

## MILK BY PIPE LINE.

**Skilled Opinion Seems to Be That There is Nothing in It.**

Civilization runs to pipes. We have electricity, steam, gas, water, and petroleum already supplied through pipes. The latest pipe scheme, started in Middletown, Orange county, proposes to send milk to New York through a pipe line similar to the oil pipe line of the Standard and other companies. The projectors talk of raising a capital of \$600,000, and of collecting all the milk within a hundred miles of New York, so as to keep up a perpetual stream of fresh milk delivered in the city, avoiding the delays of railroad transportation and cheapening the cost.

Looking about among the milk authorities of the city for information as to the practicability of this scheme, a SUN reporter found nothing but incredulity. One objection urged was that it would be absolutely impossible to send milk tumbling through pipes for such a distance without churning it pretty thoroughly, so that if it could come through the pipes at all it would appear upon delivery in the shape of lumps of butter and buttermilk. The projectors talk of sending the milk in a half-frozen condition. This is pronounced absurd for various reasons. One is the mechanism necessary to cool milk in such a way; another is the impossibility of sending milk through the pipes in such a condition; and another objection is that such a cooling, even if practicable, would change the character of the milk.

The most fatal objection urged by experts to such a scheme is the impossibility of keeping such a pipe clean. Any one who has inspected a dairy knows how essential it is that all the milk cans and pans shall be thoroughly cleansed with scalding hot water every day. Even partial cleansing will not answer. All traces of the stale milk must be scrupulously removed. Such a cleansing of a 100-mile pipe would be impossible. It would require a river of scalding water, replenished along the line.

Another fatal objection urged is the impossibility of inspection according to law with such a scheme. There would be no practicable way of preventing the dumping of rivers of impure milk into such a pipe.

Altogether, the opinions of the best experts coincide that, while it is possible that men might be willing to sell stock in such an enterprise, it would be surprising if anybody could be found foolish enough to buy such stock. The probability is that the talk about getting up such a company is a humbug.