

1879

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIRECTORS

OF

The Consumers' Gas Company

OF TORONTO.

The Directors have pleasure in submitting to the Stockholders the thirty-first Annual Report, with the accompanying Financial Statements for the past year.

1. Since the last Annual Meeting, following the course adopted by several English Gas Companies in view of the possible introduction of electricity as an illuminating power, to compete with, or even to supersede the use of gas, the Directors deemed it advisable to apply to the Legislature for an Act to extend the powers of the Company so as to enable it, amongst other things, to manufacture Gas for heating, cooking, and other, than illuminating purposes—to manufacture and use electric, galvanic, or any other artificial light, either in connection with gas or otherwise—also to purchase any rights, patent or otherwise, for the manufacture or production or use of such electric, galvanic, or other artificial light, and a Bill was accordingly obtained conferring these powers.

2. Whilst fully impressed with the importance of keeping pace with all the recent scientific discoveries of the day for the production of light other than from gas, the Directors have nevertheless been steadily extending their works for the manufacture of gas by the Lowe process, and as they had predicted in the last Annual Report, success has so far crowned their efforts, that they have been enabled to reduce the price of gas to ordinary Consumers from \$2.00 per thousand feet, to \$1.75, and to consumers of over 200,000 feet per annum, to \$1.50 per thousand, whilst the quality of the gas furnished, has exceeded the Government Standard by from three to four candles, and the purity of the gas made has been fully maintained.

3. The extension of the Lowe Process Works it is anticipated will be completed by the end of the present year, when these, together with the Coal Gas Works will be of ample capacity to supply all the gas likely to be required for many years to come by the City of Toronto and surrounding neighborhood.

4. Over 12,000 yards of pipes have been laid during the year, which includes 1298 yards of 20 inch pipe, laid on Front Street, to replace a similar quantity of 10 inch pipe, which was found insufficient to meet the increased consumption.

5. The low price charged for gas has materially increased the demand, and no less than 444 new house-services have been laid during the year, and since the last reduction made, the number of consumers has increased at a greater ratio.

6. The following gives a comparative statement of the Company's business during the year just closed, as compared with that of the preceding :

	Street Lamps.	Consumers.	Gas Rental.
For the year ending 30th Sept., 1879	2,057	3,547	\$220,206 91
" " " 1878	1,957	3,285	215,650 11
Showing an increase of	100	262	14,556 80

7. The Directors have great reason to congratulate the Stockholders on the satisfactory results of the past year's operations, and they cannot conclude without expressing their entire satisfaction at the efficient manner in which the heads of Departments and their subordinates have discharged their various duties, and which has contributed so materially to the success obtained.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. AUSTIN,
President.