

pany do not receive from the Corporation more for the gas than the lowest price mentioned, and the Corporation was only paying at that rate, when the citizens were paying \$2.50 per thousand.

It may now be well for me to repeat what I said in a circular addressed to the members of the Corporation; that the limitation of the Carbonic Oxide in the gas now supplied by this Company and several others in the Dominion to the quantity allowed by the Massachusetts legislation, would be tantamount to its prohibition; for no means have yet been discovered for its profitable elimination. "It would cause a loss to the Company of the large amount expended for the erection of works for the purpose. It would render it necessary for them to increase the price of the gas without being able to supply as good an article as that now furnished. It would stop the expenditure in our own Province by this Company alone, of from \$25,000 to \$30,000 annually for petroleum, and cause them to spend in the United States instead, between \$50,500 and \$60,000 for coal to take the place of petroleum."

It is stated in the "Report" sent that as "the consumers were not consulted about the expense incurred in changing the mode of manufacture," that therefore the Gas Company "should pay for their own experiments themselves."

In reply to this, I beg to say that this new process was introduced after the most careful investigation *principally in the interests of gas consumers*, and *mainly* as a result of its introduction the price of gas was reduced 25 cents per thousand feet, and had not this process been introduced, no reduction would have been made. Now, this being the case, should the Company be forced to return to the manufacture of Coal Gas, no one would have the right to blame them for returning to the old prices, especially with coal so much higher than it was before the price was lowered. There is no doubt that the consumers would be much dissatisfied at this, but the responsibility of making the change would not rest upon the Company, but upon those who might force them to take such a course.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. PEARSON, *Secretary*.

APPENDIX "A."

At the meeting of the American Gas Light Association last October, at Chicago, in a discussion upon a paper read by me there on the Lowe Process, Mr. Littlehales made a similar charge regarding the gas, but first took care to furnish himself