

In Parliament—Session 1869.

Metropolis Gas.

(Amendment and Extension of the Provisions of the City of London Gas Act, 1868, to the whole of the Metropolis; Amendment of Metropolis Gas Act, 1860, and of the Local and Personal Acts relating to the Supply of Gas in the Metropolis; Amalgamation of all or some of the Metropolitan Gas Companies, and adjustment of Capitals; Reduction of Rates, Charges, and Dividends of Gas Companies; regulating future Price, Purity, Illuminating Power and Pressure of Gas; Purchase, by compulsion or agreement, and Sale of Gas Works, and providing other Gas Works; to compel Gas Companies to Sell Gas in Bulk; creation of Rentcharges or other Securities; levying Rates; borrowing of Money, and other purposes.)

NOTICE is hereby given, that it is intended to apply to Parliament in the ensuing session for leave to introduce a Bill and to pass an Act for the following, or some of the following, among other purposes:

To extend the operation and provisions of "The City of London Gas Act, 1868" (hereinafter referred to as "The Act of 1868"), to the whole of the metropolis (as defined by the Act 18 and 19 Vict., cap. 122, intituled "An Act for the better Local Management of the Metropolis"), and to the several Gas Companies supplying gas within the metropolis, which are not subject to the provisions of the Act of 1868, viz., the Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company, the Commercial Gas Light and Coke Company, the Equitable Gas Light Company, the Independent Gas Light and Coke Company, the Phoenix Gas Light and Coke Company, the Ratcliffe Gas Light and Coke Company, the Surrey Consumers' Gas Company, the South Metropolitan Gas Light and Coke Company, and the Western Gas Light Company (Limited), and which Companies are hereinafter referred to as the ten Companies; and to make the ten Companies liable to contribute towards the expenses of and incident to carrying into effect the provisions of the Act of 1868 from the passing thereof.

To alter, amend, extend, and enlarge, or if need be to repeal the whole or some of the powers and provisions of an Act passed in the 23rd and 24th years of the reign of Her present Majesty, chapter 125, intituled "An Act for better Regulating the Supply of Gas to the Metropolis," and of another Act passed in the 31st and 32nd years of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Metropolis Gas Act, 1860,' and to make further provision for regulating the supply of Gas to the City of London, and for other purposes connected therewith;" and also to alter, amend, extend, and enlarge, or repeal the whole or some of the powers and provisions of the several local and personal Acts of Parliament following, or some of them, that is to say: 50 Geo. III., cap. 163; 54 Geo. III., cap. 116; 56 Geo. III., cap. 87; 59 Geo. III., cap. 20; 4 Geo. IV., cap. 119; 31 and 32 Vic., cap. 106; and all other Acts relating to the Gas Light and Coke Company. 57 Geo. III., cap. 23; 22 and 23 Vic., cap. 52; and all other Acts relating to the City of London Gas Light and Coke Company. 1 and 2 Geo. IV., cap. 74; 10 Geo. IV., cap. 107; 10 and 11 Vic., cap. 53; 13 and 14 Vic., cap. 82; 15 and 16 Vic., cap. 155; 19 and 20 Vic., cap. 59; and all other Acts relating to the Commercial Gas Light and Coke Company. 5 and 6 Vic., cap. 36; and

all other Acts relating to the Equitable Gas Light Company. 14 and 15 Vic., cap. 69, and all other Acts relating to the Great Central Gas Consumer's Company, 10 Geo. IV., cap. 118; 27 and 28 Vic., cap. 162; and all other Acts relating to the Independent Gas Light and Coke Company. 15 and 16 Vic., cap. 82; 20 and 21 Vic., cap. 73; 29 and 30 Vic., cap. 55; the London Gas Light Act, 1866; and all other Acts relating to the London Gas Light Company. 5 Geo. IV., cap. 78; 27 and 28 Vic., cap. 159; and all other Acts relating to the Phoenix Gas Light and Coke Company, 4 Geo. IV., cap. 98; 17 and 18 Vic., cap. 213; 18 and 19 Vic., cap. 12; and all other Acts relating to the Ratcliffe Gas Light and Coke Company. 15 and 16 Vic., cap. 42; 17 and 18 Vic., cap. 94; 18 and 19 Vic., cap. 186; 26 and 27 Vic., cap. 37; and all other Acts relating to the Surrey Consumers' Gas Company. 5 and 6 Vic., cap. 79; 28 and 29 Vic., cap. 14; and all other Acts relating to the South Metropolitan Gas Light and Coke Company; 1 and 2 Geo. IV., cap. 117; 4 Geo. IV., cap. 95; 29 and 30 Vic., cap. 352; 10 Geo. IV., cap. 12; 17 and 18 Vic., cap. 55; and all other Acts relating to the Imperial Gas Light and Coke Company. The several Articles of Association and Acts relating to the Western Gas Light Company (Limited). Also to repeal all contracts and agreements entered into between the Companies, or any of them, and any body or persons for supplying gas, or for any other purpose.

To provide for the amalgamation into one or more Companies, of all or any of the before-mentioned Gas Companies, and if Parliament shall so think fit to authorize all or any two or more of the amalgamating Companies to enter into any agreement or agreements in relation to any of the objects of the said Act, and to confirm all or any such agreements as may have been or may be entered into prior to the passing of the intended Act, and to vary or extinguish all existing rights or privileges which might in any way prevent or interfere with any of the objects of the intended Act, and to confer other rights and privileges, and to make such other provisions as may be necessary, proper, or convenient for carrying out the objects of the intended Act, and if need be to dissolve and wind up all or some of the Companies so to be amalgamated, and to incorporate a new Company or new Companies, and to vest or provide for the vesting in the new Company, or each of the new Companies respectively, all or some, or some part or parts respectively, of the undertakings, buildings, lands, machinery, mains, pipes, plant, property, and effects of every description of the amalgamating Companies, and all or some of the rights, powers, and privileges of, or belonging to, or enjoyed by, the amalgamating Companies respectively, of what nature or kind soever, including the making and recovering of the rates, rents, and charges now leviable by those Companies or any of them, or other rates, rents, and charges in lieu thereof; and for enabling the new Company, or each new Company, to use, exercise, and enjoy all or any of those rights, powers, and privileges.

To make provisions with respect to all or some of the mortgage or bond or other debts of all or some of the amalgamating Companies respectively, and for the security of all or some of their respective creditors and share and stock-holders, and to regulate and define the rights and priorities of such creditors, share and stock-holders.

To extend, contract, define, and fix or provide for the extension, contraction, and fixing of the limits of the district of each of the Companies supplying gas within the metropolis, and of