

File No. 9822 Continued.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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number of manholes and the increased cost of construction per linear foot, due to the presence of drains, water mains and gas pipes. On account of these conditions, we have always planned to lay sanitary lateral sewers in the streets and wider alleys only, avoiding the 10 foot alleys wherever possible. In the case of the particular block shown on the enclosed blueprint, our sewer will be built in Milton avenue, and connections for all of the houses in the block will be provided in front. The owners of houses, which are now connected to drain in the rear, will, of course, have to pay the expense of changing their connections from the rear to the front, and, as in many cases, these houses are of small value, this expense will be a considerable burden on the owners.

In most cases the drains to which these houses are connected are not built along the lines adopted by the Sewerage Commission for its system of sanitary sewers, being laid at too shallow depths, with connections for part of the houses adjacent to them only, without manholes, and, in many cases, built of poor materials and not laid to proper lines and grades. The Commission does not, therefore, desire to acquire these drains and make them a part of its permanent system, but has considered the advisability of permitting such drains to be connected directly to the first sanitary lateral sewer which the drain crosses, (in the case shown on the blueprint, this is the sewer in Fayette street, where the connection is shown by a broken line extending across the street from the point where the drain is connected to the existing City storm-water drain), with a view to saving the expense of making new connections to property owners whose houses are already connected to such drains. It is the intention of the Commission, if this policy is adopted, to require, that the owners of the property now connected to such drains be responsible for their maintenance to the point of connection to the Commission's sewers, that no new connections be made to existing drains, and that, where premises connected to existing drains are reconstructed, or where the plumbing is remodeled, new connections shall be made directly to the new sanitary sewers, the connections to the existing drains being abandoned.

The Commission desires your opinion on the following points:

FIRST:- Can the Commission, under the terms of the Enabling Act, permit an existing drain, such as is above described and shown on