

The Contract for the Water Works.

As we have before stated, under the terms of the contract which the city now has with Messrs. Ennis & Eastman, the main pipe from the Sangamon river to this city, four and a half miles in length, will be composed of iron and cement. Firm and enduring as stone itself, this is all that could be desired in the way of durability and purity. Knowing this the *Register* has sought to create an impression that the whole piping was to be composed of wood—that hence the water would be impure and unwholesome. The fact is that, in the contract some of the distributing pipes are to be of tamarack. But the fact is also, that this tamarack is the very best of material for this purpose. It has been tried in many places and never found to fail. In the city of Detroit, where all other kinds of piping has been used, they absolutely refuse to have any thing but tamarack. A large portion of the distributing pipe in the city of Albany, and also in the city of Buffalo, is made of tamarack; it has been found to last fifty years underground, and the most scientific engineers in the country pronounce it a superior material for this use, and in view of these things how very sensible the sneers of the *Register* are! The city of Chicago has tried the tamarack—no objection to it there; but the *Register* is the fountain of wisdom. It knows!

After all, the probabilities are that not a foot of tamarack pipe will be laid in the city. For the logs must be cut in the winter, and it is now becoming too late to perform that work this winter. The cost of cement pipe is nearly the same, and so it is likely that the commissioners will, for that reason, consent to have cement pipe used instead of tamarack.

Although we have repeatedly stated that the Water Works are to cost only \$130,000 in city bonds, still it is urged that these bonds are to be sold at a sacrifice, and hence the city will lose.