



ANNO DECIMO OCTAVO

# VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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## Cap. ix.

An Act for supplying with Gas the Townships of *Ossett-cum-Gawthorpe* in the Parish of *Dewsbury*, and *Horbury* in the Parish of *Wakefield*, all in the West Riding of the County of *York*.

[5th May 1855.]

**W**HEREAS an efficient Supply of Gas to the Township of *Ossett-cum-Gawthorpe* in the Parish of *Dewsbury*, and the Township of *Horbury* in the Parish of *Wakefield*, all in the West Riding of the County of *York*, would be of great public and local Advantage: And whereas the Persons herein-after named, with others, are willing to provide such Supply of Gas; but the same 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:

I. "The Companies Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," "The 8 & 9 Vict. Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," (except the Sections thereof cc. 16. & 18.  
[Local.] U with

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*The Ossett Gas Act, 1855.*

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and 10 & 11  
Vict. c. 15.  
incorporated.

with respect to the Purchase of Lands otherwise than by Agreement,) and "The Gasworks Clauses Act, 1847," are hereby incorporated with this Act.

Short Title.

II. This Act may be cited for all Purposes as "The *Ossett Gas Act, 1855.*"

Limits of  
Act.

III. The Limits of this Act shall include the Township of *Ossett-cum-Gawthorpe* in the Parish of *Dewsbury*, and the Township of *Horbury* in the Parish of *Wakefield*, both in the West Riding of the County of *York*.

As to the  
Word  
"Sewer."

IV. In construing this Act the Word "Sewer" shall include Watercourse.

Incorporation of Company.

V. The several Persons and Corporations who have subscribed or who shall hereafter subscribe to the Undertaking, and their respective Executors, Administrators, Successors, and Assigns, shall be united into a Company for the Purpose of making and supplying Gas within the Limits of this Act, and for making Gasworks for that Purpose, with proper Works and Conveniences connected therewith, according to the Provisions of this Act and of the Acts therewith incorporated; and for the Purposes aforesaid such Company shall be incorporated by the Name of "*The Ossett Gas Company*," and by that Name shall be a Body Corporate, with perpetual Succession, and shall sue and be sued, and shall have a Common Seal, and Power to purchase and hold Lands for the Purposes of the Undertaking, subject to the Provisions of this Act.

Capital.

VI. The Capital of the Company shall be Twelve thousand Pounds, and shall be divided into Two thousand four hundred Shares of the Amount of Five Pounds each.

Calls.

VII. The Amount of any Call shall not exceed Two Pounds *per* Share, and the Interval between any Two successive Calls shall not be less than Three Months, and not more than Three Fourths of the Amount of a Share shall be called up in any One Year.

Power to  
borrow  
on Mortgage  
or Bond.

VIII. After the wole of the Capital shall have been subscribed for, and One Half thereof shall have been paid up, it shall be lawful for the Company from Time to Time to borrow on Mortgage or Bond any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding in the whole the Sum of Three thousand Pounds.

IX. All



*The Ossett Gas Act, 1855.*

IX. All Monies raised by the Company under this Act, either by Shares or Mortgage or Bond, shall be applied to the Purposes of this Act, and to no other Purpose whatsoever.

Application  
of Monies  
raised under  
this Act.

X. The Number of Directors shall be Eight, of whom Four shall be a Quorum, and the Qualification of a Director shall be the Possession in his own Right of Shares in the Undertaking of the aggregate nominal Value of Fifty Pounds.

Number and  
Qualification  
of Directors.

XI. It shall be lawful for the Company from Time to Time to reduce the Number of Directors, provided that the reduced Number be not less than Six.

Power to  
reduce the  
Number of  
Directors.

XII. *William Statter, Frank Fearnside, George Radley, George Harrop, Benjamin Wilson, John Westerman, William Speight, and James Wilson* shall be the First Directors of the Company.

First Di-  
rectors.

XIII. It shall be lawful for the Company, subject to the Provisions contained in this Act and the Acts incorporated herewith, from Time to Time to construct and maintain such Gasworks, Retorts, Gasometers, Reservoirs, Drains, Sewers, Mains, Pipes, Machinery, and other Works and Apparatus, and such Houses, Buildings, and Approaches thereto respectively, and to do all such other Acts as they may consider necessary or proper for supplying the Inhabitants, and all public and private Buildings, and all public and private Lamps, within the Limits of this Act, with Gas, and also to manufacture or purchase and to contract for Gas and for the Supply thereof, and to sell Gas, and to demand and take Rents and Charges for the Supply thereof, and to sell, dispose of, or manufacture the Coke and other residuary Products arising from the Materials used in the Manufacture of Gas, and also to make and sell, let for Hire or otherwise deal in Gas Fittings, Tubes, Meters, Pipes, and all other Articles and Things in any way connected with Gasworks or with the Supply of Gas to the Consumers thereof, in such Manner as the Company may think proper: Provided always, that nothing in this Act contained shall authorize the Company to erect any Works for the Manufacture of Gas elsewhere than on the Lands described in the Schedule to this Act.

Power to  
Company to  
construct  
Works.

XIV. Subject to the Provisions in this and the incorporated Acts contained, it shall be lawful for the Company to lay any Pipe, Branch, or other Apparatus from any Main or Branch Pipes into, through, or against any Building, for the Purpose of lighting the same, and to provide and set up any Apparatus necessary for securing to any Building

Company  
may lay  
Pipes, &c.  
for lighting  
Buildings.

*The Ossett Gas Act, 1855.*

Building a proper and complete Supply of Gas, and for measuring and ascertaining the Extent of such Supply, and from Time to Time to repair, replace, alter, or discontinue and remove any such Pipe, Branch, or Apparatus.

Consumers of Gas may be required to consume by Meter.

XV. Every Consumer of Gas supplied by the Company shall, on the Request of the Company, consume the Gas supplied to him by Meter, to be provided by the Company at the Expense of the Consumer, or (at the Option of the Consumer) by the Consumer, and approved by the Company before it is used or put up.

Limit of Price of Gas.

XVI. The highest Charge by the Company for Gas supplied by them shall be at the Rate of Six Shillings and Eightpence for One thousand Cubic Feet for a Period of Ten Years next after the passing of this Act, and from and after such Period of Ten Years the highest Charge by the Company for Gas supplied by them shall be at the Rate of Five Shillings for One thousand Cubic Feet.

Pipes to be distinguished.

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

For preventing fraudulent Consumption.

XVIII. Every Person who shall knowingly and wilfully prevent any Meter supplied or approved by the Company from duly registering the Quantity of Gas supplied shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay to the Company any Sum not exceeding Fifty Pounds; and any such Prevention caused by such Person by artificial Means shall be *prima facie* Evidence that the same has been knowingly and wilfully caused by the Consumer using such Meter.

Recovery of Money by Distress.

XIX. All Sums of Money due to the Company for the Supply of Gas, or for the Price, Hire, or fixing of any Burners, Meters, or Fittings, and all Damages, Costs, and Expenses by this Act or any Act incorporated herewith directed to be paid, and the Amount whereof shall not be disputed, may be levied by Distress, and any Justice, on Application, may issue his Warrant accordingly.

Not to prevent Company from recovering in County Courts.

XX. Nothing in this Act or any Act incorporated herewith contained shall prevent the Company from recovering any Sums of Money not exceeding Twenty Pounds due to them for the Supply of Gas, or for the Price, Hire, or fixing of Burners, Meters, or Fixings, or for Damages,



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*The Ossett Gas Act, 1855.*

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Damages, Costs, or Expenses, by Action or Proceeding in such Manner as by Law is provided for the Recovery of Debts not exceeding Fifty Pounds.

XXI. Upon and after the passing of this Act the Clauses and Provisions of the Act for the Registration, Incorporation, and Regulation of Joint Stock Companies, and of all Acts passed for amending that Act, shall no longer apply to the Company.

Registration  
Acts not to  
apply in  
future.

XXII. Any One Warrant issued for any of the Purposes of this Act may contain in the Body thereof or in a Schedule thereto several Names and several Sums.

Several  
Names, &c.  
in One War-  
rant.

XXIII. Any Justice who issues a Warrant of Distress for any of the Purposes of this Act may order that the Costs of the Proceedings for the Recovery of the Money to be levied shall be paid by the Person liable to pay such Money, and such Costs shall be ascertained by the Justice, and shall be included in the Warrant of Distress for the Recovery of such Money.

Costs of  
Distress.

XXIV. The Costs and Expenses incurred in obtaining this Act, and all Expenses incidental or relating thereto, shall be paid by the Company.

Expenses of  
Act.

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*The Ossett Gas Act, 1855.*

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The SCHEDULE referred to in the foregoing Act.

A Close of Land in the Township of Ossett-cum-Gawthorpe in the Parish of Dewsbury in the West Riding of the County of York, adjoining to Healey Lane, and now or late belonging or reputed to belong to Edmund Ellis, and in his Occupation, containing Two Acres One Rood and Nineteen Perches or thereabouts, and bounded Northward by Land belonging or reputed to belong to George Greenwood, Esquire, Southward by Land belonging or reputed to belong to Healey Low Mill Company, Eastward by Land belonging or reputed to belong to John Gawthorpe, and Westward by Healey Lane aforesaid.

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