

## CHAPTER cexxiii.

An Act to dissolve and re-incorporate the Mid Kent A.D. 1898. Water Company Limited to extend their limits of supply and to confer further powers for the construction of works the raising of capital and otherwise in relation [12th August 1898.] to their undertaking.

WHEREAS in the year one thousand eight hundred and eightyeight certain persons formed themselves into a company under the name of the Mid Kent Water Company Limited (hereinafter referred to as "the Limited Company") for the purpose of supplying with water certain places in the county of Kent and of carrying on the business usually carried on by a waterworks company and the Limited Company was duly registered under the Companies' Acts 1862 to 1880:

And whereas by the Mid Kent Water Order 1888 (in this Act called "the Order of 1888") made by the Board of Trade under the authority of the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act 1870 and confirmed by the Water Orders Confirmation Act 1888 the Limited Company were constituted the undertakers for the purpose of that Order and their limits of supply were defined and their share capital was not to exceed eighteen thousand pounds unless they were authorised to raise additional share capital by Provisional Order or Act of Parliament:

And whereas by the Mid Kent Water Order 1890 (in this Act called "the Order of 1890") made by the Board of Trade under the authority of the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act 1870 and confirmed by the Water Orders Confirmation (No. 1) Act 1890 the limits within which the Limited Company might supply water were extended and the Limited Company were authorised to construct additional waterworks and to raise additional share capital not exceeding fifteen thousand pounds:

And whereas by the Mid Kent Water Order 1895 (in this Act called "the Order of 1895") made by the Board of Trade under the [Price 1s. 9d.]

A.D. 1898. authority of the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act 1870 and confirmed by the Water Orders Confirmation Act 1895 the Limited Company were authorised to construct additional waterworks to further extend their limits of supply and to raise additional share capital not exceeding twelve thousand pounds:

> And whereas the present share capital of the Limited Company consists of thirty-three thousand pounds divided into one thousand eight hundred ordinary shares of ten pounds each all of which have been subscribed and fully paid up and of one thousand five hundred preference shares of ten pounds each all of which have been created and issued and are fully paid up and the Limited Company have borrowed on debentures the sum of eight thousand pounds and the further sum of seven thousand pounds on loan:

> And whereas the Limited Company have exercised the powers conferred upon them by the Orders of 1888 1890 and 1895 and have erected and are now using waterworks and other works for the supply of water and are now supplying water within the limits prescribed by the said Orders of 1888 1890 and 1895:

> And whereas the demand for water within the district supplied by the Limited Company has increased and is increasing and in order the better to meet such demand it is expedient that the Limited Company should be dissolved and re-incorporated with further powers to construct new works and to obtain an additional supply of water as in this Act appears:

> And whereas it is expedient that the limits within which the Limited Company are authorised to supply water should be extended:

> And whereas it is expedient that the Company be authorised to raise additional capital for the purposes of this Act and for the general purposes of their undertaking:

> And whereas plans and sections showing the lines situations and levels of the works authorised by this Act and also a book of reference to the plans containing the names of the owners or reputed owners lessees or reputed lessees and of the occupiers of the lands required or which may be taken for the purposes or under the powers of this Act were duly deposited with the clerk of the peace for the county of Kent and are herein-after respectively referred to as the deposited plans sections and book of reference:

> And whereas by the South Kent Water Act 1889 (in this Act called "the Act of 1889") the South Kent Water Company (in this Act called "the South Kent Company") were incorporated and were authorised to supply water in divers parishes and places in the county of Kent and the South Kent Company have not exercised

the powers conferred upon them by the Act of 1889 so far as those A.D. 1898. powers affect certain of such parishes and places:

And whereas it is expedient that the powers conferred upon the South Kent Company by the Act of 1889 so far as they relate to the parishes mentioned in this Act should be repealed:

And whereas the objects of this Act cannot be effected without the authority of Parliament:

May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Mid Kent Water Act 1898.

Short title.

2. The following Acts and parts of Acts (so far as they are Incorporaapplicable for the purposes and are not inconsistent with the powers of this Act) are hereby incorporated with this Act (namely) The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 (except the provisions relating to the conversion of borrowed money into capital) Part I. (relating to cancellation and surrender of shares) Part II. (relating to additional capital) and Part III. (relating to debenture stock) of the Companies Clauses Act 1863 as amended by subsequent Acts the Lands Clauses Acts the Waterworks Clauses Acts 1847 and 1863 Provided that section 44 of the Waterworks Clauses Act 1847 shall for the purposes of this Act have effect as if the words " with the consent in writing of the owner or reputed owner of any such house or of the agent of such owner" were omitted therefrom.

general Acts.

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

- The expression "the Company" means the Company incorporated by this Act;
- The expressions "the waterworks" and "the undertaking" respectively mean and include the waterworks and the works connected therewith by this Act vested in or authorised to be made or maintained by the Company and the undertaking of the Company.
- 4. The limits of this Act for the supply of water (herein-after Defining and referred to as "the limits of this Act" or "the district") shall be extending the parishes following namely:-

limits of supply.

Snodland West Malling Halling Birling Ditton Addington Leybourne Ryarsh Wouldham Burham East Malling Aylesford

Mereworth West Peckham Wateringbury Ightham Offham Stanstead Trotterscliffe Wrotham Nursted Marden Nettlestead Staplehurst Teston Yalding Bethersden and Smarden:

All in the county of Kent:

Provided always that the Company shall not supply water within so much of the Parish of Ightham as lies to the south of an imaginary line drawn in a south-easterly direction from the point where the boundary of that parish crosses the public road from Godstone to Maidstone near Larch Wood Farm to the point on the public road from Maidstone to Tonbridge where the boundary of the said parish crosses the said road to the south of Bewley Farm if after the expiration of two years from the passing of this Act Charles George Hale his heirs or assigns affords and continues to afford a sufficient supply of pure and wholesome water within such portion of the said Parish of Ightham.

Power to local authority &c. to supply water in case Company fails to supply.

5. If at any time after the expiration of six years from the commencement of this Act the Company are not furnishing a sufficient supply of water in accordance with the provisions of this Act in any part of the district of any local authority within the limits of this Act the local authority of such district may provide a supply in the whole or any part of their district within the limits of this Act in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act 1875 or any company body or person may apply for an Act of Parliament or Provisional Order for the purpose of supplying water in any part of such district not sufficiently supplied by the Company as if in either case there were no company authorised by this Act to supply water therein Provided that with respect to any parish within the district of the Malling Rural District Council for the words "six years" in this section shall be substituted the words "three years" and with respect to the parish of Wrotham for the words "six years" in this section shall be substituted the words "two years":

If any difference shall arise between the Company and any such local authority company body or person as to the sufficiency of the supply of water in any part of such district such difference shall be settled on the application of either party by the Board of Trade.

Incorporation of Company. 6. From and after the passing of this Act the Limited Company shall be dissolved and the several persons who immediately before the passing of this Act were members of that company and all other persons who have subscribed to or who shall hereafter become proprietors in the undertaking of the Company and their executors administrators successors and assigns respectively shall be and they are hereby united into a company for the purpose herein-after

mentioned and shall be incorporated by the name of "The Mid Kent Water Company" and by that name shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and with power to purchase take hold and dispose of lands and other property for the purposes of this Act.

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7. The Company shall be established for the purpose of making General and maintaining waterworks and for supplying water within the purposes of limits of this Act and for carrying on the business usually carried on by water companies and generally for carrying the powers of this Act into execution.

8. Subject to the provisions of this Act all the lands waterworks Present erections buildings rights and easements which immediately before property of Limited the passing of this Act were vested in the Limited Company or any Company person in trust for them or to which the Limited Company were in anywise entitled and all mains and pipes plant hydrants plugs incorporated meters syphons engines machinery apparatus stock effects matters by this Act. and things which immediately before the passing of this Act were the property of the Limited Company and all moneys securities credits effects and other property whatsoever which immediately before the passing of this Act belonged to the Limited Company or to any trustee on their behalf and the benefit of all contracts and engagements entered into by or on behalf of the Limited Company and immediately before the passing of this Act in force shall be and the same are hereby vested in the Company to the same extent and for the same estate and interest as the same were previously to the passing of this Act vested in the Limited Company or any trustee on their behalf and may according to the provisions of this Act be held and enjoyed sued for and recovered maintained altered discontinued removed dealt with and disposed of by the Company as they think fit.

vested in

9. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Memorandum and Memoran-Articles of Association of the Limited Company shall as to any prospective operation thereof be wholly void and the Company and the shareholders shall be exempted from all the provisions restrictions and requirements of any Act which applied to the Limited Company and the members thereof as such but nothing in remedies for this Act contained shall release or discharge any person from any antecedent breaches liability or obligation in respect of any breach of the provisions of thereof. the said Memorandum or Articles of Association incurred before the passing of this Act but such liability or obligation in respect of any such breach shall continue and save as in this Act otherwise provided may be enforced by or on behalf of the Company as nearly as may be in like manner as the same might have been enforced by or on behalf of the Limited Company if this Act had not been passed.

dum &c. of Limited Company to be void without prejudice to

Nothing to affect previous rights and liabilities.

10. Except as is by this Act otherwise expressly provided everything before the passing of this Act done or suffered by or with reference to the Limited Company or the members thereof as such shall be as valid as if the Company had not been incorporated and the said Memorandum and Articles of Association had not been avoided by this Act and such incorporation and avoidance and this Act respectively shall accordingly be subject and without prejudice to everything so done or suffered and to all rights liabilities claims and demands both present and future which if the Company were not incorporated and the said Memorandum and Articles of Association were not avoided by this Act and this Act were not passed would be incident to or consequent on any and every thing so done or suffered and with respect to all such rights liabilities claims and demands the Company and its shareholders and property shall to all intents and purposes represent the Limited Company and the members thereof as such and the property of the Limited Company as the case may be and the generality of this enactment shall not be restricted by any of the other clauses and provisions of this Act.

Contracts
prior to Act
to be
binding.

11. Except as is by this Act otherwise specially provided all purchases sales conveyances grants assurances deeds contracts bonds and agreements entered into or made before the passing of this Act by to or with the Limited Company or any trustees or persons acting on behalf of the Limited Company or by to or with any other person to whose rights and liabilities they have succeeded and now in force shall be as binding and of as full force and effect in every respect against or in favour of the Company and may be enforced as fully and effectually as if instead of the Limited Company or the trustees or persons acting on behalf of the Limited Company the Company had been a party thereto.

Actions &c. not to abate. 12. Nothing in this Act shall release discharge or suspend any action or other proceeding which was pending by or against the Limited Company or any member thereof in relation to the affairs of the Limited Company or to which the Limited Company or any member thereof in relation to such affairs were parties immediately before the passing of this Act but such action or other proceeding may be maintained prosecuted or continued by or in favour of or against the Company (as the case may be) in the same manner and as effectually and advantageously as the same might have been maintained prosecuted or continued by or in favour of or against the Limited Company or any member thereof if this Act had not been passed the Company and the shareholders therein being in reference to the matters aforesaid in all respects substituted for the Limited Company and its members respectively.

13. Every trustee or other person in whom or in whose names A.D. 1898. any lands works buildings easements rights property or effects Trustees of belonging to the Limited Company were vested immediately before Limited the passing of this Act and who (being authorised so to do) entered Company to be ininto any bond covenant contract or engagement in respect of the demnified. same or otherwise on behalf of the Limited Company shall be indemnified out of the funds and property of the Company against all liability (including costs charges and expenses) which he may sustain or incur or be put unto by reason of his having entered into such bond covenant contract or engagement.

14. Except as is by this Act otherwise expressly provided Company to the Company shall in all respects be subject to and shall satisfy liabilities of discharge all obligations and liabilities to which the Limited Limited Company immediately before the passing of this Act were subject Company. and shall indemnify the members directors officers and servants of the Limited Company and their respective representatives from all such obligations and liabilities and from all expenses and costs in that behalf.

15. All water rates or rents and sums of money which imme- Recovery of diately before the passing of this Act were due or accruing to the water rates Limited Company shall be payable to and may be collected and rents &c. recovered by the Company in like manner as if they had become payable for the like matters supplied or done under this Act.

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

17. Notwithstanding the avoidance of the said Memorandum Certificates and Articles of Association all certificates (until cancelled under in force. the powers of this Act) sales transfers and dispositions heretofore made or executed under them for and with respect to any shares in the Limited Company shall remain in full force and continue and be available in all respects as if they had not been avoided.

18. All documents books and writings which if the said Books &c. dissolution and avoidance had not taken place would have been continued evidence. receivable in evidence shall be admitted as evidence in all courts and elsewhere notwithstanding such dissolution and avoidance.

Officers to continue until removed.

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

Present register of members to be continued.

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

Capital.

21. The capital of the Company shall be one hundred and twenty thousand pounds whereof thirty-three thousand pounds is in this Act called "the original capital" and eighty-seven thousand pounds is in this Act called "the additional capital" and shall be raised in manner herein-after mentioned:

The original capital shall be divided into one thousand eight hundred ordinary shares of ten pounds each and one thousand five hundred preferred shares of ten pounds each which shares are in this Act called "the old shares" and the Company may convert into stock the whole or any part of their original or additional capital when fully paid up.

Vesting of old shares in present share-holders.

22. The old shares shall be vested in the several persons who immediately before the passing of this Act were the registered members of the Limited Company at the rate of one of such old shares for every ten pounds of capital paid up on the said existing shares whether ordinary or preferred in substitution for the existing shares whether ordinary or preferred of the Limited Company and every share so vested shall be subject and liable to the same trusts powers provisions privileges declarations agreements charges liens and incumbrances as immediately before the passing of this Act affected the share or shares for which the same is substituted and any deed or other instrument or any testamentary disposition of or affecting the same made before the passing of this Act shall take effect with reference to the whole or a proportionate part as the case may be of the old shares so substituted.

23. The Company shall call in and cancel the existing certificates of ordinary shares in the Limited Company and issue in lieu thereof certificates in the form and under the conditions prescribed by the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 and as soon as reasonably may be after the vesting of the preference shares by this Act created in lieu of the existing preference shares in the original capital of the Limited Company in the holders of such existing preference shares each of such holders shall deliver up to the thereof. Company tó be cancelled his existing certificate of preference shares but the holders of such existing certificates of shares whether ordinary or preferred shall not be entitled to any certificates of proprietorship under this Act until they shall have delivered up to the Company to be cancelled the certificates of proprietorship issued to them before the passing of this Act or shall have proved to the reasonable satisfaction of the Company the loss or destruction thereof.

Company to call in and cancel existing share certificates and issue new certificates in lieu

24. The Company may raise additional capital not exceeding in Power to the whole eighty-seven thousand pounds by the creation and issue Company to raise of new ordinary shares or stock and the Company may raiso additional forty-three thousand five hundred pounds thereof by the creation capital. and issue of new preference shares or stock but the Company shall not issue any share of less nominal value than ten pounds nor shall any such share or stock vest in the person accepting the same unless and until the full price of such share or stock including any premium obtained upon the sale thereof shall have been paid in respect thereof Provided that the Company shall not create and issue under the powers of this Act any greater nominal amount of capital than shall be sufficient to produce including any premium which may be obtained on the sale thereof the sum of eighty-seven thousand pounds.

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

26. In case in any half-year the funds of the Company Dividends on applicable to dividend shall be insufficient to pay the full amount different of dividend by this Act prescribed on each class of ordinary shares or stock in the capital of the Company a proportionate diminution shall be made in the rate of dividend then to be paid in respect of paid proporeach class.

classes of shares or stock to be tionately.

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

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

Purchase money of capital sold to be paid within three months.

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

- 28. It shall be one of the conditions of any sale of shares or stock under this Act that the full price thereof including any premium given by any purchaser at such sale shall be paid to the Company within three months after such sale.
- 29. The intention to sell any such shares or stock by auction or by tender shall be communicated in writing to the clerk to every district council within the limits of the Company for the supply of water and to the secretary of the committee of the London Stock Exchange at least twenty-eight days before the day of auction or the last day for the reception of tenders as the case may be and notice of such intention shall be duly advertised once in each of two consecutive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating within the limits of this Act.

Shares or stock not sold by auction or by tender to be offered to share-holders.

30. When any shares or stock created under the powers of this Act have been offered for sale by auction or tender and not sold the same shall be offered at the reserved price put upon the same respectively for the purpose of sale by auction or tender to the holders of ordinary shares or stock of the Company in manner provided by the Companies Clauses Act 1863 Provided always that any shares or stock so offered and not accepted within the time prescribed by the said Act shall again be offered for sale by public auction or by tender in the manner and subject to the provisions of

[61 & 62 Vict.]

this Act with respect to the sale of shares and stock created under this Act but at a lower reserved price than the price put upon the same at the preceding offer thereof for sale by auction or tender and any shares or stock not then sold shall be again offered to the holders of ordinary shares or ordinary stock at the last-mentioned reserved price and so from time to time until the whole of such shares or stock is sold.

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

32. The Company may borrow on mortgage of the undertaking in respect of the original capital of thirty-three thousand pounds respect of any moneys not exceeding eight thousand pounds.

original capital.

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

respect of

34. All mortgages and debentures granted and issued by the Priority of Limited Company before the passing of this Act and subsisting at existing the passing hereof shall during the continuance of such mortgages and debenand debentures have priority over all mortgages and debenture tures. stock to be issued by virtue of this Act.

35. The mortgagees of the undertaking may enforce payment For appointof arrears of interest or principal or principal and interest due on ment of a their mortgages by the appointment of a receiver. In order to

receiver.

A.D. 1898. authorise the appointment of a receiver in respect of arrears of principal the amount owing to the mortgagees by whom the application for a receiver is made shall not be less than one thousand pounds in the whole.

Power to create debenture stock.

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

Receipt in case of persons not sui juris.

37. If any money is payable to a shareholder or mortgagee or debenture stock holder being a minor idiot or lunatic the receipt of the guardian or committee of his estate shall be a sufficient discharge to the Company.

Moneys borrowed on mortgage or debenture stock to have priority.

38. All moneys raised by the Company on mortgage or debenture stock under the provisions of this Act shall have priority against the Company and the property of the Company over all other claims on account of any debts incurred or engagements entered into by them after the passing of this Act Provided always that this priority shall not affect any claim against the Company or their property in respect of any rentcharge granted or to be granted by them in pursuance of the Lands Clauses Acts or in respect of any rent or sum reserved by or payable under any lease granted or made to the Company in pursuance of any Act relating to the Company which is entitled to rank in priority to or pari passu with the interest on their mortgages or debenture stock nor shall anything in this section contained affect any claim for land taken used or occupied by the Company for the purposes of their undertaking or works or injuriously affected by the construction thereof or by the exercise of any powers conferred on the Company.

Application of moneys.

39. All moneys raised under this Act whether by shares debenture stock or borrowing shall be applied only for the purposes of this Act to which capital is properly applicable.

First ordinary meeting.

40. The first ordinary meeting of the Company shall be held within six months after the passing of this Act.

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41. The number of directors shall be three but the Company Number of may vary the number provided that the number be not at any time less than three nor more than seven.

42. The qualification of a director shall be the possession in his Qualification own right of not less than fifty shares.

of directors.

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

Quorum of directors.

directors.

44. Benjamin Thomas Lindsay Thomson Colonel Trevenen First James Holland and Samuel Bowker shall be the first directors of the Company and shall continue in office until the first ordinary meeting held after the passing of this Act At that meeting the shareholders present in person or by proxy may either continue in office the directors appointed by this Act or any of them or may elect a new body of directors or directors to supply the places of Election of those not continued in office the directors appointed by this Act directors. being if they continue qualified eligible for re-election and at the first ordinary meeting to be held in every year after the first ordinary meeting the shareholders present in person or by proxy shall subject to the power herein-before contained for reducing the number of directors elect persons to supply the places of the directors then retiring from office agreeably to the provisions of the Companies Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 and the several persons elected at any such meeting being neither removed nor disqualified nor having died or resigned shall continue to be directors until

45. Any contract to be made under this Act with any local Contracts authority or public body shall not disqualify any of the members not to disof such local authority or public body for the office of director of office of the Company and no director or shareholder of the Company shall director. be disqualified for the office of director of the Company by reason of any contract between him and the Company for any loan of money to the Company but no director of the Company being a member of any such local authority or public body shall vote upon any question with reference to any contract with such local authority or public body nor shall any director of the Company vote upon any question with reference to any contract between him and the Company for any loan of money to the Company.

others are elected in their stead in manner provided by the same

qualify for

46. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Company may Power to maintain continue improve and enlarge the existing waterworks of make water. the Limited Company and they may make and maintain in the works. lines and situations and according to the levels shown on the deposited plans and sections the waterworks herein-after described

with all proper and necessary embankments filtering beds softening tanks dams gauges basins drains sluices catchpits conduits culverts channels wells cuts adits aqueducts tunnels roads apparatus approaches engines works and conveniences connected with the said works or any of them or incidental thereto or necessary or convenient for inspecting maintaining cleansing repairing conducting or managing the same and may enter upon take and use such of the lands delineated on the deposited plans and described in the deposited book of reference as may be required for that purpose:

The waterworks herein-before referred to and authorised by this Act are situate in the county of Kent and are—

- (1) A well and pumping station situate in the parish of Halling in a piece or parcel of ground belonging or reputed to belong to the Limited Company and being part of a field numbered 47 on the 25-inch scale Ordnance map of the said parish published in 1873:
- (2) A reservoir situate in the parish of Birling in a field bounded on the south-east by the lane known as the Pilgrim Road and on the south-west by the road leading from Birling to Meopham and numbered 22 on the Ordnance map (scale  $\frac{1}{2500}$ ) of the said parish published in 1885:
- (3) A conduit or line of pipes commencing at the well and pumping station aforesaid and passing thence from through or into the parishes of Halling Snodland and Birling and terminating at the reservoir aforesaid.

For protection of main roads and county bridges.

47. Any alteration repair or improvement of any of the bridges or roads repairable by the County Council of Kent or any alteration of or in the position of the same may be made as if this Act had not passed and if any such alteration repair or improvement necessitates any alteration either temporary or permanent in the level or position of any of the works by this Act authorised to be made or placed in over or through any of the bridges or roads aforesaid or necessitates any support either temporary or permanent to any such works the Company shall after fourteen days' notice in writing by the county surveyor on behalf of the said County Council forthwith make such alteration or afford such support at their own expense.

For protection of Henry Leonard Campbell Brassey.

48. The following provisions shall take effect for the protection of Henry Leonard Campbell Brassey of Preston Hall Aylesford in the county of Kent which description shall include his sequels in title:—

In exercising the powers of this Act the Company shall not be entitled to sink any wells or construct any cuts channels adits

or other similar works in the parish of Aylesford or to do any other act which shall or may injuriously affect the supply of water to the spring known as the Tottington Spring and the Company shall not without the previous consent in writing of the said Henry Leonard Campbell Brassey interfere with alter or move or cause to be interfered with altered or moved any of the water pipes or mains of the said Henry Leonard Campbell Brassey and then only under the supervision and to the satisfaction of his engineer the Company making good any such interference alteration or moval at their own expense and paying the reasonable fees of the engineer of the said Henry Leonard Campbell Brassey Provided that in case any difference shall arise on any occasion between the said Henry Leonard Campbell Brassey and the Company as to whether any works or things constructed or done injuriously affect or interfere with the full and free flow of water to the said Tottington Spring or as to the steps to be taken to remove the ground of complaint if found to exist every such question shall on the application in writing of either party be referred to an engineer to be appointed as arbitrator by the Board of Trade who shall decide whether there is any just ground of complaint and if there be shall direct how the same may best be removed and the Company shall at their own cost carry out the directions of such engineer.

49. The provisions of section 14 of the Mid Kent Water Order For protec-1888 shall be deemed to apply to the works by this Act authorised as if the said provisions were re-enacted in this Act Provided that Cranbrook the said provisions shall so far as regards any works by that Act and Paddock authorised also enure for the protection and benefit of the Cranbrook Wood Railand Paddock Wood Railway Company as if the said company had panies. been expressly mentioned in the said section.

tion of South Eastern and way Com-

50. For the protection of the Rural District Council of Maidstone For protec-(in this section called "the rural council") the following provisions tion of Maidshall apply and have effect (that is to say): -

stone Rural District

(1) The Company shall not take or use any water or springs Council. within the parishes comprised in the district of the rural council or any of them but shall have and may exercise within the said parishes or any of them the powers of the Waterworks Clauses Act 1847 with respect to the breaking up of streets for the purpose of laying down maintaining repairing or renewing any mains or pipes for the supply of any portion of the district which they are authorised to supply under this Act and may accordingly lay down maintain repair and renew any such mains or pipes within such parishes or any of them but except

- as aforesaid the Company shall have no powers within the said parishes and all the powers of the rural council with respect to providing or maintaining the water supply within the limits of their jurisdiction shall subject to the provisions of this Act be reserved and retained:
- (2) The Company shall lay the mains and complete the works necessary to supply the whole of the villages of Nettlestead Teston Yalding Marden and Staplehurst within eighteen months from the passing of this Act and if the said works are not so completed to the satisfaction of the rural council then on the expiration of that period the powers by this Act granted to the Company for supplying the parishes of Nettlestead Teston Yalding Marden and Staplehurst with water or in relation thereto shall cease except as to so much thereof as are then being supplied:
- (3) The Company contemporaneously with the construction of their works in the villages of Yalding Marden and Staplehurst for the supply of those villages shall within the like period of eighteen months at their own expense construct and lay mains or lines of pipes for the supply of water to Laddingford and Fowl Hall in the parish of Yalding Marden Beech in the parish of Marden and Cross at Hand in the parish of Staplehurst:
- (4) The Company shall supply the water to the said parishes of Nettlestead Teston Yalding Marden and Staplehurst at a sufficient pressure to reach the top storey of every dwelling-house erected or to be erected within the said parishes and such supply shall be constantly laid on:
- (5) Any person duly authorised by the rural council may at any time after not less than twenty-four hours' previous notice in writing to the secretary of the Company enter on the property of the Company for the purpose of taking and carrying away samples of the water and any person who molests hinders or obstructs any such person in the performance of his duty under this sub-section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds for every such offence which shall be recoverable summarily:
- (6) Any difference which may arise between the Company and the rural council under this section shall be determined by an arbitrator to be appointed on the application of either party by the Local Government Board.
- Power to take and use springs &c.
- 51. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Company may maintain take up alter acquire improve enlarge extend repair and renew new or additional or substituted mains pipes culverts and other works for the distribution of water within the limits of this

Act and may by way of supplement to the water supply to be obtained by means of the works authorised by this Act collect take impound and use all or any of the underground springs and waters which can or may be collected or taken by means of the said well pumping station and reservoir or which may be found in or under any of the lands to be acquired by the Company under the powers of this Act.

52. In the construction of the works authorised by this Act and Limits of subject to the provisions thereof the Company may deviate laterally deviation. to any extent not exceeding the limits of lateral deviation shown on the deposited plans and they may also deviate vertically from the levels shown on the deposited sections to any extent not exceeding five feet upwards and five feet downwards but not so as to alter the surface level of any road or to raise any conduit or line of pipes above the surface of the ground except so far as may be shown on the deposited sections Provided always that the Company shall not in the exercise of the power of lateral deviation hereby given construct any embankment or wall of the said reservoir of a greater height above the general surface of the ground than that shown on the deposited sections and three feet in addition.

53. The powers of the Company for the compulsory purchase of Period for lands for the purposes of this Act shall cease after the expiration of purchase of three years from the passing of this Act.

lands.

54. If the works authorised by this Act be not completed within Period for five years from the passing of this Act then on the expiration of completion of works. that period the powers by this Act granted to the Company for executing the same or otherwise in relation thereto shall cease except as to so much thereof as is then completed but nothing in this section shall restrict the Company from extending altering or renewing their works mains and pipes whenever it shall be necessary for the purpose of increasing or distributing the supply of water within the limits of this Act.

55. Persons empowered by the Lands Clauses Acts to sell and Power to convey or release lands may if they think fit subject to the provisions of those Acts and of this Act grant to the Company any easement ments &c. right or privilege (not being an easement right or privilege of water in which others than the parties to the agreement have an interest) required for the purposes of this Act in over or affecting any such lands and the provisions of the last-mentioned Acts with respect to lands and rentcharges as far as the same are applicable in this behalf shall extend and apply to such grants or to such easements rights or privileges as aforesaid.

owners to grant ease-

56. Subject to the provisions of this Act in addition to any Purchase of other lands which the Company are under this Act authorised to land by

agreement.

A.D. 1898. take or purchase the Company may by agreement take purchase and hold for the purposes of this Act and for the general purposes of the undertaking any lands within the limits of this Act not exceeding in the whole five acres in extent or any easement (not being an easement of water in which persons other than the grantors have an interest) in over or under any such lands Provided that except for the purposes of a reservoir or pumping station no land shall be so taken or purchased by the Company within a radius of one mile from the boundary of any parish within the district of the Maidstone Rural District Council Provided also that the Company shall not upon any such lands create or permit any nuisance and that no buildings shall be erected on such lands except such as are required for or are connected with the purposes of the Company's waterworks.

For protection of Maidstone Waterworks Company.

57. Nothing in this Act or in any Act incorporated therewith shall authorise the construction of any works or the doing of anything that will injuriously affect the works of the Maidstone Waterworks Company or encroach upon diminish or interfere with the free and full flow of pure water to such works and if any works made or things done in pursuance of this Act or any Act incorporated therewith are found to affect the works of the Maidstone Waterworks Company injuriously or to interfere with the full and free flow of pure water to them and complaint thereof in writing be made by the Maidstone Waterworks Company to the Company steps shall immediately be taken by the Company to remove the ground of such complaint at their own expense Provided that in case any difference shall arise on any occasion between the Maidstone Waterworks Company on the one part and the Company on the other part as to whether any such works or things so constructed or done will or do injuriously affect the works of the Maidstone Waterworks Company or interfere with the full and free flow of water thereto or as to the steps to be so taken to remove the ground of complaint if found to exist every such question shall on the application in writing of either party be referred to an engineer to be appointed as arbitrator by the Board of Trade and all the costs and expenses of such arbitration shall be borne and paid by the Company.

Restriction on taking houses of labouring class.

58. The Company shall not under the powers of this Act purchase or acquire in any city borough or other urban district or in any parish or part of a parish not being within an urban district ten or more houses which on the fifteenth day of December last were occupied either wholly or partially by persons belonging to the labouring class as tenants or lodgers or except with the consent

of the Local Government Board ten or more houses which were not A.D. 1898. so occupied on the said fifteenth day of December but have been or shall be subsequently so occupied:

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

59. The Company may demise and lease and also either before Company or after making any demise and lease thereof absolutely sell and &c. spare dispose of to such persons and in such manner as the Company think lands of fit any lands houses and property for the time being belonging to undertaking. the Company which they do not require for the purposes of their undertaking (subject nevertheless to the provisions of the Lands Reservation Clauses Consolidation Act 1845 with respect to the sale of of water rights &c. on superfluous lands so far as such provisions are in each case applicable) sale. And on the lease or sale by the Company of any such lands houses and property they may reserve to themselves all or any part of the water or water rights or other easements belonging thereto and may make the lease or sale subject to such reservations accordingly and may also make any such lease or sale subject to such other reservations special conditions restrictions and provisions with respect to use of water exercise of noxious trades or discharge or deposit of manure sewage or other impure matter as they think fit.

60. The Company shall provide a constant supply in accordance As to with the provisions of the Waterworks Clauses Act 1847 but they pressure. shall not be required to supply water in any case at a pressure greater than that to be afforded by gravitation from the service reservoir by this Act authorised or any additional service reservoir which may be constructed by the Company at a higher level.

61. The Company shall at the request of the owner or occupier Rates for of any dwelling-house or part of a dwelling-house entitled under the provisions of this Act to demand a supply of water for domestic purposes. purposes (which shall include one watercloset) furnish to such owner or occupier a sufficient supply of water for such domestic purposes at rates not exceeding the rates per annum herein-after specified (that is to say):—

supply for domestic

Where the rateable value of the premises so supplied with water does not amount to twenty pounds the rate of seven pounds ten shillings per centum upon such rateable value;

Where such rateable value amounts to twenty pounds but does not amount to forty pounds the rate of seven pounds per centum upon such rateable value;

Where such rateable value amounts to forty pounds but does not amount to sixty pounds the rate of six pounds ten shillings per centum upon such rateable value;

Where such rateable value amounts to or exceeds sixty pounds the rate of six pounds per centum upon such rateable value;

And so on in proportion for any longer or shorter period than a year Provided that the Company shall not be compelled to furnish any such supply for any less rate than two pence per week and that the Company shall not be entitled in any case to demand a higher water rate for any house or part of a house included in any division of the above scale of rates than they would be entitled to demand if such house or part of a house were of sufficient rateable value to bring it within the next higher division of the said scale. The rateable value of any such premises as aforesaid shall be ascertained by the valuation list for the time being in force:

For the supply of water for domestic purposes at a higher level than that to be afforded by gravitation from the service reservoir by this Act authorised the Company may demand and take any rates and charges they think fit not exceeding by more than twenty-five per centum thereof the rates and charges for the time being authorised to be demanded by them for the supply of water for domestic purposes to premises of similar rateable value within the limits of this Act:

When the water rate is chargeable on the rateable value of a part only of any premises entered in the valuation list or poor rate (such part not being separately assessed to the rate for the relief of the poor) such rateable value shall be a fairly apportioned part of the rateable value of the whole premises ascertained as aforesaid the apportionment in case of dispute to be determined by two justices.

For the purposes of this section the rateable value shall be the net rateable value as ascertained by the valuation list in force at the commencement of the quarter in which the water rate accrues or if there is no such list in force by the last rate made for the relief of the poor.

Rates for waterclosets baths &c.

62. The Company may charge in respect of every watercloset beyond the first on any premises within the limits of supply an additional sum not exceeding five shillings per annum and for every bath capable of containing not more than fifty gallons an

additional sum not exceeding ten shillings per annum and for A.D. 1898. every bath capable of containing more than fifty gallons such additional sum as the Company may think fit such additional sums to be paid quarterly in advance and to be recoverable in all respects with and as the water rate.

63. The Company shall not be compelled to supply water in the Certain profollowing cases:--

visions as to supply.

To any watercloset or any bath or the apparatus or pipes connected therewith respectively unless the same be so constructed and used as to prevent the waste undue consumption or contamination of the water of the Company;

To any bath which shall be capable of containing when filled for

use more than fifty gallons of water;

Provided that the foregoing provisions shall not entitle the Company to cut off or discontinue the domestic supply of the house in which such watercloset or bath is situate:

Nor shall the Company be compelled to supply water in the following cases except as therein mentioned:—

To any building used by an occupier as a dwelling-house whereof any part is used by the same occupier for any trade or manufacturing purposes for which water is required otherwise than by agreement or by meter at the option of the consumer;

To any workhouse hospital or other large public institution otherwise than by meter upon such terms as may be from time to time agreed between the Company and the guardians trustees managers or other persons having the charge of such workhouse hospital or institution or as in case of difference may be from time to time determined by an arbitrator to be appointed by the Board of Trade.

64. The price to be charged by the Company to those owners Rates for or occupiers who under the provisions of the last preceding section shall elect to take the water by meter or who shall be compellable certain cases. by the Company to accept a supply by meter shall be as follows:—

supply by meters in

Where the quantity taken in any quarter of a year shall not exceed fifty thousand gallons at a rate not exceeding two shillings for every thousand gallons;

And where the quantity taken in any quarter of a year shall exceed fifty thousand gallons then at a rate not exceeding one shilling and six pence for every thousand gallons;

The Company shall not be compellable to afford a supply by meter for a less sum than four pounds in any one year.

65. Subject to the provisions of this Act the Company may supply water for other than domestic purposes on such terms and

Power to Company to supply water A.D. 1898.

for other than domestic purposes.

conditions as the Company think fit and may enter into agreements for the supply of water by measure either for domestic or other purposes. Provided that such supply for other than domestic purposes shall not at any time interfere with the supply for domestic purposes.

Power to sell or let meters.

66. The Company may sell and dispose of meters and any fittings connected therewith upon and subject to such terms (pecuniary or otherwise) and conditions as they think fit and may let for hire any meters for ascertaining the quantity of water consumed or supplied and any water fittings for such remuneration in money and on such terms and conditions with respect to the repair maintaining and protection of such meters and fittings and for securing access to and the safety and return to the Company of such meters and fittings as may be agreed upon between the hirer and the Company and such remuneration shall be recoverable in the same manner as water rates rents or charges due to the Company.

Notice to Company of putting up meters &c. 67. Before any person connects or disconnects any meter through which any of the water of the Company is intended to be or has been registered he shall give not less than twenty-four hours' notice in writing to the Company of his intention to do so and all alterations or repairs to and the connecting or disconnecting of meters shall be done at his cost and under the superintendence of any officer of or person authorised by the Company and any person offending against this enactment shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

Register of meter to be prima facie evidence.

- Fraudulently injuring pipes meters or fittings.
- 68. Where water is supplied by measure the register of the meter shall be prima facie evidence of the quantity of water consumed.
- 69. If any person wilfully fraudulently or by culpable negligence injures or suffers to be injured any pipe meter or fitting belonging to the Company or fraudulently alters the index to any meter or fraudulently prevents any such meter or the index thereof from duly registering the quantity of water supplied or fraudulently abstracts or uses water of the Company he shall (without prejudice to any other right or remedy for the protection of the Company or the punishment of the offender) for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds and the Company may in addition thereto recover the amount of any damages sustained by them and the existence of artificial means for causing such alteration or prevention when such pipe meter or fitting is under the custody or control of the consumer shall be primâ facie evidence that such alteration or prevention has been fraudulently caused by the consumer using such meter.

70. Every consumer of water of the Company shall at all times A.D. 1898. at his own expense keep all meters belonging to him whereby any Repair of water of the Company is registered in proper order for correctly meters. registering such water in default whereof the Company may cease to supply water through such meters and the Company shall at all reasonable times have access to and be at liberty to take off remove test inspect and replace any meter belonging to a consumer such taking off removal testing and inspecting and replacing to be done at the expense of the Company if the meter be found in proper order but otherwise at the expense of the consumer.

71. The Company may if requested by any person supplied or Power to about to be supplied by them with water furnish to him and repair Company to or alter any such pipes valves cocks cisterns baths meters soil-pans materials. waterclosets apparatus and receptacles as are required or permitted by their byelaws and regulations and may provide all materials and do all work necessary or proper in that behalf and the reasonable charges of the Company in providing such materials and executing such work shall be paid by the person requiring the same.

72. The Company shall not be bound to supply more than company not one house by means of the same service pipe but they may if they think fit require that a separate pipe from the main be laid into each house supplied by them with water.

bound to supply several houses by one pipe.

73. For preventing waste misuse undue consumption or con-Regulations tamination of the water of the Company the following provisions shall have effect (that is to say):—

for preventing waste &c. of water.

- (1) The Company may make regulations for the purpose of preventing the waste undue consumption or misuse or contamination of water and may by such regulations prescribe the size nature materials workmanship and strength and the mode of arrangement connexion disconnexion alteration and repair of the pipes meters cocks ferrules valves soil-pans waterclosets baths tanks cisterns and other apparatus fittings means contrivances receptacles or appliances whatsoever to be used and forbid any arrangements and the use of the several things before mentioned or any or either of them which may lead to such waste or undue consumption misuse erroneous measurement or contamination:
- (2) No such regulations shall be of any force or effect except within such part or parts of the district which the Company are for the time being under the provisions of this Act in that behalf contained bound to supply and shall in fact supply or be prepared on demand to supply with water under constant pressure and unless and until the same shall have been submitted to and confirmed by the Local Government Board who are

- hereby empowered to confirm the same and no such regulations shall be confirmed until after the expiration of one month after notice in writing of the intention to submit the same for confirmation together with a copy of the proposed regulations shall have been given by or on behalf of the Company to every sanitary authority within the limits of this Act and any such authority may within the said period of one month make such representation with reference thereto to the Local Government Board as such authority shall think expedient:
- (3) All such regulations shall be subject to the provisions contained in sections 182 to 184 of the Public Health Act 1875 and all penalties imposed for the breach of any such regulations shall be recoverable in manner provided by that Act for the recovery of penalties as if the Company were a local authority and the regulations were byelaws within the meaning of those sections and the secretary of the Company were the clerk of the local authority:
- (4) A copy of all such regulations in force for the time being shall be kept at the office of the Company All persons may at all reasonable times inspect such copy without payment and the Company shall cause to be delivered a printed copy of all regulations for the time being in force to every person applying for the same on payment of a sum not exceeding two pence for each copy:
- (5) A printed copy of any such regulations dated and purporting to have been made as aforesaid and to be sealed with the seal of the Company and to have been confirmed by the Local Government Board shall be evidence until the contrary be proved in all legal proceedings of the due making confirmation publication and existence of such regulations without further or other proof:
- (6) In case of failure of any person to observe such regulations as are for the time being in force the Company may if they think fit after twenty-four hours' notice in writing enter and by and under the direction of their duly authorised officer repair replace or alter any pipe meter valve cock ferrule tank cistern bath soil-pan watercloset or other apparatus means contrivance or receptacle fittings or appliances belonging to or used by such person and the expense of every such repair replacement or alteration shall be repaid to the Company by the person on whose credit the water is supplied and may be recovered by them as water rent is recoverable:
- (7) Any person who shall offend against any such regulations shall (without prejudice to any other right or remedy for the 24

protection of the Company or punishment of the offender) be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds for each offence and to a further daily penalty not exceeding forty shillings for each day or part of a day on which such offence shall occur after conviction thereof and the Company may in addition thereto recover the amount of any damages sustained by them.

A.D. 1898.

74. In the case of any notice to be served on a person supplied Form and with water the name of the secretary to the Company or if it be a service of notice to pay any charge in respect of a supply of water the name Company. of the collector of the Company thereon shall be sufficient authentication and any such notice may be served on such person either personally or by sending the same through the post by a prepaid letter addressed to him by name at his last known place of abode or business or by delivering the same to some inmate of his last known or usual place of abode or business or to any inmate of the premises supplied or if such premises be unoccupied and the place of abode of the person to be served is after proper inquiry unknown it shall be sufficient to affix it or a copy thereof upon some conspicuous part of such premises.

75. A notice to the Company from a consumer for the Notice of discontinuance of a supply of water shall not be of any effect discontinuunless it be in writing and be left at the principal office for the time being of the Company or be sent through the post by a prepaid letter addressed to the secretary of the Company at such office.

76. The Company shall within three months after the passing Print of Act of this Act cause a printed copy of this Act to be filed at Somerset to be filed. House with the papers relative to the Company.

- 77. The Company may enter into and carry into effect agreements Contracts for with any urban or rural district council or any company or person supplying for the supply by the Company to any such council company or water for public person respectively of water in bulk without the limits of supply purposes. Provided that such supply of water do not at any time interfere with the supply of water for domestic purposes within the limits of supply and provided further that the powers of this section shall not be exercised within the limits of supply of any company or local authority supplying water under the authority of Parliament without the consent in writing of such company or local authority.
- 78. No justice or judge of any court shall be disqualified from Liability to acting in the execution of this Act by reason of his being liable to the payment of any water rent meter rent rate or charge under this Act.

water rent not to disqualify justices &c.

Contents of contents of this Act may contain in the body thereof or in a schedule thereto several sums.

Penalties not cumulative.

80. Penalties imposed under this Act and the Acts wholly or in part incorporated herewith for one and the same offence shall not be cumulative.

Repeal of portion of South Kent Water Act 1889.

81. So much of the Act of 1889 as authorises the South Kent Company to supply water within the limits of this Act is hereby repealed and from and after the passing of this Act all the powers of the South Kent Company with reference to the supply of water within such limits as aforesaid shall absolutely cease and determine and this Act shall have as full validity and effect as though the parishes mentioned in this Act had never been included within the limits within which the South Kent Company were by the Act of 1889 authorised to supply water.

Costs of Act.

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

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