

## SENATE....No. 19.

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### Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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IN SENATE, January 25, 1855.

The Joint Committee on Manufactures, to whom was committed the Order submitted by Mr. White, of Norfolk, January 18, to consider the expediency of passing a general Act for the establishment of Gas Companies, report the accompanying Bill.

EDWARD DENNY, *Chairman.*

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-  
Five.

### AN ACT

Relating to Gas Light Companies.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—*

1    SECT. 1. Any number of persons not less than  
2 three, who shall by an agreement in writing associate  
3 themselves together for the purpose of making and  
4 selling gas, for light, in any town or city within this  
5 Commonwealth, and who shall comply with the pro-  
6 visions of an Act "Relating to Joint Stock Compa-  
7 nies," passed May fifteenth, in the year one thousand  
8 eight hundred and fifty-one, shall, with their succes-  
9 sors and assigns, be, and remain, a body politic and  
10 corporate, with all the powers and privileges, and  
11 subject to all the duties, liabilities and restrictions, set

12 forth in the thirty-eighth and forty-fourth chapters of  
13 the Revised Statutes.

1 SECT. 2. Every corporation organized under the  
2 provisions of this Act shall have power and authority,  
3 with the consent in writing of the selectmen of any  
4 town, or the mayor and aldermen of any city, to dig  
5 up and open the ground in any part of the streets,  
6 lanes and highways of said town or city, for the pur-  
7 pose of sinking, renewing or repairing such pipes and  
8 conductors as it may be necessary to sink, for the  
9 purpose of carrying out the object of such corpora-  
10 tion: *provided*, that such corporation shall be held to  
11 put every such street, lane or highway into as good  
12 repair as the same was in before and at the time of  
13 such digging up and opening, under the penalty of  
14 being prosecuted as a nuisance.

1 SECT. 3. The selectmen of any town, and the  
2 mayor and aldermen of any city, in which any pipes,  
3 or conductors of any such corporation shall be sunk,  
4 shall at all times have the power to regulate, restrict  
5 and control all the acts and doings of such corpora-  
6 tion which may in any manner affect the health,  
7 safety, convenience or property of any part of the  
8 inhabitants of such town or city.

1 SECT. 4. This Act shall take effect from and after  
2 its passage.

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