

HOUSE No. 975

Bill accompanying the petition of Arthur C. Spalding and another for further legislation to prohibit the wilful or fraudulent removal of or interference with the meters, pipes and fittings of gas companies. Public Lighting. January 13.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirteen.

AN ACT

To amend the Law relative to the Wilful or Fraudulent Injury of Gas Meters, Pipes and Fittings.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section eighteen of chapter fifty-eight
2 of the Revised Laws is hereby amended by adding
3 after the word "injures", in the first line thereof, the
4 words:— disconnects, removes or otherwise interferes
5 with,— and after the word "injured", in the second
6 line, the words:— disconnected, removed or otherwise
7 interfered with,— and after the word "pipe", in the
8 sixth line, the words:— or any appliance,— so as to
9 read as follows:— *Section 18.* Whoever wilfully or
10 fraudulently injures, disconnects, removes or otherwise

11 interferes with, or suffers to be injured, disconnected,
12 removed or otherwise interfered with, any meter, pipes
13 or fittings which belong to a gas light company, or pre-
14 vents a meter from duly registering the quantity of gas
15 supplied through the same, or in any way hinders or
16 interferes with its proper action or just registration, or
17 fraudulently burns or wastes the gas of such company,
18 or whoever attaches a pipe or any appliance to a main
19 or pipe belonging to a gas light company or, without
20 the written consent of such company, uses or causes to
21 be used, any gas supplied by it, unless the same passes
22 through a meter set by the company, shall for every
23 such offence forfeit to the company not more than one
24 hundred dollars and the damage sustained thereby.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.