

A BRILLIANT DEVICE.

Nothing Less Than to Heat a Whole City by Steam.

[Rochester Times.]

A very novel and at the same time interesting experiment, according to the Lockport papers, is soon to be attempted in that city by Mr. Holly, the successful water works pump inventor. This experiment is no less a one than to heat the whole city with steam, after the same manner as it is lighted with gas. Unfortunately the entire programme is not published as it would no doubt be interesting reading. It is not thought feasible to have one boiler do the job, but the city is to be divided in districts, and each district is to have its separate boiler. Mains from each boiler are to run to the different houses, and all the occupant has to do is to turn on a faucet and obtain all the heat he wants. If the inventor of this brilliant device had extended his idea still farther, and made it of benefit to pedestrians, there might have been some sense in it. Suppose, for instance, he proposed to petition the common council to allow him to perforate all the sidewalks, and lay his mains under them, so that those who walk the streets in winter might always have warm feet. A fair sized steam reservoir might also be erected on each street corner for policemen to warm their toes on cold winter evenings. It would likewise be convenient for the corner loafers, who could then congregate on each corner without disturbing their personal comfort. The blessing of this steam apparatus could be made available in other ways, and by a winding hose under each street car, have the steam let in at the bottom of the vehicle, and so do away with the present uncomfortable load of damp straw that is dumped into each car. In view of the approaching necessities of the winter the city could erect bakeshops on each corner where victuals could be cooked and the hungry fed. The scheme might be indefinitely extended and steam pipes laid under the canal, which would prevent the water from freezing, supply the captain's better half with hot water to do her cooking and to wash the children. By a series of concentric circles of pipes laid at the bottom of the different lakes ice could also be prevented from accumulating, and navigation kept open the entire year. In fact, the more you examine into the wonderful experiment the more magnificent the scheme becomes, until the imagination is wrought up into such a state of excitement as to be unable to set any bounds to its possibilities.