

certain land at Fort Hamilton, New York, consisting of about twenty-one acres, as a site for additional batteries, and conveyed to the United States by deed of Julia Delaplaine, of September ninth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, which said deed has been pronounced by the Attorney-General, by opinion of Novembertwenty-second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, to vest a good and valid title in the United States, and upon which said land the said batteries have been duly constructed, be, and the same hereby is, confirmed.

Approved, June 23, 1874.

**CHAP. 479.**—An act to authorize the Farmers' National Bank of Greensburgh, Pennsylvania, to change its location and name.

June 23, 1874.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That whenever the stockholders of the Farmers' National Bank of Greensburgh, in the county of Westmoreland, and State of Pennsylvania, at a meeting called for that purpose, shall, by a unanimous vote, determine to remove the said bank to the city of Pittsburgh, in the county of Allegheny and said State, the president and the cashier shall execute a certificate, under the corporate seal of the bank, specifying such determination, and shall cause the same to be recorded in the office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and thereupon such change of location shall become effectual and valid.

Farmers National Bank of Greensburgh may be removed to Pittsburgh, Penn.

SEC. 2. That when such change shall have been made as above provided, the name of said bank shall be changed to The Fifth National Bank of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and all debts, demands, liabilities, rights and powers belonging to the said Farmers' National Bank of Greensburgh shall devolve upon and inure to The Fifth National Bank of Pittsburgh; and all actions pending by or against said Farmers' National Bank of Greensburgh may be prosecuted by or against said Fifth National Bank of Pittsburgh in the same manner and with the same effect as if such change of location and name had not been made. *Provided,* That all expenses incident to the proposed change including engraving, shall be borne and paid by said bank.

Name to be changed to Fifth National Bank of Pittsburgh.

Rights and liabilities unchanged.

Expenses of change to be borne by bank.

SEC. 3. That as soon as such change of name and location shall have been made, public notice thereof shall be given by publication in one or more weekly newspapers in the said county of Westmoreland, in said State of Pennsylvania, for four successive weeks.

Notice of change to be published.

Approved, June 23, 1874.

**CHAP. 480.**—An act regulating gas-works.

June 23, 1874.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That from and after the thirtieth day of June, eighteen hundred and seventy-four, the illuminating power of the gas furnished by any gas-light company, person, or persons, in the District of Columbia, shall be equal to sixteen candles by the Bunsen photometer, using the English parliamentary standard Argand-burner, having fifteen holes and a seven-inch chimney, consuming five cubic feet of gas per hour, and such gas shall not contain more than twenty grains of sulphur in any form in one hundred cubic feet, nor more than five grains of ammonia in any form in one hundred cubic feet. When the illuminating gas supplied by any company, person, or persons in the District of Columbia, shall at any one time be of less illuminating power or of less purity than according to the standard just heretofore given, it shall be so reported by the inspector of gas and meters to the company, person, or persons supplying the same, who shall be subject to a penalty of one hundred dollars, to be recovered before the proper tribunal and paid into the treasury of the District of Columbia aforesaid, for each

Standard of illuminating power and purity of gas in the District of Columbia.

Inspector to report.

Penalty for supplying gas of less than standard illuminating power or purity.

Proviso.

and every day during which such violation shall continue: *Provided, however,* That if it shall appear that such deviation from the above-named standards could not have been prevented by ordinary care and prudence, but was occasioned by some unavoidable cause, then the said penalty shall not be enforced.

Inspector of gas and meters to be appointed.

SEC. 2. That a suitable and impartial person, competent as a chemist, who is not a stockholder or employee in any gas-works, shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate to be designated and known as inspector of

Salary and duties.

gas and meters, whose compensation shall be a salary of two thousand dollars per annum, and whose duties shall be to test and determine the illuminating power and purity of the gas furnished by any company, person, or persons in the District of Columbia; and to test, prove, and seal all meters that may be hereafter used by them; and that a suitable

Assistant inspector.

person, who shall be a gas-fitter by trade, shall be appointed by the President, as aforesaid, on the recommendation of the inspector of gas

Salary and duties.

and meters, as an assistant inspector, at a salary of one thousand dollars per annum, who shall assist in the duties specified under the direction of the inspector of gas and meters.

Laboratory to be provided by Washington Gas-Light Company.

SEC. 3. That a laboratory shall be provided and fitted up by the Washington Gas-Light Company, subject to the approval of the inspector, in the central part of the city of Washington, at a distance as near as may be, of two thousand feet from any gas-works, and furnished with suitable apparatus for the transaction of the business of the inspector and assistant inspector, for which it is intended, and the laboratory shall be kept open on all business-days between the hours of eight o'clock in the forenoon and five o'clock in the afternoon:

Cost to be borne by each company in District.

*Provided,* That the cost of fitting up said laboratory shall be paid for by each Gas Company in the District of Columbia in proportion to their sale of gas for the year eighteen hundred and seventy-three.

Gas companies may be represented at each test.

SEC. 4. That the company, person or persons furnishing the gas may, if they see fit, on each occasion of the testing of the gas by the inspector or assistant inspector, be represented by some officer, but such officer shall not interfere in the testing.

Daily inspections.

SEC. 5. That daily inspections, Sundays excepted, shall be made in conformity to the intent of this act between the hours of five and eleven o'clock in the afternoon, and a record shall be kept of each inspection, giving the illuminating power and purity, which shall be open to the public, and a copy of the daily inspection shall be furnished the following day to the company, person, or persons furnishing the gas, Saturday's inspection to be furnished on Monday, and a full report for the month to be furnished, upon request, to any daily paper printed in the city of Washington on the day of their publication, next after the twenty-fourth day of each month, to include each day's test from the date of previous publication, and giving the average illuminating power for the month.

Record of inspection open to public.

Full report for each month to be furnished to newspaper.

Bills to be reduced if gas below standard quality.

SEC. 6. That all bills for gas furnished by any company, person, or persons shall state the average illuminating power for the month; and if the same shall fall below sixteen candles, as in this act prescribed, then the amount of the bill shall be reduced pro rata.

Test of meters.

SEC. 7. That in testing meters, the inspector or assistant inspector shall ascertain whether the meter is of proper construction, and requires only the pressure of a column of water indicated by the water-gauge, commonly used for such tests, of one-fourth of an inch high to work it, and whether it works regularly and correctly, and registers exactly the amount of gas passing through it, first, at the rate the meter is marked to supply; secondly, at one-third its rate; thirdly, at twice its rate. The standard foot shall be one cubic foot, containing sixty-two and three hundred and twenty-one one-thousandths pounds, avoirdupois weight, of distilled water at the temperature of sixty-two degrees Fahrenheit, and with a barometrical pressure of thirty inches; and meters registering within two per centum either way of the exact number of

such feet passing through them at the first-named rate, and within three per centum at the second and third rates, and no others shall be deemed accurate and be stamped by the inspector. The inspector shall keep at the laboratory a correct record of all meters inspected by him, with their proof at the time of inspection, which record shall be open at all times to the public for any reasonable examination by any company, person, or persons having any interest therein.

What meters shall be deemed accurate and stamped.

Record of meters inspected.

SEC. 8. That any gas-meters now in use shall be proved and tested on the written request of the consumer of gas on whose premises it may be, and in his presence, if he requires, upon the payment in advance to the inspector or assistant inspector of fifty cents for each and every meter inspected, proved, and sealed, and if any such meter, on being tested, shall be found to register inaccurately to the injury of the consumer to an extent exceeding two per centum, the fee of fifty cents shall be returned to the person applying for said inspection and be paid to the inspector by the company, person, or persons supplying the gas; and every such meter shall be considered correct, and sealed accordingly, which shall register quantities varying from the true standard measure of gas of not more than two per centum, and a record shall be kept of the same and of all fees so collected. And all meters hereafter used by any gas-company, person, or persons shall be first inspected, proved, and sealed at the laboratory provided for by this act; and for such inspection, proving, and sealing the company, in the first instance, and thereafter the company, person, or persons applying to have the meter inspected, shall pay fifty cents for each meter, a record of which shall be kept and of the fees so collected; and all fees shall be applied to the payment of the expenses for maintaining and keeping in good order and repair the laboratory and apparatus.

Test of meters now in use on request of consumer

Fees.

When to be paid by gas company, &c.

Meters hereafter used to be first inspected, proved, and sealed at laboratory.

Fees; by whom payable.

To be applied to payment of expenses, &c.

Companies to remove and return meters for test.

SEC. 9. That each company, person, or persons manufacturing illuminating gas in the District of Columbia, shall, when required, in writing, by the inspector of gas and meters, bring to the laboratory any meter that may have been required to be inspected, proved, and sealed, and to return the same to its proper place after such inspection; and it shall not be lawful for any other party or person to remove and return meters.

SEC. 10. That the inspector and assistant inspector of gas and meters shall each give bonds to the extent of double his annual salary, and shall each take an oath or affirmation, before some officer legally qualified to administer the same, that he will faithfully, diligently, and impartially discharge the duties of his office.

Bond and oath of inspector and assistant.

SEC. 11. That the Washington Gas-Light Company shall be authorized, on and after the passage of this act, to charge and receive for illuminating gas furnished to and paid for by the Government of the United States, at the rate of two dollars and fifty cents per one thousand cubic feet; and when furnished and paid for by other parties, or by the inhabitants of the city of Washington, at the rate of two dollars and seventy-five cents per one thousand cubic feet: *Provided*, That if the party or inhabitants so furnished shall pay monthly any bill within seven days after the same shall have been presented, said party shall be entitled to a discount upon the amount of such bill at the rate of twenty-five cents per one thousand cubic feet. And all laws authorizing any higher rates are hereby repealed: *Provided*, That when the price of gas coals delivered at the works of the Washington Gas-Light Company shall advance to eight dollars and fifty cents per ton the price of gas to consumers may be advanced ten cents per thousand cubic feet and an additional ten cents per thousand feet for each additional dollar per ton that gas coals may advance in price and in like manner a reduction of ten cents per thousand feet shall be made for each and every dollar per ton that gas coals may fall in price below seven dollars per ton. And for that purpose the Washington Gas-Light Company shall in the month of May in each year furnish the Secretary of the Interior with a statement of all their coal contracts or purchases for the ensuing year

Price for gas.

Discount for prompt payment.

Laws authorizing higher rates repealed.

Advance or reduction of price according to price of coal.

excepting the Ritchie mineral and the Richmond coal, the cost of which shall not enter into any calculation in making an average, which statement shall be sworn to before a Justice of the Peace by their Engineer and Secretary, and the advance or reduction of price shall take place on the first of July ensuing.

Gas to be furnished to District government at same rate as to United States.

SEC. 12. That the Washington Gas-Light Company shall be authorized and required to furnish illuminating gas to the government of the District of Columbia within the distance of fifty yards from any of their mains, on the same terms as to the Government of the United States, and in case of the non-payment of any monthly bills by the said District beyond the period of ten days from the time of presentation, the company shall be entitled to demand and receive interest thereon from date until paid. And the said company shall light, extinguish, keep clean, and repair the Washington City street-lamps at the uniform price of forty dollars for each lamp per annum, to burn two thousand two hundred hours per annum, with a six-foot burner on each lamp, subject to any regulation that may be prescribed by the city authorities as to the time of lighting and extinguishing the same, and any extra number of hours to be charged and paid for at the same rate: *Provided*, That the city of Washington shall furnish, when necessary, new lanterns to replace old ones, and shall furnish and pay for the reasonable expense of erecting new lamp-posts to replace such as are old, damaged, and unfit for use.

Interest on unpaid bills.

Rate for light, cleaning and repair, &c., of street-lamps in Washington.

Stoppage of gas for non-payment of bills.

Restriction on removal of meters.

Act may be altered, amended, or repealed.

Penalty for fraudulently obtaining gas.

Price to be uniform to all consumers.

SEC. 13. That if any person or persons, supplied with gas, neglect or refuse to pay the amount due for the same, such company may stop the gas from entering the premises of such person or persons. In no case shall the officers, servants, or workmen of the company remove a meter from premises supplied by the company, unless by consent of the consumer, without first giving forty-eight hours' notice in writing by leaving the same at the premises of the consumer; and said removal shall take place only between the hours of eight o'clock in the forenoon and two o'clock in the afternoon.

SEC. 14. That it shall be lawful for Congress at any time hereafter to alter, amend, or repeal this act, and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SEC. 15. That any person who, with intent to injure or defraud any gas company in the District of Columbia, shall make or cause to be made any pipe, tube or other instrument or contrivance, or connect the same, or cause it to be connected with any main service pipe or other pipe for conducting or supplying illuminating gas in such manner as to connect with and be calculated to supply illuminating gas to any burner or orifice by which illuminating gas is consumed, around or without passing through the meter provided for the measuring and registering of the quantity of gas there consumed, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding six months or by fine not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars.

SEC. 16. That the price which may be charged for gas by any Gas-Light Company in the District of Columbia shall be uniform and the same to all consumers and any reduction made in the price or cost to any person or persons, except to officers of the company, shall furnish a legal right on the part of any other person or persons to demand gas at the same cost or price.

Approved, June 23, 1874.

June 23, 1874.

**CHAP. 481.**—An act extending the right of way heretofore granted to the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company through the arsenal grounds at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company be, and it is hereby, authorized to extend its tracks over and occupy the ground between the present track and the Alle-

Allegheny Railroad Company may extend its track over certain ground near United States arsenal.