

On the 31st of November, 1870, the franchises and property of the Baltimore Gas-light Company were sold to capitalists of Brooklyn, N. Y., for three million dollars. The real estate acquired by the purchase on the part of the Brooklyn capitalists consisted of between sixty-five and seventy acres of land in South Baltimore, near Spring Gardens, valued, with the improvements thereon, at seven hundred thousand dollars. The improvements consisted of all the necessary apparatus for the manufacture of gas, a number of small dwellings occupied by the employés of the company, the building occupied for office purposes, fronting twenty-four feet on South Street, with a depth of two hundred feet to Holliday Street, valued at seventy thousand dollars, about five acres of land at Canton, with a water-front of four hundred feet, twelve brick dwellings, and a large gasometer; and the extensive property on North Holliday Street. The works at Spring Gardens, South Baltimore, are said to be the most complete in the United States. The formal transfer and the last payment were made on the 26th of January, 1871. Gen. Columbus O'Donnell served as the president of the company for nearly forty years. After the sale and transfer of the franchises and property of the company to the Brooklyn capitalists the company was reorganized, with S. L. Husted as president, and C. Oliver O'Donnell as vice-president.

“The Gas-light Company of Baltimore,” “The People's,” and “The Consumers' Mutual Gas-light Company” on July 1, 1880, consolidated. The capital stock was made six millions of dollars, divided into sixty thousand shares of the par value of one hundred dollars each. Provision was made for the execution to trustees of a mortgage to secure the payment of three million six hundred thousand dollars of the bonds of the company or such parts thereof in excess of two million six hundred thousand dollars as it may be deemed advisable to issue. The first board of directors of the new company was as follows: William Sinclair, Lyman L. Husted, Arthur W. Benson, Austin Jenkins, William F. Burns, William H. Graham, Walter B. Brooks, William W. Spence, John W. Hall, James A. Gary, Henry James, and Bernard Carter. The presidents at this time were William Sinclair, of the Gas-light Company; William F. Burns, of the People's; and John W. Hall, of the Consumers' Company. The new company, under the name of the “Consolidated Gas Company of Baltimore City,” began business on the same day at the office of the old company on South Street.