

NEW ZEALAND.



ANNO TRICESIMO OCTAVO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

[Local and Personal.]

No.

ANALYSIS.

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Title

AN ACT to authorise the Lyttelton Gas Coal and Coke Company Limited to break up Streets and Bridges and to lay down and place pipes conduits and service pipes and to make and construct other works for supplying the Borough of Lyttelton with Gas.

Preamble

WHEREAS a joint stock Company has been incorporated under the provisions of "The Joint Stock Companies Act 1860" and "The Joint Stock Companies Act Amendment Acts" by the name of "The Lyttelton Gas Coal and Coke Company Limited" having for its object the production of gas and the supply thereof within the town and Borough of Lyttelton and suburbs and for lighting the same borough or for any other purpose for which such gas is or shall be applicable and also the manufacturing and preparing for sale coke and other products incidental to the manufacture of such gas as the directors of the Company shall from time to time determine.

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that provisions should be made authorising the said Company to break up streets and bridges in and through the Borough of Lyttelton and the suburbs thereof and to lay down and place pipes conduits service pipes and to make and construct other works for supplying the said Borough of Lyttelton and suburbs with gas and for other purposes relating thereto and to the objects for which the said Company has been established.

Be it therefore exacted by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows:

Short Title

Interpretation

- 1. The short title of this Act shall be "The Lyttelton Gas Act 1874"
- 2. The following words and expressions in this Act shall have the meaning hereby assigned to them unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such constructions that is to say—

Words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and words importing the plural number only shall include also the singular number.

Words importing the masculine gender shall include females. The word "person" shall include Corporations whether aggregate or sole.

The word "Company" shall mean the Lyttelton Gas Coal and Coke Company Limited.

The word "lands" shall include messuages lands tenements and hereditaments.

The word "street" shall include any street court or alley highway lane road thoroughfare or public passage or place within the limits of this Act.

The expression "rent" shall include any reward or payment to be made to the Company for a supply of gas.

The word "month" shall mean calendar month.

The expression "two Justices" shall mean two or more Justices of the Peace met and acting together or a Resident Magistrate.

The word "oath" shall include affirmation in the case of Quakers and any declaration lawfully substituted for

an oath in the case of any other person allowed by law to make a declaration instead of taking an oath.

The word "district" shall mean any lands within the limits of this Act comprising an area of not less than 640

"The limits of this Act" shall extend to and include all lands lying within a radius of two miles from the southwesternmost corner of the Municipal Reserve No. 34 in the Borough of Lyttelton.

3. The Company under such superintendence as is hereinafter Power to break up streets &c under suspecified may open and break up the soil and pavement of the several perintendence and streets bridges and wharves within the limits of this Act and may open open drains and break up any sewers drains or tunnels within or under any such streets bridges or wharves and lay down and place within the same limits pipes conduits service pipes and other works and from time to time repair alter or remove the same and also make any sewers that may be necessary for carrying off the washings and waste liquids which may arise in the making of the gas and for the purposes aforesaid may remove and use all earth and materials in and under such streets bridges and wharves and may in such streets erect any pillar lamps and other works and do all other acts which the Company shall from time to time deem necessary for supplying gas within the limits aforesaid doing as little damage as may be in the execution of the powers hereby granted and making compensation for any damage which may be done in the execution of such powers.

4. Provided always that nothing herein shall authorise or empower Not to enter on private lands without the Company to lay down or place any pipe or other works in to through consent or against any buildings or in any land not dedicated to public use without the consent of the owners and occupiers thereof except that the Company may at any time enter upon and lay or place any new pipe in the place of an existing pipe in any land wherein any pipe hath been already lawfully laid down or placed by the Company in pursuance of this Act or any other Act of the General Assembly of New Zealand or any Act of the Imperial Parliament and may repair or alter any pipe so laid down.

5. Provided further that it shall be lawful for any owner or Owners and occuoccupier of any building or land not dedicated to public use in to piers of private grounds may alter through or against or in which any pipe or other works shall have been position of pipes laid down or placed with such consent as aforesaid at any time thereafter if such owner or occupier shall deem it necessary or expedient upon giving forty-eight hours notice in writing to the Company at his own costs and charges but under the superintendence of the Company to alter and vary the position of such pipes or other works and to relay and replace the same so that full compensation be made for any damage done thereby to the Company or for any hindrance or obstruction which may thereby be occasioned to the lighting of any public or private lamp.

6. Before the Company proceed to open or break up any street Notice to be served bridge wharf sewer drain or tunnel the Company shall give to the on persons having control &c before Lyttelton Borough Council or other person under whose control or breaking up streets management the portion so open or broken up may be or to their or opening drains surveyor or other officer notice in writing of the intention of the Company to open or break up the same not less than forty-eight hours before such works shall be begun except in cases of emergency.

Streets or drains not to be broken up except under superin-tendence of persons having control of

7. No street sewer bridge wharf drain or tunnel shall except in cases of emergency be opened or broken up except under the superintendence of the persons aforesaid having the control or management thereof or of the part thereof which may be opened or broken up or of their officer and according to such plans as shall be approved of by such persons or their officers or in case of any difference respecting such plan then according to such plan as shall be determined by two Justices and such Justices may on the application of the persons having the control or management of any such street bridge wharf sewer drain or tunnel or their officer require the Company to make such temporary or other works as such Justices may think necessary for guarding against any interruption of the traffic or drainage during the execution of any works If persons having which interfere with any such street bridge wharf sewer drain or tunnel to superintend Com. Provided always that if the person having such control or management as aforesaid or their officer fail to attend at the time and place mentioned in such notice for the opening or breaking up of any such street bridge wharf sewer drain or turnel or shall not give notice of any objection to the plan for breaking up or opening the same or shall refuse or neglect to superintend the operation the Company may perform the work specified in such notice without the superintendence of such persons or

pany may perform the work

Streets &c broken up to be reinstated without delay

their officers. 8. When the Company opens or breaks up the road or pavement of any street or bridge or any wharf sewer drain or tunnel the Company shall with all reasonable speed complete the work for which the same shall be broken up and fill in the ground and reinstate and make good the road or pavement or the wharf sewer drain or tunnel so opened or broken up and carry away the rubbish occasioned thereby and shall at all times whilst any such road or pavement shall be opened or broken up cause the same to be fenced in and guarded and shall cause a light sufficient for the warning of passengers to be set up and maintained against or near such road or pavement where the same shall be open or broken up every night during which the same shall be continued open or broken up from daylight to daylight and shall keep the road or pavement which has been so opened or broken up in good repair for three months after replacing and making good the same and for such further time if any not being more than twelve months in the whole as the soil so opened or broken up shall continue to subside.

Penalty for delay in

9. If the Company open or break up any street bridge or wharf reinstating streets &c or any sewer drain or tunnel without giving such notice as aforesaid or in a manner different from that which shall have been approved of or determined as aforesaid or without making such temporary or other works as aforesaid when so required except in the cases in which the Company are hereby authorised to perform such works without any superintendence or notice or if the Company make any delay in completing any such work or in filling in the ground or reinstating or making good the road pavement or wharf or the sewer drain or tunnel so opened or broken up or in carrying away the rubbish occasioned thereby or if they neglect to cause the place where such road or pavement has been broken up to be fenced guarded and lighted or neglect to keep the road or pavement in repair for the space of three months next after the same is made good or such further time as aforesaid they shall forfeit to the persons having the control or management of the street bridge wharf drain sewer or tunnel in respect of which such delay or omission is made a sum not exceeding five pounds

for each day during which any such default delay or omission as aforesaid shall continue after they shall have received notice thereof.

10. If any such delay or omission as aforesaid take place the in case of delay other persons having the control or management of the street bridge wharf and recover the exsewer drain or tunnel in respect of which such delay or omission shall penses take place may cause the work so delayed or omitted to be executed and the expense of executing the same shall be repaid to such persons by the Company and such expenses may be recovered in the same manner as damages are recoverable by an action or plaint in any Court of Law of competent jurisdiction.

11. The Lyttleton Borough Council if they deem it necessary to Alteration of pipes raises ink or other wise alter the situation of any gas pipes or other gas works on notice from Lyttleton Borough Council in the country of the coun laid in any of the streets may from time to time by notice in writing cil require the Company to cause forthwith or as soon as conveniently may be any such pipes or works to be raised sunk or otherwise altered in position in such manner as the Council direct Provided that such alteration be not such as to permanently injure such works or to prevent the gas from flowing as freely and conveniently as before and the expenses attending such raising sinking or altering and full compensation for every damage done thereby shall be paid by the Council as well to the Company as to all other persons.

12. If the Company do not proceed forthwith or as soon as Lyttelton Borough conveniently may be after receipt of such notice to cause the same to Council may act on default be raised sunk or altered in such manner as the Lyttelton Borough Council require the Council may themselves cause such pipes or works to be raised sunk or altered as they think fit Provided that such works be not permanently injured thereby or the gas prevented from flowing as freely and conveniently as before.

13. The inhabitants of any district within the limits of this Act A majority of the may require the Company to extend their gas pipes to any distance District may require within the said limits being not less than one mile in a continuous line the Company to extend they shall so desire and a majority of the said inhabitants being ratepayers shall sign a memorial addressed to the Company requiring them to make such extensions and shall show to the satisfaction of two Justices of the Peace that the net profits of the Company to arise from such extension will not be less than fifteen pounds per centum per annum on the cost of such extension as aforesaid and on a reasonable proportion of the costs of all works connected therewith and such two Justices may upon being satisfied thereon make an order requiring the Company to commence and prosecute the works necessary for such extension from a time to be mentioned in such order and the Company shall from time to time use all due diligence in the prosecution of such works in compliance with such order.

14. If the Company shall refuse or neglect to comply with such Penalty on Company order the Company shall forfeit a sum not exceeding five pounds to be neglecting to do so recovered with costs in any Court of competent jurisdiction for each day during which they shall refuse or neglect to comply with such order from the time when notice of such neglect or refusal shall have been served on the said Company by any of such inhabitants being ratepayers as aforesaid unless it shall appear to such Court that the delay arose from circumstances beyond the control of the Company.

15. The Company may from time to time enter into any contract Power of the Comwith any person for lighting or supplying with gas any public or private lighting streets &c buildings or for providing any person with pipes burners meters and

lamps and for the repair thereof and may also from time to time enter into any contract with the Lyttelton Borough Council Road Board or other persons having the control of any of the streets within the limits aforesaid for lighting the same or any of them with gas and for providing such Lyttelton Borough Council or persons with lamps lamp posts burners and pipes for such purpose and for the repairs thereof in such manner and upon such terms as shall be agreed upon between the Company and the said Council Road Board or other persons.

Power of the Company to let meters

16. The Company may let for hire any meter for ascertaining the quantity of gas consumed or supplied and any fittings for the gas for such remuneration in money as shall be agreed upon between the Company and any person to whom the same may be so let and such remuneration shall be recoverable in the same manner as the rents or sums due to the Company for gas and such meters and fittings shall not be subject to distress for rent of the premises where the same may be used nor to be taken in execution under any process or proceeding distraint for rent &c of a Court of Law or Equity or in Bankruptcy against the person in

Meters not liable to

The Company may enter buildings for ascertaining quanti-

whose possession the same may be. 17. The clerk engineer or other officer duly appointed for the purpose by the Company may at all reasonable times enter any ties of gas consumed building or place lighted with gas supplied by the Company in order to inspect the meters fittings and works for regulating the supply of gas and for the purpose of ascertaining the quantity of gas consumed or supplied and if any person hinder such officer as aforesaid from entering and making such inspection as aforesaid at any reasonable time he shall for every such offence forfeit to the Company a sum not exceeding five pounds.

Recovery of rents due for gas

18. If any person supplied with gas neglect to pay the rent due for the same to the Company the Company may stop the gas from entering the premises of such person by cutting off the service pipe or by such means as the Company shall think fit and recover the rent due from such person together with the expense of cutting off the gas and the costs of recovering the rent by action in any Court of Law of competent jurisdiction.

Power to take away pipes &c when supply of gas discon-tinued

19. In all cases in which the Company are authorised to cut off and take away the supply of gas from any house building or premises under the provisions of this Act the Company their agents or workmen after giving forty-eight hours previous notice in writing to the occupier or if no occupier then after leaving such notice on any portion of the premises may enter into any such house building or premises between the hours of nine in the forenoon and four in the afternoon and remove and carry away any pipe meter fittings or other works the property of the Company.

Consumer to give

20. Notice to the Company from a consumer for the discontinuance when he intends dis. of a supply of gas shall not be of any effect unless it be in writing and continuing to use gas be left at the registered office for the time being of the Company or at the office of the Company's manager at the Company's works at Lyttelton.

Penalty for fraudu-lently using gas

21. Every person who shall lay or cause to be laid any pipe to communicate with any pipe belonging to the Company without their consent or shall fraudulently injure any such meter as aforesaid or who in case the gas supplied by the Company is not ascertained by meter shall use any burner other than such as has been provided or approved of by the Company or of larger dimensions than he has contracted or

agreed to pay for or shall keep the lights burning for a longer time than he has contracted or agreed to pay for or who shall otherwise improperly use or burn such gas or shall supply any other person with any part of the gas supplied to him by the Company shall forfeit to the Company the sum of five pounds for every such offence and also the sum of forty shillings for every day such pipe shall so remain or such works or burner shall be so used or such excess be so committed or continued or such supply furnished and the Company may take off the gas from the house and premises of the person so offending notwithstanding any contract or agreement which may have been previously entered into.

22. Before any person connects or disconnects any meter through Notice to be given to which any of the gas of the Company is intended to be or has been meter connected or registered he shall give not less than twenty-four hours' notice in writing disconnected under penalty of £5 to the Company of his intention to do so and any person offending against this enactment shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not

exceeding five pounds.

23. When any consumer leaves the premises where gas has been If consumer leaves supplied to him without paying to the Company the gas rent due from premises without him the Company shall be entitled to require from the next tenant payment of the arrears accruing since the meter shall have been last if he use gas without taken by the Company and left unpaid by the former tenant if such first giving notice than the payment of the arrears accruing since the meter shall have been last if he use gas without taken by the Company and left unpaid by the former tenant if such first giving notice next tenant shall consume any gas of the Company without having first given to the Company twenty-four hours' notice of his intention to do so and if such notice shall be given such incoming tenant shall not be liable for such arrears as aforesaid.

24. Every person who shall wilfully disconnect remove destroy or Penalty for wilfully damage any pipe pillar plug post lamp or other work of the Company damaging pipes for supplying gas or who shall wilfully extinguish any of the public lamps or lights or waste or improperly use any of the gas supplied by the Company shall for each such offence forfeit to the Company any sum not exceeding five pounds in addition to the amount of the damage

25. Every person who shall carelessly or accidentally break throw Satisfaction for down or damage any pipe pillar or lamp belonging to the Company or accidentally damaging pipes under their control shall pay such sum of money by way of satisfaction to the Company for the damage done not exceeding ten pounds as any two Justices shall think reasonable.

26. If the Company shall at any time cause or suffer to be brought Penalty on Company or to flow into any public river stream reservoir well pond or place for for causing be polluted water or into any public drain communicating therewith any washing or other substance produced in making or supplying gas or shall do any act connected with the making or supplying of gas whereby the water in any such stream river reservoir well pond or place for water shall be fouled the Company shall forfeit to the Lyttelton Borough Council or to any person or corporate body having the ownership or control of the waters into which such washing or other substance shall be brought or flow or which shall be so fouled as aforesaid for every such offence a sum not exceeding two hundred pounds to be recoverable with full costs of suit in any Court of competent jurisdiction and to be assessed on the principle of covering the reasonable expense of restoring and making free from pollution the river stream reservoir well pond or place for water or drain into which such washing or other substance shall be brought or flow or which shall be fouled as aforesaid But such penalty

shall not be recoverable unless it be sued for during the continuance of the offence or within six months after it shall have ceased.

Daily penalty during continuance of offence

27. In addition to any sum which may be recovered as aforesaid and whether any sum shall have been recovered or not the Company shall forfeit the sum of ten pounds to be recoverable with costs in any Court of competent jurisdiction for each day during which such washing or other substance shall be brought or flow as aforesaid or the act by which such water shall be fouled shall continue after the expiration of forty-eight hours from the time when notice of the offence shall have been served on the Company by any person or corporate body having the ownership or control of the water aforesaid or being the owner of the banks along which such river or stream as last aforesaid shall flow by such person or corporate body.

Power to Lyttelton Borough Council to enter and inspect Gas Works to ascertain origin of nui-

28. It shall be lawful for the surveyor of or any other person acting by or under the authority of the Lyttelton Borough Council at any time or times in the daytime after having given twenty-four hours' notice to the Company to enter into any manufactory gasometer receiver or other building belonging to the Company in order to inspect and examine if there be any escape of gas or any washing or other substance produced in the making or supplying of gas into any river stream public sewer or drain well reservoir pond or place for water and if such surveyor or other person having given such notice as aforesaid be refused admittance into any such manufactory gasometer receiver or other building or be prevented from or obstructed in making such inspection or examination as aforesaid the Company shall forfeit and pay for every such offence a sum not exceeding five pounds to be recoverable with costs by the Lyttelton Borough Council before two Justices.

Penalty on consumer for wasting gas

29. Every person supplied with gas by the Company who wilfully suffers any pipe meter or other gas fitting to be out of repair so that the gas supplied to him is wasted shall for every such offence forfeit and pay to the Company any sum not exceeding five pounds over and above the loss which the Company sustain by reason of such waste.

Penalty on Company during escape of gas after notice

30. Whenever any gas shall escape from any pipe laid down or set up by or belonging to the Company they shall immediately after receiving notice thereof in writing prevent such gas from escaping and in case the Company shall not within forty-eight hours next after service of such notice effectually prevent the gas from escaping and wholly remove the cause of complaint they shall for every such offence forfeit to Her Majesty her heirs and successors the sum of five pounds for each day during which the gas shall be suffered to escape after the expiration of forty-eight hours from the service of such notice unless reasonable cause for such delay be shown to two Justices of the Peace.

Power to examine

31. For the purpose of ascertaining whether water be fouled by gas pipes to ascertain the gas of the Company the person to whom the water supposed to be tion of water if notice fouled shall belong may dig up the ground and examine the pipes be given of same conduits and works of the Company Provided that such person before proceeding so to dig up and examine shall give forty-eight hours' notice in writing to the Company of the time and place at which such digging and examination is intended to take place and shall give the like notice to the persons aforesaid having the control or management of the road pavement or place where such digging is to take place and shall be subject to the like obligation of fencing guarding lighting and reinstating the said road and pavement and the same penaltics for

delay or any nonfeasance or misfeasance therein as are herein before provided with respect to roads and pavements broken up by the

Company.

32. If upon any such examination it appear that such water has Expenses to abide been fouled by any gas belonging to the Company the expenses of the result of examinadigging examination fencing guarding lighting and reinstating of the road pavement or place disturbed in any such examination shall be paid by the Company but if upon such examination it do not so appear the person causing the examination to be made shall pay all such expenses and shall also make good to the Company any injury which may be

occasioned to the works by such examination.

33. The amount of the expenses of such digging examination flow expenses to be fencing guarding lighting and reinstatement and of any injury done to ascertained the Company shall in case of any dispute about the same together with the costs of ascertaining and recovering the same be ascertained and recovered in the same manner as damages for the ascertaining and recovery whereof no special provision is made are to be ascertained and recovered.

34. Nothing contained in this Act shall prevent the Company Nothing to exempt from being liable to an indictment for nuisance or to any action or other the Company from being indicted for a legal proceeding to which but for this Act they would be liable in nuisance

respect of any nuisance committed by them.

35. The Company may make bye-laws and regulations for the Company may make management of the Company and its concerns Provided the same tions and impose shall not be repugnant to this Act or to the Municipal Corporations penalties not exceedant 1867 or to any law or regulation which may now or shall ing £5 in case of Act 1867 or to any bye-law or regulation which may now or shall breach hereafter be made thereunder or to any Road Board Act or Ordinance of the General Assembly or of the Provincial Council of the Province of Canterbury or to any bye-law or regulation which may now or shall hereafter be made thereunder respectively and may impose any penalty not exceeding the sum of five pounds for the breach of any bye-law or regulation of the Company.

36. The Company shall publish the short particulars of the several Publication of penaloffences for which any penalty is imposed by this Act or by any bye-ties law of the Company affecting other persons than the shareholders officers or servants of the Company and of the amount of every such penalty and shall cause such particulars to be painted on a board to be hung up or affixed on some conspicuous part of the principal place of business of the Company and when any such penalties are of local application shall cause such board to be affixed in some conspicuous place in the immediate peichbourhood to which such penaltics are place in the immediate neighbourhood to which such penalties are applicable or have reference and the Company shall renew such particulars as often as the same or any part thereof is obliterated or destroyed and no such penalty shall be recoverable unless such particulars shall have been published and kept published in the manner hereinbefore required.

37. If any person pull down or injure any board put up or Penalties for defactaffixed as required by this Act for the purpose of publishing any bye-ing board used for such publication law or penalty or shall obiiterate any of the letters or figures thereon he shall forfeit for every such offence a sum not exceeding five pounds and shall defray the expenses attending the restoration of such board.

38. All fines penaltics forfeitures or sums of money which under Penalties &c how to or by virtue of this Act or any bye-law or regulation of the Company be recovered are or shall be authorised or directed to be imposed on any person shall

and may be recovered in a summary way before any two Justices of the Peace in the manner provided by "The Justices of the Peace Act 1866" so far as the same relates to summary convictions or by any Act repealing or amending the same or for the like purposes.

Penalties to be sued for within six months

39. No person shall be liable to the payment of any penalty or forfeiture imposed by or by virtue of this Act or by any bye law made in pursuance thereof unless the complaints respecting the offence shall have been made before a Resident Magistrate or two Justices of the Peace within six months after the commission thereof.

Damage to be made good in addition to penalty

40. If through any act neglect or default on account whereof any person shall have recovered any penalty imposed by this Act or by virtue of any bye-law made in pursuance thereof any damage to the property of the Company shall have been committed by such person he shall be liable to make good such damage as well as to pay such penalty. The amount of such damage shall in case of dispute be determined by the Resident Magistrate or two Justices of the Peace by whom the party incurring such penalty shall have been convicted and shall be leviable by distress and sale as in the case of a judgment by a Resident Magistrate.

Form of conviction

41. Any conviction for any offence under this Act may be drawn

as in the form in the Schedule to this Act annexed.

Conviction not to be quashed for want of

42. No proceeding under this Act shall be quashed or vacated for want of form.

Persons giving false evidence on oath guilty of perjury

43. Every person who upon any examination upon oath under the provisions of this Act shall wilfully and corruptly give false evidence shall be liable to the penalties of wilful and corrupt perjury.

Copy of special Act to be kept by Com-pany in their office and deposited with the Registrar of the the Clerk to the Benck for the and in the office of the Town Clerk of

44. The Company shall at all times after the expiration of six months from the passing of this Act or of any future Act amending or repealing the same or otherwise empowering the Company keep in New Zealand in the Canterbury District and in the office of and shall also within the space aforesaid density of the Canterbury District and in the office of and shall also within the space aforesaid density in the canterbury District and in the office of and shall also within the space aforesaid density in the canterbury District and Shall also within the space aforesaid density in the canterbury District and Shall also within the space aforesaid density in the canterbury District and Shall also within the space aforesaid density in the canterbury District and Shall also within the space aforesaid density in the canterbury District and Shall also within the space aforesaid density density in the canterbury District and Shall also within the space aforesaid density densit their principal office of business a copy of this Act and of such future Registrar of the Supreme Court of New Zealand in the Canterbury Borough of Lyttelton district thereof and in the office of the Clerk of the Bench of the Resident Magistrate for the borough of Lyttelton in the said district and the Borough of Lyt- in the office of the Town Clerk of the Lyttelton Borough Council a copy of this Act and of such future Act so printed as aforesaid And the said Company Registrar Clerk to the Bench and Town Clerk respectively shall keep the said copies and shall permit all persons interested to inspect the same and shall furnish copies thereof or extracts therefrom at all reasonable hours in the day upon payment of one shilling for every such inspection and sixpence per folio for every folio of seventy-two words thereof copied or extracted.

Penalty on failure to keep or deposit such copies

45. In case the Company shall fail to keep any copy of this Act or shall not permit any person interested to inspect the same or shall fail to furnish copies thereof or extracts therefrom at any reasonable hour of the day upon such payment as aforesaid the Company shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of five pounds to be recovered with costs in a summary way by such person interested.

(1)

SCHEDULE.

Schedule

Resident Magistrate.
[Justices of the Peace.]

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