

1883

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE DIRECTORS

OF THE 'CONSUMERS' GAS COMPANY OF TORONTO.

The Directors of the Consumers' Gas Company of Toronto have much satisfaction in presenting to the Stockholders the Thirty-Fifth Annual Report, together with the Financial Statements for the year ending 30th September last.

1. The progress of the Company for the past has, on the whole, exceeded that of any former year.
2. The following are some of the extensions and improvements made since the date of the last Annual Report: A spacious and substantial brick building for the storage of coal and coke has been erected at a cost of about \$16,000 upon the old gas property recently purchased from the County of York; 1,884 yards of large mains have been substituted for smaller ones; 13,362 yards of new mains have been laid, and 557 new services have been put in.
3. As anticipated in the last Report, the increased demand for Gas Engines, Gas Cooking Stoves, and other Apparatus involving the consumption of gas, has considerably augmented the Revenue of the year.
4. An opportunity having been afforded by the late Industrial Exhibition held in Toronto, to exhibit the advantages to be derived from the improvements in Gas-lighting now being adopted in Great Britain, as well as to bring prominently before the public the uses to which gas can be applied both as a motive power, and for cooking, heating and other purposes, it was suggested by the Secretary and determined by the Directors to take advantage of it, and a large and varied display of improved Lamps, Posts, Globes and Burners, Gas Engines, Gas Cooking, Boiling and Heating Stoves, etc., was made, as also of Photometers, Meters and other Apparatus for the measurement of the quantity and quality of Gas; for the whole of which a Gold Medal and Diploma were awarded to the Company.
5. Every means were taken for familiarizing the public with all matters connected with the economical utilization of gas; and the Directors feel satisfied, from the beneficial results already secured, that the Company will be amply indemnified for the expenditure thereby incurred. Amongst other proofs of the success of the Company's Exhibit, the very flattering comments made upon it by a Deputation from the Common Council of the City of Buffalo—including their Gas Inspector—to their City Council, in a Report made by them thereon, indicates, that in their judgment at least, it was deserving of all credit.

It cannot also but be a matter of satisfaction to state, that the Committee in the same Report also referred in highly complimentary terms to the quality and cheapness of the gas supplied in Toronto.

6. To have accomplished these results is due in a great degree to the exertions of Mr. W. H. Pearson, the indefatigable Secretary of the Company, who was most energetically aided by Mr. Laxton, the Street Superintendent.

7. The following statement, as compared with that for the previous year, shows:

	Street Lamps.	Consumers.	Gas Rental.
For the year ending 30th Sept. 1883	2,466	5,386	\$321,627.23
“ “ “ 1882	2,265	4,870	284,696.84
Or an increase of	201	516	\$36,930.39

8. The Directors, in consideration of the prosperity of the Company's business during the past year, have determined, on and after the 1st January next, to reduce the price of Gas for illuminating purposes from \$1.75 to \$1.60 net per thousand feet, to ordinary consumers (paying promptly), and from \$1.50 to \$1.35 net, per thousand feet, to consumers of 200,000 feet and upwards per annum (paying promptly), the difference, in the case of the latter class of Consumers, to be refunded as heretofore to them, at the end of the Company's financial year; and they trust that this reduction will meet with the approval of the Stockholders.

9. In view of the probability of considerable sums being required in the near future for the renewal of important portions of the works, so as to maintain their perfect efficiency, the Directors have thought it prudent to place the sum of \$25,346.78 to the credit of the Contingent Account.

10. The Directors have pleasure in reporting favorably on the state of the Works, and have every reason to be satisfied with the services of the new Superintendent of Works, who has proved himself to be competent for the charge he has undertaken.

11. The Secretary and all the members of the Company's staff continue, as heretofore, to discharge their several duties to the entire satisfaction of the Directors.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES AUSTIN, President.