

[From the EVENING PRESS of Tuesday.]

MIDDLETOWN WATER WORKS.

The Meeting To-morrow Night—What is Asked For—What is Proposed by the Commissioners—Detail of Their Plans—Quantity and Quality of the Water, &c.

At the Corporation Meeting at Empire Hall to-morrow evening, our citizens will be called upon to decide whether they will, practically, bond the village for \$15,000 to furnish Middletown with a larger supply, and a better quality of water. In order that they may more intelligently decide, we lay before them to-day a brief statement of facts. The plan settled on by the commissioners, and the one which will be carried out if the appropriation is voted, is as follows: The commissioners will purchase the property known as the Taylor Factory, including a water privilege, with nine acres of land, water-wheel, &c., owned by Mr. Gabriel Wood of this village, which may be had for \$4,300. It is situated in the town of Mount Hope, on the road between Howell's and Otisville, is nearly 4 miles from Middletown, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Monhagen Lake. The Big Shawangunk Kill is a large stream of pure water fed by numerous springs among the sand hills along the base of Shawangunk Mountain. It never has been known to run dry, but for years furnished the Taylor Factory, before it burned down, with sufficient water power to run its machinery the year round. Its water is remarkably clear and cold, and of such a quality that trout were once found in it in abundance, and it is still the favorite resort for trout-fishing in this vicinity. This water is to be driven in a large main to Monhagen reservoir by means of a force pump worked by the water-wheel at the pond. The head of water at the dam is about 15 feet, and the power of the wheel from 20 to 25 horse power, which is considered sufficient to force through the main, which is to be 18 inches in diameter, from 1,000 to 1,200 gallons of water per minute. The ponds are found to be exactly on a level, and considerable force will be needed to move a body of water 18 inches in diameter and $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length. It will not be necessary to keep the pump at work continually, but only in times of high water, and just enough to keep Monhagen Lake full. The main pipe is to be of pine wood, bound spirally with iron, and coated with asphaltum to strengthen and preserve it. It is manufactured at Tonawanda, near Buffalo, by Briggs & Co., who have for a number of years been laying this pipe in various places, among which is Elmira, where, after being in use for twelve years, the pipes are found to be as good as when laid, and where the water works are now being extended with the same kind of pipe.

It can be furnished at \$1.50 per foot, making the entire cost for the main about \$8,000. This main will be buried to a depth of $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet, where it will be free from the action of the atmosphere and frost. The right of way can be secured without difficulty. The pipe can be furnished at the rate of three-quarters of a mile per week; and can be laid as fast as furnished. In case the appropriation is voted, the contract will be let, and excavations for the main and work at the dam will be commenced immediately. The works are expected to be in operation before winter sets in.

The Water Meeting.

The meeting at Empire Hall on Wednesday evening, called to vote upon the proposition to raise \$15,000 in addition to the \$30,000 heretofore voted, for the use of the Water Commissioners, to enable them to carry out their plans for enlarging the water works of our village, was attended by a not very large number of our taxpayers. President Sweet occupied the chair. On motion of Mr. D. B. Cole, the appropriation was unanimously carried. There being some desire expressed to hear some explanation of the proposed plans for increasing our water supply, Dr. Draper, of the Board of Commissioners, was called upon, and made a lucid statement of the action of the Board, and what was expected to be accomplished. Most of the details of said plan have already appeared in the PRESS.

Mr. James Willis, C. E., who is a scientific man, and has had considerable experience in hydraulic engineering, was then invited to give his views, which he did in an interesting statement, wherein he attempted to show that the present works have been a failure, how they might be improved as to quantity and quality of water, and that the proposed plan, while giving an abundant supply, would yet fail to give us pure water, unless the present reservoir shall be cleansed, &c., all of which has been heretofore partially set forth in communications which have appeared in the PRESS.

Remarks were also made by Mr. J. W. Hamilton, and by Senator Madden, one of the Commissioners. The meeting then adjourned, satisfied that the Commissioners are exerting themselves to the utmost to give us the greatest quantity of good water at the lowest possible expense to the village. We hope and believe that their plans will prove a success.