or cause to be sold all Shares, which shall or may be so declared to be forfeited, by public Auction, 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 Company; but no Advantage shall be taken of such Forfeiture of any Share in the said Undertaking, until after Ten Days Notice shall be given by the Clerk of the said Company to the Owner or Owners thereof, or left at his, her, or their last or usual Place of Abode: Provided always, that in case the Money produced by the Sale of any such Share or Shares shall be more than sufficient to pay all such Arrears of Calls as aforesaid, and legal Interest thereon, and the Expences attending the Sale or Sales thereof, the Surplus arising from such Sale or Sales shall be paid to the Person or Persons to whom such Share or Shares shall have belonged, on Demand: Provided also, that the said Company, or their Committee, shall not by virtue of this Act sell or transfer, or direct to be sold or transferred, any more of such Shares of such Defaulter or Defaulters than shall be sufficient, as near as may be at the Time of such Sale, to pay the Arrears due by such Defaulter or Defaulters, for or on account of such Call or Calls, and the Interest and Expences attending the same; and from and after Payment of all and every the Call or Calls so made or to be made by virtue of this Act, and the Interest and Expences as aforesaid, any Share or Shares vested in the said Company as aforesaid, which shall remain in their Hands unsold, shall revert to and again become the Property of the Person or Persons to whom such Share or Shares shall have belonged immediately before such Forfeiture as aforesaid, in such Manner as if such Calls had been duly and regularly paid.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons, 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 in respect thereof, as herein mentioned, without having made 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 Trustee or Trustees, Guardian or Guardians of any Infant, or other Persons entitled to the Estate and Effects of such 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.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That the Affairs and Concerns of the said Company shall be conducted and managed under and subject to the

the several Rules, Regulations, and Restrictions herein-after contained, (that is to say) the Proprietors of Shares in the said Undertaking shall assemble together within One Month after the passing of this Act, between the Hours of Ten in the Forenoon and One in the Afternoon, at the County Hall in *Shrewsbury* aforesaid, to be convened by the present Provisional Committee, giving at least Three Days Notice in the *Shrewsbury* Newspapers for the Time being, and shall then and there proceed in the Execution of this Act, and shall and may adjourn to or shall assemble at such other Times and Places as they shall be duly convened to in Manner herein mentioned; and the said Company shall from Time to Time at all General or Special Meetings appoint one of the Company present to preside as Chairman; and such General Assembly shall be held afterwards Once in every Year, *videlicet*, in the Month of *September*, at such Day and Hour in such Month, and at such Place as the Committee of Management shall appoint, and shall be called or styled 'the General Meeting;' and that Five or more of the said Proprietors, possessing at least among them Twenty-five Shares, may at any Time, by Notice in Writing under their Hands, call a Special Meeting, so as the Object for which such Special Meeting be called be expressed in such Notice, and so as such Notice be given Ten Days at least before the Day of Meeting, in the *Shrewsbury* Newspapers for the Time being, specifying the Business of the Meeting; and that every General or Special Meeting may be adjourned from Time to Time and from Place to Place within the Town of *Shrewsbury* aforesaid, as shall be found expedient, and that at least Three Days previous Notice of every General Meeting, and Three Days previous Notice of any Adjournment of any General or Special Meeting, shall be given, and that at every such General or Special Meeting, or any Adjournment thereof respectively, all Questions shall be decided by a Majority of Votes of the Proprietors and Proxies present, and not declining to vote, according to their respective Number of Shares (that is to say, One Vote in respect of every Five Shares), except that no Person shall vote in respect of more than Twenty Shares, nor shall any Person be entitled to vote at any General or Special Meeting of the said Company, or any Adjournment thereof, in respect of any Shares which he or she may possess in the said Undertaking, unless such Person shall have at least Five Shares, and fully paid and satisfied all Arrears of Money which shall or may have become due in pursuance of any Call or Calls made or to be made by the said Committee of Management for or in respect of such Share or Shares; nor shall any Person vote at any of the Meetings of the said Company upon any Question or Questions relating to the Concerns of the said Undertaking, in which such Person or Persons shall be anywise interested other than as a Subscriber or Subscribers, Proprietor or Proprietors to or of the said Undertaking; and that upon any Difference of Opinion, any Proprietor present may require the Votes at any General or Special Meeting of the said Company, or any Adjournment thereof, to be taken by Ballot, but no Ballot shall be kept open more than Two Hours, and that the Chairman of every such Meeting shall be entitled to vote, and in case the Number of Votes, including the Chairman's Vote, shall be equal, he shall also have a casting Vote; and that no Business shall be transacted at any Special Meeting besides the Business for which it shall have been called, and no other Business shall be transacted at any adjourned Special Meeting than the Business left unfinished at the Meeting from which such Adjournment took place.

Meetings
and Adjourn-
ments.

Special
Meetings
may be called
for any
Purpose.

XXXII. And

A certain Number of Proprietors may call a Special Meeting to remove any of the Committee, or to elect others in certain Cases.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That in case any Five or more of the Proprietors, being collectively possessed of or entitled to Twenty-five or more Shares in the said Undertaking, shall think that there is any reason to complain of the Conduct of the Committee of Management for the Time being, or of any Member or Members thereof, or in case they shall think it necessary that any Vacancy or Vacancies in the said Committee, occasioned by Death, Absence, Resignation, or Disqualification, should be supplied by the Election of another or others, then it shall and may be lawful for them to call a Special Meeting of the said Proprietors, to be held at such Hour and Place within the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs as they shall think fit, provided Ten Days Notice of the Time and Place and Purport of such Special Meeting be given by the Persons calling the same, by Advertisement in the *Shrewsbury* Newspapers for the Time being; and at every such Special Meeting it shall be lawful for the Proprietors then present, in Manner herein-after mentioned, to remove all or any of the Committee, and to elect others in their Stead, or in the Stead of any Member dead or absent, or who shall have resigned or become disqualified; and the Committee for the Time being shall produce their Accounts, and a Report of their Proceedings at such Special Meeting, if required, by the Notice calling or convening the same; provided that no such Special Meeting for the above Purpose shall be held unless there be Persons present either as Principals or Proxies, who shall be possessed of or entitled unto at least Six hundred Shares in the said Undertaking, nor unless Two-thirds of the Votes then present shall concur in the Measure; and in case there be not a sufficient Number of Shareholders to make such a Meeting, the same shall be adjourned for that particular Purpose to the same Place that Day Fortnight, and so from Time to Time until there shall be present Persons, either as Principals or Proxies, who shall be possessed of Six hundred Shares as aforesaid; and the same Rules, Regulations, Penalties, and Provisions as are herein prescribed with respect to the General Meetings for choosing Committees, shall be applicable to the Meetings to be held for removing any Member thereof as aforesaid.

Meetings to settle Accounts and declare Dividends.

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, That any General Meeting or Meetings specially called for the Purpose, shall have full Power to call for and examine and settle the Accounts of the said Company, and of the said Committee of Management; and that at the said General Meeting, or some Adjournment thereof, in each Year, a Dividend or Dividends shall be made out of the Interest, Profits, or Advantages of the said Undertaking, unless such yearly Meeting shall declare otherwise; and such Dividend or Dividends shall be at and after the Rate of so much *per Centum* for every Share upon all and every the Sum and Sums of Money paid to the said Company by the said Subscribers, their Executors, Administrators, Successors, or Assigns, as such yearly Meeting shall think fit to appoint and determine; provided that no Dividend shall be made, whereby the Capital of the said Company shall in any Degree be reduced or impaired, nor within Two Years next after the passing of this Act; nor shall any Dividend be paid in respect of any Share or Shares after a Day appointed for Payment of any Call for Money in respect thereof, until such Call shall have been paid.

XXXIV. And

by the Chairman of each respective Meeting shall be deemed, and taken to be original Orders, and Proceedings, and shall be allowed to be read in Evidence in all Courts, and before all Judges, Justices, and others, and the same may be inspected at all reasonable Times by any of the Proprietors, on giving Two Days Notice to the said Company.

A Treasurer to be appointed.

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said Company shall at their First Meeting elect and choose, and under their Common Seal appoint a Treasurer or Treasurers to the said Company; and if by reason of any Negligence, Misconduct, or Inability in any Treasurer or Treasurers to execute such Office or Offices, it shall be requisite to displace or remove him or them, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Company, at any General or Special Meeting to be held as herein directed, to remove any such Treasurer or Treasurers; and in case any such Treasurer shall die, be removed from, or quit the Service of the said Company, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Company, at any General or Special Meeting, to appoint any other fit Person or Persons to execute such Office or Offices, in the Place of the Person or Persons who shall so die, be removed from, or quit the Service of the said Company; provided always, that the said Company shall and they are hereby required to take sufficient Security from every Person (not being a Banker) who shall be appointed Treasurer, Receiver, or Collector for any of the Purposes of this Act, for the faithful Execution of their respective Offices, before they shall enter thereupon respectively.

Company to take Security from the Treasurer.

Same Person not to be Clerk and Treasurer.

XXXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That it shall not be lawful for the said Company, or any Committee thereof, to appoint the same Person who shall act as their Clerk in the Execution of this Act, or the Partner of any such Clerk, the Treasurer for the Purposes of this Act, or to appoint the Person who shall act as their Treasurer, or the Partner of any such Treasurer, the Clerk to the said Company; and if any Person shall act in both the Capacities of Clerk and Treasurer for the Purposes of this Act, or if any Person being the Partner of any such Clerk, shall act as Treasurer, or being the Partner of any such Treasurer, shall act as Clerk in the Execution of this Act, every Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds to any Person or Persons who shall sue for the same in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at *Westminster*, by Action of Debt, or on the Case, or by Bill, Suit, or Information, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Wager of Law, nor more than one Imparlance, shall be allowed.

Treasurer, &c. not to issue Money without an Order.

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, That no Sum or Sums of Money shall be issued by the Treasurer or Treasurers, or other Officer or Officers to be appointed by the said Company, on account of the said Company, without an Order or Orders in Writing, signed by the Chairman of the Committee of Management for the Time being, and Three Members at least of the said Committee present at some Meeting of the said Committee of Management.

Power to break up the Soil and Pavement of Streets, &c.

XL. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company and their Successors, and they are hereby fully authorized and empowered, by their Servants, Agents, Workmen, and others, from Time to Time to make and erect such Retorts, Gasometers, Receivers, and other

other Buildings, Cisterns, Engines, Machines, or other Apparatus upon any of the Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments which the said Company may purchase or possess by Lease or otherwise, for the Purpose, in such Manner as the said Company shall think necessary or proper for carrying the Purposes of this Act into Execution; and also upon giving Two Days Notice of their Intention (except in Cases of Emergency for any Repairs wherein such Notice cannot be given) to the Clerk or Agent of the Trustees or Commissioners, or other Persons in whom the Care and Right of the Streets is vested, acting under a certain Act of Parliament made and passed in the Twenty-ninth Year of the Reign of King George the Second, intituled *An Act for the better paving and amending, cleansing, enlightening, and watching the Streets, Highways, Lanes, and Passages within the Town of Shrewsbury, in the County of Salop*, to break up the Soil and Pavements of any Streets, Bridges, Highways, Roads, Ways, Lanes, Passages, and other Places within the Town or Suburbs of *Shrewsbury* aforesaid, or any Part of them, and to dig and sink Trenches and Drains, and lay Mains or Pipes, and put Stop-Cocks, Syphons, Plugs, or Branches from such Pipes, in, under, across and along 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, re-lay, and maintain such Pipes, Stop-Cocks, Syphons, and Plugs or Branches, also to carry, fit up, and furnish any Pipe or Pipes, Cocks or Branches, or other necessary Apparatus from any Main or Pipe laid in any Street, Bridge, Road, Highway, Lane, Passage, or other Place by the said Company, by virtue of this Act, in, to, or through any Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactories, public or private Buildings, for the Purpose of lighting the same, or any public or private Lamp from any of such Mains or Pipes.

for laying
Pipes and
lighting
Houses.

XLI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company and their Successors, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to erect and set up any Machine or other Apparatus necessary or requisite for securing to any Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactories, public or private Building, (with the Consent of the Proprietors thereof) a proper and competent Supply of Gas, or for measuring and ascertaining the Extent of such Supply; and also to alter or amend any bad or imperfect Work which shall have been placed, or which shall be injured or damaged in such Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactories, public or private Buildings, and do all such other Acts, Matters, and Things as the said Company and their Successors shall from Time to Time think necessary for completing, amending, repairing, improving, supplying, and using the same; provided nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall authorize or empower the said Company to carry or lay any Pipe or Pipes through or against any Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactories, public or private Buildings, Yards, or Grounds, for the Purpose of lighting any other Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactory, public or private Building, or any other Place or Places, without the previous Consent of the Owner and Occupier of every such Dwelling House or Houses, Manufactory, public or private Building, Yards or Grounds, through which any such Pipe or Pipes may be carried or laid, for the Purposes aforesaid.

Company to
erect Ap-
paratus to
supply
Houses, &c.
with Gas,
with Con-
sent.

Company
not to lay
Pipes on pri-
vate Property
without Con-
sent.

XLII. And

Penalty for interrupting Company's Workmen.

XLII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall wantonly or maliciously hinder or interrupt the said Company, or their Deputies, Agents, Workmen or Servants, or any of them, in doing and performing any of the Works, or in Exercise of any of the Powers and Authorities by this Act granted, or shall in anywise cause or procure the same to be done, every Person so offending shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the said Company any Sum not exceeding Forty Shillings, and also the full Amount of the Damage which shall be sustained by such Hinderance or Interruption; such Damage to be recovered in like Manner as any Penalty or Forfeiture can or may by virtue of this Act be recovered.

Workmen in laying Pipes to make good the Pavement.

XLIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Workmen employed in laying or repairing any such Mains, Pipes, Plugs, Cocks, Syphons or Branches, shall do as little Damage to the Streets, Bridges, Pavements and Roads as may be, and shall forthwith fill up the Trenches and make good the Pavements and Roads, and carry away the Rubbish occasioned thereby, and repair any Damage arising from any Drains, Sewers, or Cuts which may be made for carrying off any Washings or waste Liquids, without any Delay; and shall in the meantime fence or guard the Place or Places where any Ground shall be opened, and place and set up Lights during the Night, in such Manner as to prevent Accidents to Passengers, Cattle, and Carriages: Provided always, that if there shall be any wilful or negligent Delay in the said Company, or in any of their Agents or Servants, or any other Person or Persons acting by or under their Authority, in filling in any such Ground, or removing Rubbish, or making good any such Pavements or Roads, or in case such Place or Places where such Ground shall be opened shall not be well and sufficiently fenced or guarded as aforesaid; or in case such Lights shall not be placed and set up during the Night as aforesaid, then and in every such Case it shall and may be lawful to and for the Commissioners or Trustees of the Streets hereinbefore mentioned, Directors or Trustees, or other Person or Persons, or Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, or Corporation or Corporations Sole or Aggregate, in whom by any Act or Acts of Parliament or otherwise, the Care, Superintendance, and Controul of lighting or paving the public Streets, Highways, Lanes, Passages, or Places, or any Part of them, or any of them in the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs, is or may be vested, or their Surveyor or Surveyors, or any other Person or Persons acting by or under the Authority of the said Commissioners, Trustees, or Directors, to fill in such Ground and remove such Rubbish, and to repair and make good the Pavement of any Street, Bridge, Highway, Way, Lane, Passage or Place so broken up; and that the reasonable Costs and Charges thereof shall be paid by the said Company or their Treasurer; and that in default of Payment thereof for Ten Days next after Demand in Writing shall be made by such Surveyor, or other Person acting by or under the Authority of the said Commissioners or Trustees of the said recited Act, or Directors or Trustees, or other Persons or Bodies aforesaid, Proof of such Demand being made by the Oath of Two credible Witnesses before One or more Justice or Justices of the Peace for the Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*, of all such reasonable Costs and Charges, together with any Sum not exceeding One Pound *per* Day for every Day the same shall remain unpaid, by way of Penalty; and in case the same shall not be forthwith paid, then and in such Case the same shall and may be levied and recovered by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the said Company

Provision in case of Default.

Company, together with the Charges of such Distress and Sale, by Warrant under the Hand and Seal or Hands and Seals of any Justice or Justices of the Peace for the said Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*, which Warrant such Justice or Justices is and are hereby empowered to grant, and One Fourth Part of such Penalty shall be paid to the Informer, and the remaining Three Fourths to such Commissioners, Directors, or Trustees, or their Treasurer, together with such Costs and Charges as such Justice shall order to be paid.

XLIV. Provided always, and be it 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 Company, without the Consent in Writing of the said Company under their Common Seal first had and obtained, on pain of forfeiting and paying to the said Company the Sum of Five Pounds, and also the further Sum of One Pound a Day for every Day such Pipe shall so remain, or such Excess be so committed or continued, 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 Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury* aforesaid, and which Warrant such Justice or Justices is and are hereby required and 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 a sufficient Distress cannot be found, or such Forfeiture shall not be forthwith paid, it shall be lawful for such Justice to cause such Offender or Offenders to be committed to the Common Gaol or House of Correction at *Shrewsbury* aforesaid, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, for such Time as such Justice or Justices shall direct, not exceeding Six Calendar Months, unless such Forfeiture and all reasonable Charges shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

No Pipes of Communication to be laid without Consent of the Company, &c.

XLV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person shall wilfully or maliciously remove, take away, destroy, damage or injure any or any Part of any Pipe, Post, Plug, Lamp, or other Apparatus, Matter or Thing belonging to the said Company, every Person so offending in any of the respective Premises, and being thereof lawfully convicted on the Oath of Two credible Witnesses before one or more Justice or Justices for the Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*, shall forfeit and pay to the aforesaid Company any Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds, and Three Times the Amount of the Damage to be ascertained by such Justice or Justices to be done; such Penalty and Damage, together with reasonable Costs, to be settled by such Justice or Justices, and to be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Offender, returning the Overplus (if any) on Demand, to the Owner of such Goods and Chattels, or on Nonpayment thereof such Offender shall and may be committed to the Common Gaol or House of Correction at *Shrewsbury* aforesaid, there to remain for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months.

Penalty for damaging Pipes, &c.

XLVI. And be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to authorize or empower the said Company, or any other Person or Persons, in anyway whatsoever, to interfere with or abridge the Rights or Privileges of any Person or Persons, Bodies Politic or Corporate, having any Right, Privilege or Power to supply the

For protecting the Water-works.

Inhabitants of the said Town of *Shrewsbury*, or the Neighbourhood thereof with Water; and the said Company shall be and they are hereby made answerable for any Damage, Spoil, Injury or Mischief which shall be done to any of the Pipes, Works, or Property of such Person or Persons, Bodies Politic or Corporate, or to the Pipes or Branches of any Person or Persons communicating with such Pipes, Works, or Property, or which shall or may be sustained by them, or any or either of them, by reason or in consequence of any Act, Matter, or Thing to be done or executed by the said Company, or any of their Agents, Servants, or Workmen, and the said Company shall and they are hereby required to pay the Amount of such Damage, Spoil, Injury or Mischief on Demand; provided, and it is hereby declared, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to enlarge or diminish any of the Rights or Privileges which the said Person or Persons, Bodies Politic or Corporate, or any of them, may have or enjoy, of supplying the Inhabitants of the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs of *Shrewsbury* with Water; and in case it shall be expedient for the Company to alter the Position of any of the Water Pipes, such Alteration shall be made with the Consent of the Proprietors of the said Waterworks, or their Agent, and not otherwise, by and at the Expence of the Company.

Sewers to be made for carrying off waste Liquids.

XLVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the said Company, or any Persons acting under their Authority, to make such Sewers or Cuts, of such Breadth, Depth, and Dimensions, and in such Manner as they shall think expedient, under the Streets, Ways, Lanes, Avenues and Places within the said Town of *Shrewsbury*, or the Precincts or Suburbs thereof, for the Purpose of carrying off the Washings or other waste Liquids which may arise in the Prosecution of the Works aforesaid, the said Company and all Persons acting under their Authority, doing as little Damage as may be in making the said Sewers or Cuts, and immediately repairing at their own Expence all such Damages; but that it shall not be lawful for the said Company to empty, carry, or convey, or cause to be emptied, carried, or conveyed to or into the River *Severn*, or any other River, or into any Ditch, Brook, running Water or Canal, that will convey it into the *Severn*, or any other River, any Washings or Liquids, or any Lime or other Ingredients, Matter or Thing, which shall arise or be produced in manufacturing or producing the said Gas, or in or by the Prosecution of any of the Works aforesaid.

Company to prevent Gas escaping, &c. or Proprietors of Waterworks to have certain Powers.

XLVIII. And be it further enacted, That whenever the said Gas shall be found to escape from any of the said Company's Pipes to be laid as aforesaid, the said Company, their Successors or Assigns, shall immediately on Notice thereof being given, either by Parol or in Writing, at the usual Office or Place of transacting their Business, by any Person or Persons whomsoever, cause the most proper and speedy Measures to be taken to stop and prevent such Gas from escaping; and in case the said Company, their Successors or Assigns, shall not within Twelve Hours next after each and every such Notice so given as aforesaid, of any such Escape of Gas, effectually stop or prevent the same from escaping; and wholly and satisfactorily remove the Cause of every such Complaint, then and in every such Case the said Company, their Successors or Assigns, shall forfeit and pay, on Demand, the Sum of Ten Pounds for each and every Day that the said Escape of Gas shall continue, One Fourth Part thereof to the Informer,

and the remaining Three Fourths to the said Commissioners or Trustees of the Street Act; and in default of Payment thereof as aforesaid, such Penalty or Penalties shall and may be recovered by Information on the Oath of Two credible Witnesses; to be exhibited against the said Company, their Successors or Assigns, before any Justice of the Peace for the Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*; with Costs, to be ascertained by such Justice, and to be levied by Distress and Sale, of the Goods and Chattels of the said Company, their Successors or Assigns, together with the Charges of such Distress and Sale by Warrant under the Hand and Seal of such Justice, which Warrant such Justice is hereby empowered to grant; provided nevertheless; that if it shall appear to the Justice before whom such Complaint shall be exhibited, that the said Company shall have used all due Diligence within the Twenty-four Hours after such Notice shall have been so given as aforesaid, and shall thenceforth continue to use all such due Diligence until the said Complaint shall be effectually removed; then and in every such Case the said Company shall not be subject or liable to the aforesaid Penalty.

XLIX. And be it also enacted, That the said Company, upon being required, shall furnish the Commissioners or Trustees acting under the said recited Act, in lieu of their present Lamps, or so far as the Gas Pipes extend; with Light of a superior Quality to the present; at the same Rate that the said Commissioners or Trustees have paid upon an Average for the last Three Years; and the said Company shall erect or cause to be erected the necessary Service Pipes and Burners for the above Purpose; and be answerable for any Nuisance occasioned thereby; but in that Case such of the present Lamps and Apparatus thereto belonging as will then be removed, shall belong to and be the Property of the Company.

Company to furnish better Light than at present, at the Price now paid for the same. Company to erect Service Pipes, &c. and become entitled to the old Lamps.

L. And be it further enacted, That every Contract or Agreement entered into by the said Commissioners or Trustees, acting under the said recited Act, for or in respect of the said Town of *Shrewsbury*, or any Part or Parts thereof, with the said Company, 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 public Streets and Ways of the said Town, or any Part or Parts thereof, shall be greater than what at the Time of making such Contract such public Streets and Ways of the said Town may be lighted for in the usual Manner with Oil, for a Period not less than Twelve Months; by any Contractor offering due Security for the Performance of his Contract, or in case the Service Pipes shall not be always filled with Gas during the Hours of lighting.

Contracts to be void if the Price charged for Gas shall exceed the Charge for lighting with Oil.

LI. And be it further enacted, That in case any Person or Persons who shall contract with the said Company, or agree to take or shall use or enjoy the Benefit of the said Gas in their private Dwellings, Shops, Inns, Taverns, or other Buildings or Manufactories, shall refuse or neglect, for the Space of Twenty-one Days after Demand, to pay the Sum or Sums then due for the same to the said Company, according to the Terms and Stipulations of the said Company, it shall be lawful for the said Company, or their Clerk or Clerks, or any Person or Persons acting by or under their Authority, by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of any Two of the Justices of the Peace for the said Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*, on Proof of such Demand having been made by the Oath of one

Power for Recovery of Rents.

Witness,

Witness, to levy the said Sum or Sums of Money, in respect whereof such Refusal or Neglect shall happen, by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Person or Persons so neglecting or refusing to pay the same, rendering the Overplus (if any) to such Person or Persons so refusing or neglecting, after the necessary Charges of making such Distress and Sale shall be first deducted; such Costs and Charges to be ascertained by such Justice.

Recovery and Application of Penalties.

LII. And be it further enacted, That all Penalties, Forfeitures, and Fines by this Act imposed or authorized to be imposed, (the Manner of levying and recovering of which is not herein otherwise particularly directed) upon Proof of the Offence or Offences, and Conviction of the Offender or Offenders respectively, before any Two or more Justices of the Peace for the said Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*, either by the Confession of the Party or Parties offending, or by the Oath of one or more credible Witness or Witnesses, together with all such Costs, Charges, and Expences as such Justices respectively shall adjudge and determine to be fair, reasonable, and proper to be allowed, (and which they are hereby authorized and empowered to ascertain and determine accordingly), shall be levied by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of the Party or Parties offending, by virtue of a Warrant or Warrants under the Hands and Seals of such Justices, (which Warrant or Warrants such Justices are hereby authorized and required to grant, and to administer such Oath), and the Overplus, after such Penalties, Forfeitures, and Fines, Costs, Charges, and Expences, and the Charges of such Distress and Sale, are deducted, shall be returned, on Demand, to the Owner or Owners of such Goods and Chattels; and all such Penalties, Forfeitures, and Fines, if not otherwise directed by this Act, shall be paid as follows: One Fourth Part thereof to the Informer, and the other Three Fourths thereof to the Directors of the United Parishes of the said Town of *Shrewsbury*, to be by them applied in Relief of the Poor of such Parishes; and if sufficient Distress cannot be found, and such Penalties, Forfeitures, and Fines, Costs, Charges, and Expences, shall not be forthwith paid, such Justices are hereby authorized and required, by Warrant or Warrants under their Hands and Seals, to cause such Offender or Offenders to be committed to the Common Gaol or House of Correction for the said Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*, there to remain, without Bail or Mainprize, for any Time not exceeding Six Calendar Months, unless such Penalties, Forfeitures, and Fines, Costs, Charges, and Expences, and all other reasonable Costs and Charges attending the Recovery thereof, shall be sooner paid and satisfied; provided nevertheless, that such Justices shall and are hereby authorized, if they shall think fit, to mitigate all and every or any of the Penalties, Forfeitures, and Fines imposed by this Act, to any Sum not less than one Moiety of the Penalty, Forfeiture, or Fine imposed for each particular Offence.

Power of Mitigation.

Offenders against the Act.

LIII. And, for the more easy Conviction of Offenders against this Act, be it further enacted, That a Conviction in the Form or to the Effect following, shall be good, without alleging more than the Substance of the Offence; (*videlicet*),

Form of Conviction.

‘ to wit. } **BE** it remembered, That on the Day of
 ‘ hundred in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight
 ‘ *Case shall be* is [or are] convicted before me [or us, as the
 of His Majesty’s Justices of the Peace for the
 ‘ said

‘ said Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*, by virtue of an Act of Parlia-
 ‘ ment passed in the First Year of the Reign of King *George* the Fourth,
 ‘ intituled [*here insert the Title of this Act*], of having [*specifying the Offence,*
 ‘ *and the Time and Place when and where the same was committed, as the*
 ‘ *Case shall be*], contrary to the said Act, and for which Offence, I [*or we,*
 ‘ *as the Case shall be*] do adjudge the said _____ to have
 ‘ forfeited the Sum of _____ Given under my Hand and Seal
 ‘ [*or as the Case shall be, our Hands and Seals*] the Day and Year first
 ‘ above written.’

LIV. And be it further enacted, That if any Person or Persons shall be summoned as a Witness or Witnesses to give Evidence before any Justice of the Peace, touching any Matter contained in any Information or Complaint for any Offence against this Act, either on Behalf of the Prosecutor, or on Behalf of the Person or Persons accused, and shall refuse or neglect to appear from Time to Time, at the Time and Place to be for that Purpose appointed, after having been paid or tendered a reasonable Sum for his or her Costs and Expences, without a reasonable Excuse for his, her, or their Refusal or Neglect of appearing, or appearing shall refuse to be examined upon Oath, (which Oath such Justice or Justices is and are hereby authorized and required to administer), and to give Evidence before such Justice or Justices of the Peace, then and in every such Case every such Person shall forfeit and pay for every such Offence any Sum not exceeding Five Pounds.

For compelling the Attendance of Witnesses.

LV. And be it further enacted, That the said Company shall certify to the Mayor of *Shrewsbury* for the Time being, the Name of their Chief or Head Clerk, on his Appointment to that Office; and in all Cases wherein it may be requisite for any Person or Persons, Party or Parties, to serve any Notice or Notices, Summonses, Orders, or any Writ or Writs, or other legal Proceedings upon the said Company, the Service thereof on the Clerk of the said Company, at the Office of the said Company, or left at his last or usual Place of Abode, or on any Member of the said Committee of Management, or left at his last or usual Place of Abode, or upon any Agent or other Officer employed by the said Company, or left at his last or usual Place of Abode, shall be deemed good and sufficient Service of the same respectively on the said Company.

Name of Chief Clerk to be certified to the Mayor. Notices, Orders, &c. on the Company to be served on their Clerk.

LVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Witness or Witnesses who shall be examined by or before any Justice of the Peace or otherwise under this Act, upon Oath, or in case of a Quaker or Quakers, on solemn Affirmation, shall wilfully and corruptly give false Evidence, and shall be thereof convicted, he, she, or they so giving false Evidence shall be subject to the same Punishment as if he, she, or they had been convicted of Perjury.

Persons giving false Evidence to be punished for Perjury.

LVII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Affirmation or Affirmations of the People called *Quakers* shall be allowed of and taken in all Cases where any Oath or Oaths is or are directed to be taken by this Act, instead of such Oath or Oaths, and shall be administered by the same Person or Persons as such Oath or Oaths is or are to be administered.

Affirmation instead of Oath.

[Local.]

19 F

LVIII. And

Information
for Penalties
limited.

LVIII. And be it further enacted, That no Person or Persons, Body or Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, shall be subject or liable to the Payment of any of the Penalties or Forfeitures inflicted by virtue of this Act, for any Grievance or Injury under, or Offence or Offences against this Act, and to be recovered before a Justice, unless Information respecting such Grievance or Injury, Offence or Offences, shall have been lodged before a Justice for the said Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*, within Six Calendar Months next after such Grievance, Injury, or Offence be committed.

Nothing in
this Act to
take away
Right of
Action, or to
prevent Com-
pany from
being in-
dicted.

LIX. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend 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 Actions 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, or otherwise howsoever; and the said Company shall indemnify all Parties otherwise liable from all Charges and Consequences of any Indictment for a Nuisance in consequence of the Streets, Bridges, or Highways in the said Town or Suburbs being out of Repair, in case it shall appear that such Nuisance was occasioned by the Acts of the said Company, or any Persons authorized or employed by them.

Appeal may
be made to
Quarter
Sessions.

LX. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That any Body or Bodies Corporate or Collegiate, or any Person or Persons whatsoever thinking himself, herself, or themselves aggrieved by any Order or Judgment made or given in pursuance of any Rule, Bye Law or Order of the said Company, or by the Order or Determination of any Justice or Justices of the Peace in pursuance of this Act, may, within Three Calendar Months after the Cause of Complaint shall have arisen, appeal to the Justices of the Peace, at their next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, to be holden for the said Town and Liberties of *Shrewsbury*, or any Adjournment thereof, the Person or Persons appealing having first given at least Eight clear Days Notice of such Appeal, and of the Nature and Matter thereof, to the Person or Persons appealed against, or to the Clerk or Clerks of the said Company, and forthwith after such Notice entering into a Recognizance before some Justice of the Peace for the same Town and Liberties, with sufficient Sureties conditioned to try such Appeal, and to abide the Order and Award of the said Court thereon; and the said Justices, upon due Proof of such Notice and Recognizance having been given and entered into, shall in a summary Way hear and determine such Complaint at such General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, or Adjournment thereof, or if they think proper, may adjourn the Hearing thereof to the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held for the same Town and Liberties; and if they see Cause, they may mitigate any Forfeiture or Fine, and may order any Money to be returned which shall have been levied in pursuance of such Rule, Bye Law, Order, or Determination, and shall and may also award such further Satisfaction to be made to the Party injured, or such Costs to either of the Parties, as they shall judge reasonable and proper;

and

and all such Determinations of the said Justices shall be final, binding, and conclusive, upon all Parties, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

LXI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act shall extend to the Prejudice of any Right which the Owners or Proprietors of the Waterworks of the said Town of *Shrewsbury*, or the Precincts and Suburbs thereof, now have of breaking up the Pavements of the Streets in the said Town, Precincts, and Suburbs, for the more easy or convenient laying down, amending, repairing, and taking up the Water Pipes belonging to the said Waterworks; the said Owners or Proprietors of the said Works, from Time to Time and at all Times, as often as Occasion shall require (as heretofore they usually have done), repairing and making good such Parts and so much of the said Pavements within the said Town, as they or any Person or Persons by their Order shall break up for the Purposes aforesaid.

Reservation of Rights to the Proprietors of Waterworks.

LXII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, 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 Trustees or Commissioners acting under the said Act of Parliament for the paving and enlightening the said Town of *Shrewsbury*, nor in anywise to affect, impeach, diminish or take away any of the Rights, Privileges, Royalties, Franchises, Immunities, Liberties, Powers, Jurisdictions or Authorities whatsoever, belonging, due, or in anywise appertaining to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the said Town of *Shrewsbury*, in their Corporate Capacity, except and so far only as is expressed and contained in this Act.

Rights of Commissioners of Streets and of the Corporation, reserved to them respectively.

LXIII. And be it further enacted, That all the Costs, Charges, and Expences attending the applying for, obtaining, and passing this Act, shall be paid and discharged by the said Committee of Management, out of the Monies already subscribed by virtue of this Act.

Expences of the Act to be paid.

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

Public Act.

