

It is now very generally admitted that nothing contributes so much to the health and comfort of the inhabitants of all large cities as a copious supply of pure and wholesome water. That this fact was not unknown to the Romans, we are aware both from the immense aqueducts constructed by them, still in use, and the remains of others which have gone into decay, some of which brought water at infinite labour and cost under hills and over vallies for a distance of over sixty miles. Until of late years, if we except the city of Philadelphia, very little trouble has been taken to afford a supply of water for the cities on the North American continent; but whoever has lately visited New York and Boston, will at once acknowledge that these cities have nobly redeemed their former apathy in this respect. The Croton Aqueduct at New York and the Cochituate at Boston are both executed in the most durable manner—affording a supply of water sufficient for the wants of the inhabitants, should they double their present numbers, and likewise for the public jets and fountains with which their squares and commons are ornamented.

It is now upwards of twenty-four years since the supplying of Saint John with a sufficient quantity of water first attracted the attention of some of its influential inhabitants; at that time the City derived its supply from wells, many of which, owing to the nature of the rock on which the City is built, in times of great drought, went completely dry: those persons not having wells on their own