

#### THE WATERWORKS.

One of the greatest improvements that has been made this year at Long Branch is the opening of the waterworks, as the hotels and cottages are now furnished with a plentiful supply of good water. In former years the water came entirely from wells, and as the soil is sandy it was often more or less affected by the matter in the drains that percolated through the sandy soil. As a sanitary effort the new waterworks have accomplished a great deal in the way of improving health, and are spoken of in the very highest terms by the physicians. The idea of the waterworks originated with Mr. J. M. Loweree, of Red Bank, and in order to carry it out the Long Branch Water Company was formed. The stream that supplies the water rises in a white cedar swamp, about ten miles back of Long Branch, and has a flow of about four miles an hour, with a capacity of about four million gallons in twenty-four hours. It is fed by springs all the way from its source, and supplies several mills with motive power. There is also a mill pond on its course, that in case of necessity could be made a very effective reservoir. The water is carried by twenty-inch pipes from the stream into a well eighteen feet deep and thirty feet in diameter. The above pipes are also furnished with stop valves, so that in case the tide should rise too high the water can be shut off, and that already in the well kept free from the salt water that might otherwise mingle with it. There are also springs in the bottom of the well that are always bubbling up fresh water and assisting the general supply. The water is pumped from the well into the tank through two ten-inch pipes by a 125 horse power engine, which is stationed about five hundred feet away. The tank is erected on a stone foundation twelve feet high and stands seventy-five high. It has a diameter of eighteen feet and a capacity of 145,000 gallons. The tank is constructed of boiler iron and painted a vermilion red, giving it a very conspicuous appearance. One of the most important features in connection with the engine that pumps the water from the well into the tank is that it can be disconnected from the standpipe and its force applied directly into the water mains, thus, in case of a fire, giving a pressure that will throw a stream through every outlet in the fire plugs or hose that may be attached thereto equal to that of a steam fire engine. An electrical signal system connects the town of Long Branch with the waterworks, and this pressure can be applied in four minutes. The mere pressure from the tank will throw the water sixty-five feet high, and with the extra pressure from the engine it can be thrown 150 feet in a straight line. The benefits accruing to Long Branch from the introduction of the waterworks, both as a sanitary measure and a safeguard against fire, cannot be too highly appreciated. It appears, however, that the Long Branch Commissioners have not kept their contract with the company, as they have declined to produce the \$100 rental that they agreed to pay for every plug that the company erected in the village. They base their refusal on the ground that they had no legal right to make any such contract, a statement that places them in rather a ridiculous light, and would give one the impression that they are not competent to transact the business that their office entails. It seems strange that they should sign contracts without any legal authorization.