## FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## CONSUMERS' GAS COMPANY

## OF TORONTO

The Directors have satisfaction in presenting to the Stockholders, the Forty-fourth Annual Statement, and to report an increase in the number of consumers, and in the amount of gas-rental and profits for the year, motivithstanding business depression, and the competition from electric lighting.

1,403 new services have been put in, and nearly  $7\frac{1}{2}$  miles of new mains laid, making the total mileage of mains over 214.

The consumption of gas for cooking and heating, has continued to increase at a rapid ratio, and now amounts to about one-eighth of the total quantity sold.

The high standard of the illuminating power of the gas, has been fully maintained during the year, at an average of nearly 21 candles, or more than 25 per cent. over the Government standard of 16 candles.

To provide for the increasing consumption of gas, contracts have been entered into, during the year, for the crection of a new stack of 20 benches of "sixes" retorts, with the necessary hydraulic mains and connections, together with stage floors and hydraulic elevators; also for two sets of improved water gas apparatus, all of which are nearly completed.

The gasholder capacity not being sufficient for the output of gas, excavation for a new brick gasholder tank, of 150 feet diameter, by 35 feet 9 inches deep, was commenced in May last, on the Company's lot on Bathurst Street, and adjoining the other gasholder, and the tank is now just about completed, the contractor for the work being Mr. W. C. Whyte, of New York.

The contract for the gasholder, has been awarded to Messrs. R. D. Wood & Co., of Philadelphia. This holder will be a three-lift one (each lift being 35 feet high), and will have a capacity of 1,750,000 cubic feet. It is to be completed by October 1st, 1893, and will be the largest gasholder yet constructed for this Company.

In conjunction with nearly all the other Gas Companies in the Dominion, and supported by a number of leading Manufacturers, this Company, during the last session, petitioned the Finance Minister to remove the duty from gas oil, crade petroleum and benzine; and a large deputation subsequently waited upon him and forcibly presented their views.

The principal arguments presented were, that the prices of gas oil, had steadily and greatly advanced or the past five years; that the production was not equal to the present and increasing demand, for manufacturing purposes, and that the duty and other charges, amounting to 9½ cents per gallon upon crude and gas oil, were the same as those charged upon refined oil, so that the latter, being worth about 9 cents per gallon, the duty thereon amounted to about 100 per cent ad valorem, while upon crude and gas oil, worth about a cent a gallon, it amounted to fully 900 per cent.

The Directors regret that the petitioners did not succeed in obtaining the removal, or even a reduction of the duty.

A comparative statement with that of the preceding year shows:

			LAMPS	METERS	RENTAL
For the	year ending	30th Septembe	r, 18921,201	16,164	\$512,554 17
"		"	18911,287	14,838	488,946 25
•			Decrease	Increase, 1,326	Increase, \$ 23,607 92

The Directors have pleasure in testifying to the thorough and increased efficiency of the Company's Works, in every Department, the principal credit for which is due to the able management and untiring energy of the General Manager, aided by an intelligent and competent staff.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES AUSTIN,
President