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## PETITION.

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*To the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia,  
in Parliament Assembled:*

The humble petition of the Vancouver Gas Company, Limited Liability, sheweth:—

1. Your petitioners were incorporated by a Special Act of this Legislature passed in the year 1886, whereby they were given the power of supplying gas to the inhabitants of the City of Vancouver, and by an Act passed in the same year by your Honourable Body, intituled the "Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1886," the Corporation of the City of Vancouver was incorporated, and by section 220 of the said Act, it was provided that nothing in the said Act should conflict with, or interfere with, the Vancouver Gas Company, Limited Liability, or the rights, powers, and privileges conferred upon the said company by their Act of Incorporation.

2. In pursuance of the said powers conferred upon them by their private Act as aforesaid, and relying upon the provisions of the said section 220 of the said "Vancouver Incorporation Act," your petitioners began operations in the year 1886, and have invested in plant and machinery upwards of the sum of \$375,000.00, and have been continually engaged in the business of supplying gas to the inhabitants of the said City of Vancouver from the period hereinbefore referred to.

3. In order to successfully carry out the said enterprise, your petitioners have raised capital by the issuance of debentures to the extent of upwards of the sum of \$200,000.00, which said debentures have been sold in foreign countries, and are now held entirely outside of the limits of this Province.

4. The said debentures were issued and sold, and the purchasers were induced to become the holders thereof, upon the representations made by your petitioners, relying upon the said provisions in the said "Vancouver Incorporation Act," that the rights and privileges of the Vancouver Gas Company would not be interfered with by any Acts of Incorporation of the City of Vancouver.

5. Your petitioners are informed that a Bill has now been brought before your Honourable Body, promoted by the Corporation of the City of Vancouver, and under section 227 the said Corporation of the City of Vancouver asks your Honourable Body to confer upon them the privilege of supplying the said city with gas and other works.

6. Your petitioners are informed and believe that if the said powers are conferred upon the said Corporation, they will at once begin to manufacture and sell gas to the inhabitants of the said city, and it will interfere with the rights and privileges of your petitioners, and destroy the value of the security so issued by them as aforesaid, and which are now held by innocent purchasers for value as aforesaid.

7. Your petitioners submit that the said powers are not necessary in the interests of the inhabitants of the said City of Vancouver, and that the granting of them will interfere with the rights already vested in your petitioners, and which under the provisions of the Statute hereinbefore referred to ought not to be interfered with.

8. Your petitioners are also informed and believe that no proper notice for the introduction of the said Act on the part of the said Corporation of the City of Vancouver has been given, and until the said Bill was printed and introduced into the House by the said Corpora-

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tion, your petitioners were unaware that it was proposed to apply to your Honourable Body for any powers or privileges which would interfere with the rights of your petitioners, as aforesaid.

9. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the said clause of the said Act, in so far as it relates to gas works, may not be permitted by your Honourable Body to become law.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Dated this 19th day of December, A.D. 1894.

[L.S.]

G. L. MILNE,  
*President.*

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VICTORIA, B. C.:

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1894.