



ANNO DECIMO QUINTO & DECIMO SEXTO

# VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

\*\*\*\*\*

C A P. LXXXIV.

An Act to make better Provision respecting the Supply of Water to the Metropolis.

[1st July 1852.]

**W**HEREAS it is expedient to make Provision for securing the Supply to the Metropolis of pure and wholesome Water, and otherwise to make further and better Provision in relation to the Water Supply of the Metropolis: Be it therefore 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. From and after the Thirty-first Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five it shall not be lawful for any Company supplying the Metropolis or any Part thereof with Water for domestic Use, except the Governor and Company of *Chelsea* Waterworks, to take any Water for such Purpose from any Part of the River *Thames* below *Teddington* Lock, or from any Part of any of the tributary Rivers or Streams of the River *Thames* below the highest Point where the Tide flows in such tributary Rivers and Streams respectively; and from and after the Thirty-first Day of

Restriction as to Sources of Supply of Water to the Metropolis.



*Metropolis Water Supply.*

*August* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-six it shall not be lawful for the said Governor and Company of *Chelsea Waterworks* to take any Water for domestic Use from any Part of the River *Thames* below *Teddington Lock*.

Reservoirs, within a limited Distance, to be covered.

II. From and after the Thirty-first Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five every Reservoir within a Distance in a straight Line from *Saint Paul's Cathedral* in the City of *London* of not more than Five Miles, in which Water for the Supply for domestic Use of the Metropolis or any Part thereof is stored or kept by any Company, shall be roofed in or otherwise covered over: Provided always, that this Provision shall not extend to any Reservoir the Water from which is subjected by the Company to efficient Filtration after it is discharged from such Reservoir, and before it is passed into the Mains or Pipes of the Company for Distribution, or to any Reservoir the whole of the Water from which is distributed through distinct Mains or Pipes for other than domestic Purposes, nor to any Reservoir whatever the Water stored in which shall be used exclusively for other than domestic Purposes.

Water not to be brought within a limited Distance in open Aqueducts.

III. From and after the Thirty-first Day of *December* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, no Water shall be brought or conducted within the Metropolis by any Company for the Purpose of domestic Use otherwise than through Pipes or through covered Aqueducts, unless the same shall be afterwards filtered before Distribution.

Every Company to filter all Water supplied by them for domestic Use.

IV. From and after the Thirty-first Day of *December* One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, every Company shall effectually filter all Water supplied by them within the Metropolis for domestic Use, before the same shall pass into the Pipes for Distribution, excepting any Water which may be pumped from Wells into a covered Reservoir or Aqueduct, without Exposure to the Atmosphere, and which shall not be afterwards mixed with unfiltered Water.

Company to give Notice to Board of Trade before resorting to new Sources, of Supply, who may thereupon appoint an Inspector to report.

V. Three Months before any Company shall resort to any new Source of Supply, such Company shall give Notice in Writing thereof to the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations, herein-after called the Board of Trade, and thereupon, within One Month after Receipt of such Notice, the said Board of Trade shall, if they think fit, appoint a competent Person as an Inspector, who shall report with respect to any Sources then specially authorized by Parliament, whether the Directions of the Special Act have been complied with in reference thereto, and with respect to any new Sources not specially authorized by Parliament, whether the same are capable of supplying good and wholesome Water for domestic Purposes.

VI. The



*Metropolis Water Supply.*

VI. The Inspector so appointed as aforesaid shall within Ten Days after such Appointment give Notice in Writing to the Company thereof, and of the Time at which he proposes to visit and inspect the said Sources, and thereupon, in order to enable him to make such Report as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the said Inspector to enter the Lands wherein such Sources respectively are situate, and to examine and make Inquiry touching the Premises.

Inspector to give Notice to Companies of his Intention to visit new Sources.

VII. The Board of Trade shall, within Twenty-one Days after the Receipt from the said Inspector of his Report, send to such Company with respect to any such new Sources of Supply not specially authorized by Parliament a Certificate in Writing of their Approval or Disapproval thereof, and with respect to any such Sources as shall then be specially authorized by Parliament a Notice in Writing stating whether in the Judgment of the said Board of Trade the Directions of the Special Act have in reference thereto been complied with.

Board of Trade to certify their Approval or Disapproval of new Sources.

VIII. After the Company shall have received a Certificate that the said Board of Trade disapproves of any such new Source of Supply not specially authorized by Parliament as aforesaid, it shall not be lawful for the Company to use the said Source, and after Receipt of such Notice as aforesaid that in the Judgment of the said Board of Trade the Directions of the Special Act with reference to any Sources then specially authorized by Parliament have not been complied with, it shall not be lawful for the Company, before complying with such Directions with reference to such Source, to use the same.

If Board of Trade disapprove, Company not to use new Source of Supply.

IX. If at any Time Complaint as to the Quantity or Quality of the Water supplied by any Company for domestic Use be made to the Board of Trade by Memorial in Writing signed by not less than Twenty Inhabitant Householders paying Rents for and supplied with Water by the Company, it shall be lawful for the Board of Trade, at any Time within One Month after the Receipt of such Complaint, to appoint a competent Person to inquire into and concerning the Grounds of such Complaint, and to report to the Board of Trade thereon.

On Complaint as to Quantity and Quality, Board of Trade may appoint a Person to inquire and report.

X. The Person so appointed as aforesaid shall, within Three Days after such Appointment, give Notice thereof in Writing to the Company, and after such Notice as aforesaid he shall have Power to inspect and examine the Waterworks of the Company, and to inquire into and concerning the Grounds of such Complaint; and the Company and their Officers shall afford all reasonable Facilities for such Inspection, Examination, and Inquiry.

Powers of Person appointed.

XI. Any

*Metropolis Water Supply.*

Penalty for obstructing Inspector.

XI. Any Person obstructing such Inspector in the due Prosecution of such Inspection, Examination, or Inquiry, shall forfeit and pay any Sum not exceeding Ten Pounds.

If Complaint well founded, Notice to be given to Company.

XII. If after Receipt of such Report it shall appear to the Board of Trade that the said Complaint is well founded, the Board of Trade shall give Notice thereof in Writing to the Company.

Company to remove Ground of Complaint.

XIII. After the Receipt of such Notice the Company shall and they are hereby required within a reasonable Time to remove the Grounds of such Complaint.

Engines to consume their own Smoke.

XIV. Every Steam Engine, Furnace, or other Work in which Coals which produce Smoke during Combustion shall be consumed by any Company for the Purpose of the Waterworks shall be constructed on the most effectual Principle for consuming its own Smoke.

Provision for constant Supply of Water by every Company.

XV. After the Expiration of Five Years from the passing of this Act, every Company shall, subject to the Provisions of the Special Act relating to such Company, provide and keep, in the District Mains already laid down or hereafter to be laid by them, a constant Supply of pure and wholesome Water sufficient for the domestic Use of the Inhabitants of all Houses supplied by such Company, at such Pressure as will make the Water reach the top Story of the highest of such Houses, but not exceeding the Level prescribed by the Special Act of such Company; provided that no Company shall be bound to provide a constant Supply of Water to any District Main until Four Fifths of the Owners or Occupiers of the Houses on such Main shall by Writing under their Hands have required such Company to provide such Supply, nor even upon such Requisition, in case it can be shown by any Company objecting to the same that more than One Fifth of the Houses on such Main are not supplied with Pipes, Cocks, Cisterns, Machinery, and Arrangements of all Kinds for the Reception and Distribution of Water, constructed according to the Regulations prescribed by the Special Act or by this Act, or which any Company, with the Approval of the Board of Trade, may from Time to Time make in that Behalf; and after any such Requisition as aforesaid shall have been delivered to the Company, it shall be lawful for the Surveyor, or any other Person acting under the Authority of the Company, between the Hours of Nine of the Clock in the Forenoon and Four of the Clock in the Afternoon, to enter into any House or Houses on such District Main, in order to ascertain whether the Pipes, Cocks, Cisterns, and Machinery of such House and Houses are so constructed as aforesaid; and provided also, that any Company may, with the Consent of the Board of Trade, suspend the giving of such  
constant



*Metropolis Water Supply.*

constant Supply, or give the same in succession to the several Districts of such Company or to any Parts of such Districts as may be found to be convenient; and provided that it shall be lawful for the Company, after due Notice, to abstain from supplying, or to cut off the Communication Pipes, and withdraw the Supply of Water from any House whereof the Pipes, Cocks, Cisterns, Machinery, or Arrangements as aforesaid shall not be in conformity with such Regulations; provided that neither the *Kent Waterworks Company* nor the *Hampstead Waterworks Company* shall be required to give such Supply at any Height exceeding One hundred and eighty Feet above *Trinity High-water Mark*, nor the *East London Waterworks Company* be required to give such Supply at any Height exceeding Forty Feet above the Level of the Pavement nearest the Point at which such Supply shall be required.

XVI. Any Company which shall violate, refuse, or neglect to comply with any of the Provisions herein-before contained shall forfeit to Her Majesty the Sum of Two hundred Pounds, and the further Sum of One hundred Pounds for every Month during which they shall continue to violate or to refuse or neglect to comply with the same after they shall have received Notice in Writing from the Board of Trade to discontinue such Violation, Refusal, or Neglect as aforesaid.

Penalty for Non-compliance with the Provisions of the Act.

XVII. Every Company shall, within One Year after the passing of this Act, cause a Map to be made of the District within which any Mains or District Mains shall have been laid down or formed by them on a Scale not less than Six Inches to a Mile, and shall cause to be marked thereon the Course and Situation of all existing Mains and District Mains, and shall, within Six Months from the making of any Alterations or Additions, cause the said Maps to be from Time to Time corrected, and such Additions made thereto as may show the Line and Situation of all such Mains and District Mains as may be laid down or formed by them from Time to Time after the passing of this Act; and such Map, or a Copy thereof, with the Date expressed thereon of the last Time when the same shall have been so corrected as aforesaid, shall be kept in the principal Office of each Company, and shall be open to the Inspection of all Persons interested in the same within the said District, who shall be at liberty to take Copies of or Extracts from the same.

Map of underground Works of the Companies to be made, and kept at principal Office of each Company, and be open to Inspection.

XVIII. Every Company, on the Application of any Person supplied with Water by such Company, shall furnish to such Person the Particulars of any District Main from which such Person is supplied, together with the Names of the Streets through which such District Main passes, and the Commencement and Termination thereof.

Companies to furnish Particulars of District Mains when required.



*Metropolis Water Supply.*

Account of Receipt and Expenditure of Rates, &c. to be prepared, and to be open to Inspection.

XIX. And with respect to the yearly Receipt and Expenditure of every Company, the Company shall in each Year cause an Account in abstract to be prepared of the whole Receipt and Expenditure of all Rates or other Monies levied under the Powers of their Act, under the several distinct Heads of Receipt and Expenditure, with a Statement of the Balance of such Account duly audited and certified by the Chairman of the Company, and also by the Auditors thereof, if any, and a Copy of such annual Account shall be sent, free of Charge, to the Town Clerk of the City of *London*, and to the Vestry Clerk of each Parish supplied with Water by each Company respectively, not within the City of *London*, on or before the Thirty-first Day of *January* in each Year, under a Penalty of Twenty Pounds for each Default; and the Copy of such Account so sent shall be kept by the said Town Clerk and Vestry Clerks respectively, and shall be open to Inspection by all Persons at all reasonable Hours, on Payment of One Shilling for each Inspection.

Board of Trade may direct Prosecutions to enforce Provisions of Acts.

XX. Whenever it shall appear to the Board of Trade that any of the Provisions of this Act have been violated, or have not been complied with on the Part of any Company, or that any Company has acted or is acting in a Manner unauthorized by the Provisions of this Act, and it shall also appear to the said Board of Trade that it would be for the public Advantage that the Company should be restrained from so acting, the said Board of Trade shall certify the same to Her Majesty's Attorney General, and thereupon the said Attorney General shall proceed by Information, or by Action, Bill, Complaint, Suit at Law or in Equity, or other legal Proceeding, as the Case may require, to recover any Penalties which may have been incurred, or otherwise to enforce the due Performance of the said Provisions; and in case the Default of the Company shall consist in the Commission of some Act or Acts unauthorized by Law, then the said Attorney General, upon receiving such Certificate as aforesaid, shall proceed by Suit in Equity, or such other legal Proceeding as the Nature of the Case may require, to obtain an Injunction or Order (which the Judge in Equity, or other Judge to whom the Application is made, shall be authorized and required to grant, if he shall be of opinion that the Act or Acts of the Company complained of is or are not authorized by Law,) to restrain the Company from acting in such illegal Manner, or to give such other Relief as the Nature of the Case may require.

Prosecutions to be under the Sanction of Board of

XXI. No such Certificate as aforesaid shall be given by the said Board of Trade until Twenty-one Days after they shall have given Notice to the Company against or in relation to whom they shall intend

*Metropolis Water Supply.*

intend to give such Certificate of their Intention to give such Certificate; and no Proceedings shall be commenced under the Authority of the said Board of Trade except within One Year after the Offence shall have been committed. Trade, and within One Year after the Offence.

XXII. Whenever Water shall be constantly laid on under Pressure in any District Main, every Person supplied with Water under Pressure by any Company through such Main shall, when required by the Company, provide a proper Cistern or other Receptacle for the Water with which he shall be so supplied, with an efficient Ballcock or other like Apparatus; and if any Cistern or other Receptacle supplied with Water under Pressure shall be provided with or have any Overflow Spout, Waste Pipe, or other Means or Contrivance immediately connected or capable of being used therewith to carry off the Water from such Cistern or Receptacle, such Person shall be bound to give Notice to the Company of every such Overflow Spout, Waste Pipe, or other Means or Contrivance, and of the Situation thereof; and, whether such Notice shall have been given or not, the Surveyor or any other Person acting under the Authority of the Company may, between the Hours of Nine of the Clock in the Forenoon and Four of the Clock in the Afternoon, enter into any House in order to examine if there be any Waste, Misuse, or undue Consumption of Water by means of any Overflow Spout, Waste Pipe, or other Means or Contrivance; and in case any such Waste, Misuse, or undue Consumption of Water shall be found to exist, or shall be deemed likely to occur from the Use of any such Overflow Spout, Waste Pipe, or other Means or Contrivance, it shall be lawful for such Surveyor or other Person to give Notice to the Person so supplied with Water either to repair and amend or to remove such Overflow Spout, Waste Pipe, or other Means or Contrivance; and if the same shall not be forthwith repaired and amended, or removed, in accordance with such Notice, it shall be lawful for the Company immediately thereafter to turn off the Water from the House, and to cease to supply the same with Water. Cisterns to be supplied with proper Ballcocks or other Apparatus.

XXIII. Every Cistern or other Receptacle for Water, and every Closet, Soil Pan, and private Bath which shall be supplied with Water by any Company, shall be so constructed and used as effectually to prevent the Waste, Misuse, or undue Consumption of Water, and the Flow or Return of foul Air or other noisome or impure Matter into the Mains or Pipes of the Company, or into any Pipes connected or communicating therewith; and notwithstanding anything in "The Waterworks Clauses Act, 1847," or in this Act contained, no Company shall be bound to supply Water into any Cisterns, Closets, and Baths to be so constructed as to prevent Waste or the Flow or Return of impure Matter into the Mains, &c.

Cistern



*Metropolis Water Supply.*

Cistern or other Receptacle for Water, Closet, Soil Pan, or private Bath, which shall not be so constructed and used.

Restricting  
Communica-  
tion with  
Pipes of the  
Company.

XXIV. No Person shall make or lay down, or permit to be made or laid down, any Pipe or other Means or Contrivance for taking, using, or obtaining Water to communicate with any Pipe or Apparatus connected with any of the Mains or Pipes of any Company without giving such Notice, and except under such Superintendence, and according to such Direction as is provided by "The Waterworks Clauses Act, 1847," with respect to the Communication Pipes to be laid by the Inhabitants.

Water may  
be cut off in  
certain Cases.

XXV. If any Person supplied with Water by any Company shall wilfully do or cause to be done any Act, Matter, or Thing in contravention of the Provisions of this Act, or of the Special Act relating to such Company, or of any Act incorporated therewith, or shall wilfully omit or neglect to do any Matter or Thing which under such Provisions ought to be done for the Prevention of the Waste, Misuse, or undue Consumption, or the Contamination of the Water of the Company, it shall be lawful for the Company to turn off the Water supplied by them to such Person, and to cease to supply such Person with Water, and also to recover from such Person by Action or Suit in any Court of competent Jurisdiction the Amount of any Loss, Damage, or Injury which such Company may sustain by means or in consequence of any such Act, Matter, or Thing as aforesaid, or of any such wilful Omission or Neglect as aforesaid.

Regulations  
to be made,  
with Ap-  
proval of  
Board of  
Trade.

XXVI. It shall be lawful for any Company from Time to Time, with the Approval of the Board of Trade, to make such Regulations as shall be necessary or expedient for the Purpose of preventing the Waste or Misuse of Water, and therein, amongst other things, to prescribe the Size, Nature, and Strength of the Pipes, Cocks, Cisterns, and other Apparatus to be used, and to interdict any Arrangements, and the Use of any Pipes, Cocks, Cisterns, or other Apparatus, which may tend to such Waste or Misuse as aforesaid.

Parish  
Officers, with  
Consent of  
Vestry, may  
require In-  
habitants  
to procure  
Supply of  
Water.

XXVII. If it appear to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of any Parish that any House in such Parish is without a proper Supply of Water, and that an annual Supply can be furnished thereto by the Company at a Rate not exceeding Threepence *per* Week, conformably with the Scale of Rates authorized to be charged by such Company, after making the Allowance of Twenty *per Cent.* herein-after mentioned, the said Churchwardens and Overseers shall, with the Consent of the Vestry of the said Parish, give Notice in Writing to the Owner or Occupier of such House, requiring him  
within



*Metropolis Water Supply.*

within a Time specified therein to obtain such Supply, and do all such Works as may be necessary for that Purpose; and if such Notice be not complied with the said Churchwardens and Overseers shall, with the Consent aforesaid, do such Works, and recover the Expenses incurred from such Owner, in like Manner, and with the same Remedies for Nonpayment, as Rates for the Maintenance of the Poor are by Law recoverable in such Parish; and the Company shall, upon the Requisition of the said Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, supply with Water such House or Houses; and the Rates for such Supply of such House or Houses, not exceeding in the whole Threepence *per Week* for any One such House, shall be due and payable by the said Owner, and shall be recoverable by the Company as if such Owner had contracted with the Company for the Supply of such Water, and upon such Payment the Company shall make an Allowance of *Twenty per Cent.*; and for the Purposes aforesaid the Person for the Time being receiving the Rackrent of any such House as aforesaid, whether on his own Account or as Agent or Trustee for any other Person, or who would so receive the same if such House were let at a Rackrent, shall be deemed to be the Owner of such House.

XXVIII. In citing this Act in other Acts and in legal Instruments it shall be enough to use the Expression "The Metropolis Water Act, 1852." Short Title.

XXIX. In the Construction of this Act the Expression "Company" shall mean and include any of the Companies herein-after enumerated; (that is to say,) the Governor and Company of the *New River* brought from *Chadwell* and *Amwell* to *London*, commonly called "The *New River* Company;" the Company of Proprietors of the *East London* Waterworks; the *Southwark and Vauxhall* Water Company; the *West Middlesex* Waterworks Company; the *Lambeth* Waterworks Company; the Governor and Company of *Chelsea* Waterworks; the *Grand Junction* Waterworks Company; the Company of Proprietors of the *Kent* Waterworks; and the *Hampstead* Waterworks Company; and also any other Company, Board, Commissioner, Association, Person, or Partnership, corporate or unincorporate, for the Time being supplying the Metropolis or any Part thereof with Water for domestic Use; the Expression "the Special Act" shall mean and include this Act, and every and any Act of Parliament relating to the Company referred to; and the Expression "the Metropolis" shall mean and include all Places described or referred to in the Schedule to this Act. Interpre-  
tation of  
Terms.

---

*Metropolis Water Supply.*

---

The SCHEDULE above referred to.

---

All such Places lying on the North Side or Left Bank of the River Thames as are within the exterior Boundaries of and are within the Ambit formed by the Parishes of Fulham, Hammersmith, Kensington, Paddington, Hampstead, Hornsey, Tottenham, Saint Pancras, Islington, Stoke Newington, Hackney, Stratford-le-Bow, Bromley, Poplar, and Shadwell.

Such Part of the Parish of Chelsea as lies North of the said Parish of Kensington.

And such Parts and Places lying on the South Side or Right Bank of the said River as are within the exterior Boundaries of and are within the Ambit formed by the Parishes of Woolwich, Charlton, Greenwich, Deptford, Lee, Lewisham, Camberwell, Lambeth, Streatham, Tooting, Wandsworth, and Putney.

---

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1852.