

Referring to the Doctor's remarks anent expense, this item is of the least importance. I will endeavor to show him that he again labors under a misapprehension :

As already stated, I intend continuing the soil-pipe up through the roof instead of terminating it in the closet or bath-room. I suppose that five dollars would in most cases cover all the extra expense on each house. To show that the Doctor does not apprehend the argument, he presumes that all the spouts and gutters now on the house are required in my plan, while the reverse is the case, they are entirely dispensed with, thus saving all the imaginary thousands of feet of piping, gutters, etc., which would be equal to \$50 on each of his twenty houses, or \$1,000 in all, while by the plan proposed, say \$5 on each house—\$100 for twenty houses, there will be a saving of \$900, quite a consideration in these hard times. An eminent architect of this city informs me that there will be no additional expense incurred in building a roof on the plan proposed.

Regarding the effect of frost in winter, there is no proof as yet that any such pipes properly constructed have frozen, although the premises have been unoccupied, on the contrary, I have in my possession assurances from practical men bearing me out in all I claim on this point. Several failures in this respect I know of,—in every case caused by improper construction; also, be it remembered that the houses unoccupied in winter, constructed on the old plan, unless cared for, are liable to bursting of pipes, cisterns, etc., which I have experienced to my cost this winter; therefore this should not be a serious objection, as an empty house is not the normal condition of things, but the reverse in this city. Thanking you for the courtesy extended, I remain

Yours respectfully,

JNO. C. McLAREN

*Montreal*, March 27th, 1876.