

limited the only dangerous ingredient in the gas, which is found in Water Gas to a greater extent than in Coal Gas. If it is so very dangerous, why not legislate it all out; and why not obtain legislation limiting the quantity of the dangerous *Marsh Gas*, of which there is a very large quantity in the Coal Gas? Simply because Coal Gas Companies could not comply with such conditions.

The law passed in New Jersey, referred to, *practically prohibits the manufacture and sale of any illuminating gas*, as it enacts that no gas can be sold which contains more than *two* per cent. of Carbonic Oxide or *ten* per cent. of Hydrogen. Any one who understands the composition of gas, must be aware that no illuminating gas can be made to comply with those conditions. The fact that there are a number of gas companies in this State, none of which do or can comply with the Act, is sufficient evidence that the law is a dead letter.

This Company is blamed for not substituting five feet burners for those used in the street lamps.

The Company will be very glad to do so if the Corporation will pay the difference for the gas. I am quite confident, however, that on testing the burners it will be found that instead of consuming three feet per hour—the quantity contracted for—they are on the average consuming considerably more. I would take the liberty of reminding the Committee of some other facts connected with the street lamps, which are worthy of consideration. The Company have recently erected over 500 iron posts, at a cost of several thousand dollars, and on the principal streets, are putting on handsome globe lamps at a very considerable cost. I think I may also say, that there is not a place on the Continent where the lamps are kept in a better or cleaner condition.

While speaking of the street lamps, it may also be as well for me to correct an opinion which is apparently entertained by some of the members of the Council, viz., that the city is paying more for the gas than private consumers are. A member of your Committee is reported in the papers to have said that the Company, though reducing their rate to private consumers, continued to charge the city at the rate of \$3.00 per thousand feet for the gas supplied to the street lamps, while ordinary consumers got it for \$2.00 per thousand. The fact is, ordinary consumers only pay \$1.50 and \$1.75 per thousand; and after paying for the expense of lighting, cleaning and repairing, and interest on outlay for the street lamps, the Com-