AT LONG BRANCH.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS MADE SINCE LAST SEASON—ALL THE COTTAGES RAPIDLY FILLING UP.

Long Branch, N. J., June 15 (Special).—That Long Branch will experience a lively season the first year of the new century is not doubted by thoughtful persons. The backwardness of the season, due to rain and cool weather, has been rapidly made up during the first two weeks of June. The cottage colonies are about filled, to-day's arrivals being the largest of any day this season. Long Branch has been rightly classed as the resort of cottagers. The number of cottagers at Long Branch increases each season. Only a few years ago vacant lots near the coast were plentiful. Now fabulous prices are offered to those who own villas, and in nine cases out of ten they refuse to sell, even though the price bid in many instances is double that paid for the property only a short time ago.

Many are predicting that the "good old days of Monmouth," only in a legitimate way, will be revived next month by the opening of the Gentlemen's Driving and Field Club, of Monmouth County, over at Elkwood Park. The club was opened for inspection on Wednesday, when a large number of prominent cottagers were present. The one mile track is conceded to be one of the fastest in the country. The management did not overlook the fair sex in making needed improvements. The new cottage erected by Philip Daly for his daughter, Margaret Daly Chanfrau, has been turned over to the wives of the club members, which now number close to two hundred. An attendant will be at the cottage to receive the women, who will find no end of diversion. There will be a tennis court, croquet and golf, a trio of outdoor sports which is hard to beat. A glance at the list of members shows that all the resorts between Deal and Seabright are included, showing the widespread interest taken, which means success of the richest kind. The grounds never looked prettier than under the present management, which has spent fully $25,000. Golf, as usual, will attract many, and finer links than those between Deal and Seabright do not exist anywhere. The Deal links, which is patronized by many Elberon cottagers, is in perfect condition, a number of interesting matches already having been played.

GOLF ON MANY LINKS.

At Hollywood this club numbers close to four hundred members. The ground used is too valuable for golfing purposes. The managers of Hollywood have long realized this. They recently surveyed the property, and propose to lay the picturesque course out in building lots at the close of the season of 1901, which means that the club will have to seek other quarters next year. The club will have to do as the Seabright club did a short time ago—go back in the country, where land is cheaper. The Hollywood club is arranging for a special tournament, to take place next Wednesday.

Over at Norwood Park golf will be played by both sexes. Norwood boasts of having some of the best players among the fair sex to be found in New-Jersey. At Elkwood Park the golf links will be more popular than ever, owing to the organization of the new driving club. The links at Monmouth Beach is in fine condition, and a new clubhouse was built in the spring. The president of the club is Colonel William Barbour, of Paterson. The Seabright Golf Club is one of the largest along the coast. A busy season is predicted.

The annual horse show and military tournament must not be overlooked in making up the budget of attractions along the North Jersey Coast. The horse show of 1901 will, from present indications, eclipse any ever held. The success of the horse show is no longer a question of doubt. It is patronized by the best people of the coast, a number of the cottagers being interested as stockholders. The grounds in front of the association have been graded, an improvement that is noticeable on sight. The show will be given the last week in July, the military tournament following a month later. The military tourney, while not expected to figure so prominently as the horse show, has nevertheless made a most enviable record during its short existence.

A word about bathing. Nothing but continual cool weather will prevent the best season in the history of Long Branch. This is the consensus of opinion of those who have inspected the new Columbian Baths. The improvement has cost the proprietors, Robert Tappin and M. C. Burns, close to $25,000. A swimming pool, where bathers can take a dip by electric light, will be a feature. Then there are individual baths, either hot or cold, for those desiring exclusiveness. The underground walk to the sea is another attraction which will suit the bathers. Nothing has been spared to make the Columbian Baths the finest money can secure. Cranmer's Beach will be as attractive as ever. The place has been remodelled at a cost of several thousand dollars. Driving and wheeling will be enjoyed as never before. Since the close of last season several miles of new streets have been laid out.

Cottages have been renting rapidly this week along the coast. Only two cottages can be had at any price at Seabright, and only three at Monmouth Beach. At Elberon not a single cottage can be had at any price. At Long Branch, however, a number of choice cottages are still left. This is due to several causes, prominent among which is the additional number of new villas upon the market. The large number of rentals made this week, however, together with those pending, indicates that the supply will not last long.

RELIGIOUS LIFE AT THE RESORTS.

The religious side of life will not be neglected at the seacoast. All of the summer houses of worship will be open by June 23. Those which are still closed include St. James's Chapel, Elberon, and the Casino services, at Norwood Park. At the former church the Rev. Dr. William B. Bodine, of Philadelphia, will officiate. It looks as if no services will be held at the Norwood Casino, in which event the cottagers of that resort will attend St. Luke's Methodist Episcopal Church, only about a half mile distant. The Rev. Dr. Charles J. Young, pastor of the Church of the Puritans, New-York, who has been in charge of the Norwood services since they were established, sailed for Europe to-day.

The Rev. Dr. David James Burrell, pastor of the Marble Collegiate Church, New-York, is filling the pulpit of the Taylor Memorial Church for the second season. His church is well attended by cottagers all along the coast.

There are four Catholic edifices between Deal and Seabright, and all are open for worship. St. Michael's, at Takanassee Lake, is in charge of the Rev. Richard A. Crean. The Church of Our Lady Star of the Sea, at Long Branch, has among its communicants many summer cottagers. The Rev. William P. Cantwell is the rector in charge. His assistant, Father Ryan, fills the pulpit during his absence at the Church of the Precious Blood, at Monmouth Beach, on Sundays. The Rev. E. J. Egan is in charge of the Holy Cross Church, at Seabright.

The cottage residents of Seabright want to get rid of a toll road which leads to the picturesque Highlands of Navesink. The road is owned by the Seabright and Highlands Turnpike Company, and has been collecting nickels and dimes continually since 1870. There are only two toll roads in the whole of Monmouth County. The stockholders of the road are anxious to sell out, the price they ask for the two miles of road being $75,000. The Freeholders of Monmouth County have the affair under consideration, and it is believed that a transfer will soon be made.

THE KEMP BRIDGE.

The new $65,000 steel drawbridge, the building of a new depot and the guarding of all the crossings at Seabright were all brought about by agitation, the cottagers making things so uncomfortably warm for the railroad and county officials that steps were taken at once to make the much needed improvements. While $65,000 is a big sum to pay for one bridge, it is generally believed that in a short time the development of real estate, due to the erection of a safe and commodious structure will more than pay for the bridge in additional taxes. Already a real estate boom is under way, property aggregating $150,000 having changed hands during the week. The Rumson Road cottagers are enterprising, and the new structure, which was largely due to the persistent fighting of Edward Kemp, will stand as a monument of enterprise for years. Mr. Kemp is now in Europe. His friends have named the new structure the Kemp Bridge.

For the middle of June this has been an extremely busy day. The opening of the Country Club, at Monmouth Beach, to-night found many admirers of that cosey casino present. This afternoon polo attracted everybody to Seabright, while the green golf fields were alive with lovers of the game.

A series of subscription dances will be given at the Norwood Park Casino in July and August under the management of Mrs. William D. Harper. Mrs. Harper has undertaken a great task—that of raising $10,000 for charity. The money is to be expended in building a nurses' home at the Monmouth Memorial Hospital, of which she is the superintendent. The first dance of the series is scheduled to take place on July 6. Through Mrs. Harper's influence auxiliaries have been started at Asbury Park, Freehold, Red Bank, Keyport, Matawan, Shrewsbury and other places, and it is expected that each will materially aid her in carrying out her plans. The County Freeholders have voted to appropriate $10,000 on the condition that Mrs. Harper raises a like amount. Mrs. Harper has already one-quarter of the amount pledged. The Long Branch Commissioners, in order to make the hospital grounds more attractive, have donated a neat sum of money.

A BIG SEASON EXPECTED AT LONG BEACH.

Long Beach, N. Y., June 15 (Special).—Mrs. Benjamin Harrison will be a guest at the Long Beach Hotel, which opens on June 25. She will be accompanied by her child and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Stroud.

Indications point to a most prosperous season at Long Beach. All the cottages have been rented, and the bookings have been very large. Interiorly and exteriorly the hotel has been renovated, and the grounds have been beautified. The golf grounds especially have received the attention of an expert golfer, who will be in attendance during the season.

Long Beach has long been known as the hotel of "magnificent distances," due to its 1,400 feet of piazzas and extensive grounds. Situated on an island and practically six miles out to sea, it is at all times cool, even when the thermometer in the city is in the nineties. The service on the Long Island Railroad now permits New-York being reached in forty-five minutes, and includes several express trains that make only one stop, at Jamaica.

GAYETY AT THE SOMERSET INN.

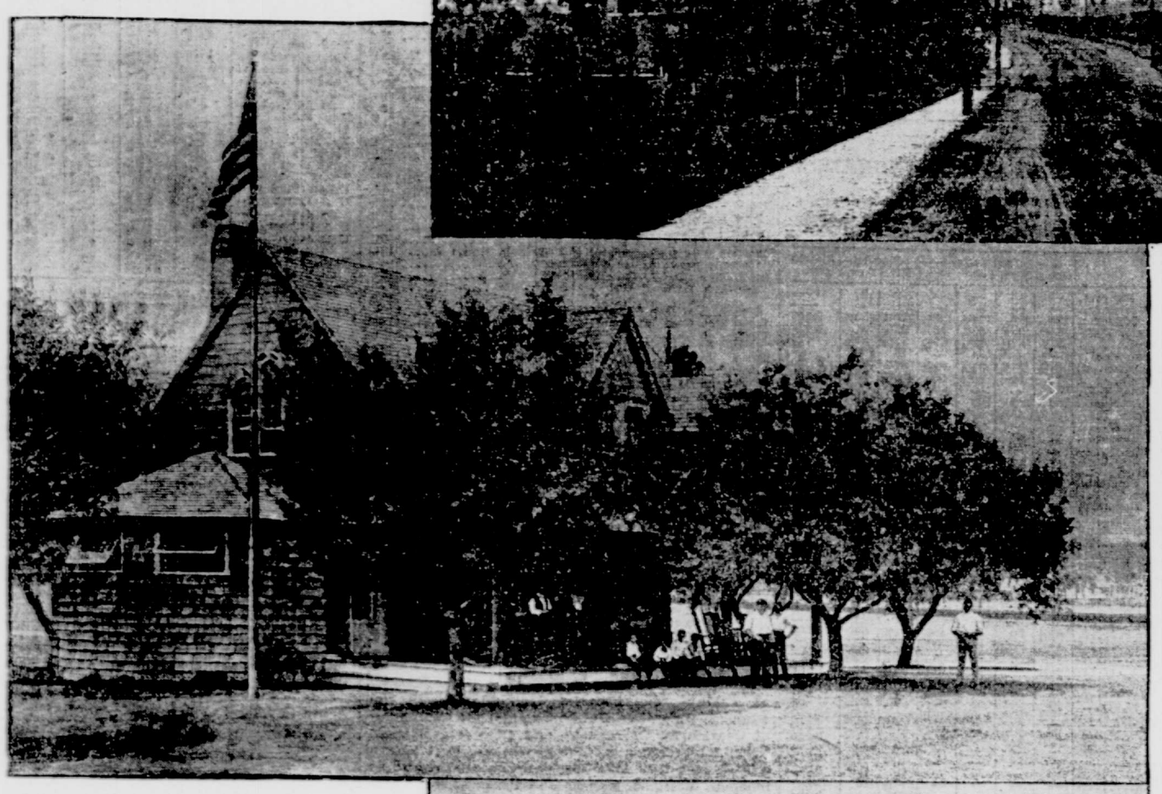
Bernardsville, N. J., June 15 (Special).—The social season opened among the guests at the Somerset Inn and the summer colony with homes in the mountain district this week, and a number of events in the way of receptions, dinners and entertainments are scheduled for the next few weeks. On Wednesday evening Mrs. Thomas Wyman Porter, of New-York, and Mrs. J. Laroque, jr., entertained a party of fourteen at dinner served in the private dining room of the inn and followed by whist.

Next Saturday evening a musical is to be given at the splendid home of Edward T. H. Talmage for a small local institution in which many of the summer visitors are deeply interested, St. Barnard's Farm School, at Gladstone. The list of artists includes a talented New-York assortment that is rarely provided for a concert in this suburban territory. The performers will be under the direction of Mrs. Charlotte Babcock, and will include Miss Olive Celeste Moore, contralto; Miss Gertrude Bennett, Miss Ruth Magne Small, violinist; Dudley Buck, jr., tenor, and F. W. Riesberg, piano.

Among the guests who arrived at the inn this week was Baroness S. M. de Vaugrigneuse. She expects to remain for the summer. W. W. Finley, vice-president of the Southern Railway Company, and family also arrived last Sunday in their special car, and will remain for a considerable portion of the season. Mrs. Joshua M. Davis and family took possession of Cottage No. 8 for the season.

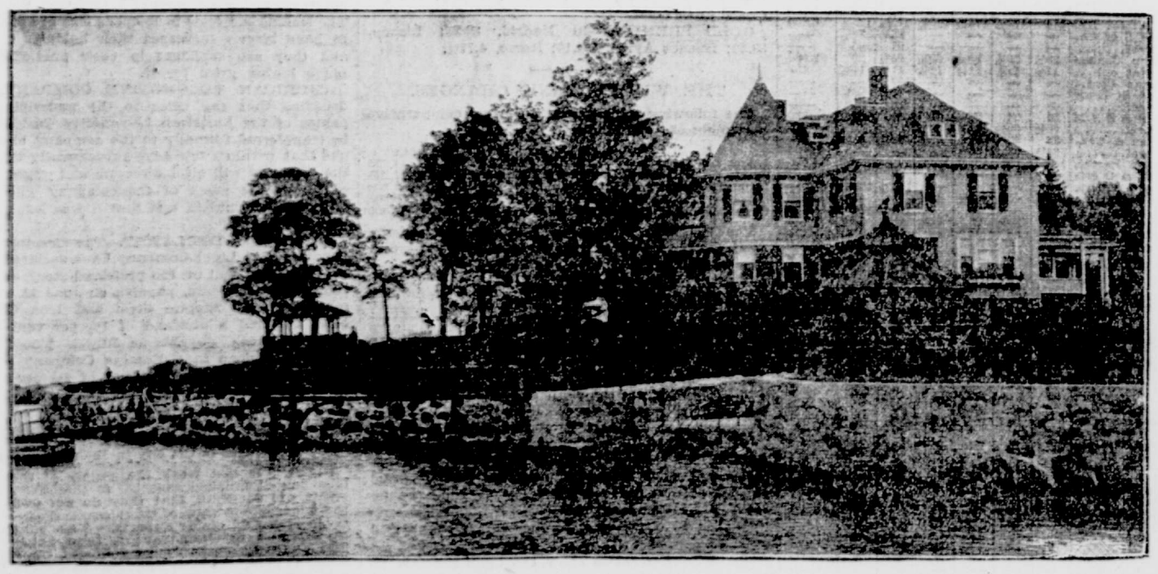
SOME BEAUTIFUL BITS OF LONG BRANCH, N. J.

NORWOOD-AVE. STONE BOULEVARD.



THE NORWOOD PARK GOLF CLUB HOUSE.

THE FRANKLIN MURPHY COTTAGE.



NEW HOME OF WALTER B. MANNER.

Overlooking Larchmont Harbor, formerly the old Turtle Club grounds.

[Photograph by Daymon, Mamaroneck.]

IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

LARCHMONT, ORIENTA POINT, NEW-ROCHELLE AND OTHER PLACES ON THE SOUND READY FOR SUMMER FUN.

The gayest place in Westchester County at present is Larchmont-on-the-Sound. The many yachtsmen and golfers who hail from there are fast returning to their summer homes, and the colony can now be said to be fairly well made up. Many yachts are gathering in the harbors in anticipation of the races between the Constitution and the Columbia. The old Cup defender is quite familiar to Larchmonters, as she has been doing her paces on the Sound for several weeks.

Sailing parties and dinners on board yachts are now quite the rage. Among some of the larger boats in the Larchmont harbor are J. H. Hanan's steam yacht Taurus, C. L. Robinson's steamer, J. R. De Lamar's new English steam yacht Sagatti, Commodore Adams's Sachem, Lloyd Phœnix's Intrepid and the Buccaneer, owned by F. T. Morrell. On June 25 the Larchmont Yacht Club will hold its first "ladies' day," which is to be a gala occasion for society people along the Sound. There are to be music and dinner parties all day and dancing in the evening.

Warm weather has also brought the golf links at Larchmont into wide popularity, and they are now thronged with players. The women seem to predominate. On Wednesday there was a blind handicap of eighteen holes for them, with many fair contestants. The trophy, a cup, was won by Miss Jessie L. Flint, with a score of 88. Miss M. L. Eaton finished second. Another women's handicap of eighteen holes, medal play, is announced for June 25 for a prize to be given by Miss Pendleton.

The younger set at Larchmont is soon to amuse the summer colony with minstrels and dramatics. On June 21 and 22 a company of them, who are being coached by J. H. Gilmour, the actor, are to present the four act comedy entitled "School" in St. John's parish house. The cast is made up of Peter J. Kane, Lester H. Riley, H. C. Perrin, H. T. Spence, Thompson J. S. Flint, F. W. Flint, jr., Roger Lamson, jr., Miss Morrison, Miss Allen, Miss Flint, Miss Lamson, Miss Schaffer, Miss Smith, Miss Hindley, Miss Sanger and Miss Whiting. The minstrels are to follow on June 29, and will also be held in the parish house. One of the attractions of the programme will be a sketch from "Florodora." The interlocutor is to be George G. Murray. L. G. Spence and P. J. Kane will handle the bones, and T. J. S. Flint and C. L. Perrin will have the tambourines. F. F. Proctor, jr., is a member of the company, and is getting most of the accessories from his father's vaudeville houses.

Among the New-Yorkers who have recently arrived at Larchmont cottages for the season are Mr. and Mrs. William H. Sealch, Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Owens, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hanscom, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Van Vredenburgh, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tooker, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Fell, Dr. and Mrs. Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Salisbury, William Boyd and family, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Richards and Mr. and Mrs. William J. Nauss. William Murray, treasurer of the Larchmont Yacht Club, and his wife and daughter will leave Larchmont this week for Newport, where they will spend the season in their handsome villa. Alfred Marshall, the millionaire, who recently completed a $150,000 home at Scotch Beach, on the Sound, is now building a fine steel pier for his yacht landing.

Henry M. Flagler, the Standard Oil magnate, who has been in Palm Beach all winter, will return to his summer home at Mamaroneck this week. His large mansion at Orienta Point has been renovated and enlarged. Many of Mr. Flagler's friends from the South will be among his guests this summer. E. H. Weatherbee, who is now at Waytes Court, Mamaroneck, is building a fine steam yacht at City Island, and has also recently purchased a jib and mainsail boat called the Bubble for his son, who is fifteen years old. Mr. Weatherbee's house is close to the Sound, and he has a fine private pier, from which he and his boy go sailing frequently. Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Constable have closed their mansion at Orienta and have sailed for Europe. Albert C. Bostwick, the automobilist, another member of the Larchmont colony, has just purchased a half-rater which he calls the Mistral. J. B. Cobb, first vice-president of the American Tobacco Company, who is living in the Hamilton place at Orienta this season, has purchased the handsome home of the late F. W. Lockwood, a Standard Oil man who lost his life a few years ago while making a transatlantic voyage on the steamship Mohegan. The house is on Strawberry Hill, Stamford, and is surrounded by seventeen acres of lawns and gardens. Mr. and Mrs. William G. Read and Henry Darlington, old summer residents of Orienta, have just returned and opened their big country houses. Dr. Spencer Franklin, of New-York, has leased the old house on the Boston Post Road which was at one time the home of J. Fenimore Cooper, and in which he wrote "The Leather Stocking Tales."

Henry B. Stokes, vice-president of the Manhattan Life Insurance Company, has returned to New-Rochelle and opened his Lockwood-ave. house. Miss Stokes and her sister, Mrs. A. C. Bostwick, are not entertaining this year, owing to the recent death of their grandmother, Mrs. Lockwood. An entirely new arrival in New-Rochelle is Dr. Theodore C. Janeway, a New-York specialist, who has leased the summer home of Supreme Court Justice Martin J. Keogh, on Pelham Road, overlooking the Sound. Mr. and Mrs. Keogh are in Ireland for the season. The New-Rochelle Rowing and Yacht clubs are both open, and their verandas overlooking Echo Bay are daily thronged by yachtsmen and guests. Many of the visitors are women. On July 4 the Rowing Club is to celebrate "ladies' day." There will be match races and aquatic sports in the afternoon and music and dancing at night. The biggest social affair of the week in New-Rochelle was the marriage on Wednesday of Miss Helen M. Neilson, daughter of the late Dr. William H. Neilson, to Henry Bogert Clark, son of the late Colonel Clark. It was attended by about five hundred society people of New-Rochelle, Pelham Manor and New-York. The ceremony took place in Trinity Episcopal Church, and was performed by the rector, the Rev. Dr. Charles F. Canedy, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Appleton, of Philadelphia, an uncle of the bride. The maid of honor and best man were the bride's cousin, Miss Hannah Marie Strakosch, and the bridegroom's brother, Montgomery Hunt Clark. Audrey Osborn, the little cousin of the bride, was flower girl, and the bridesmaids were Miss Elizabeth Katherine Clark, Miss Florence May Townsend, Miss De Morich and Miss Augustus Pinckney. Mr. Clark selected as ushers John P. Short, Everson H. Lewis, Henry E. Moran, Max Strakosch, Arthur Schieren, and his brother, Arthur Ludlow Clark. Most of the ushers were among Mr. Clark's classmates at Cornell. The bride is a graduate from Mrs. Hazen's school, at Pelham Manor, and an enthusiastic golfer, being on the women's team of the Apawamis Club. The golfing contingent and her college friends were largely in evidence at the wedding. They followed the couple to the railroad station, where they deluged them with rice.

Mr. Peck, the son-in-law of Judge Freedman, of New-York City, has leased for two years the big house of John M. Shinn, the artist, in Pelham Manor. The Red Rover, a big automobile which carries yachting men from the Waldorf-Astoria to the American Yacht Club, is one of the familiar sights along the Pelham and Shore roads. These roads are finely macadamized, and the big "auto" goes over them at great speed.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Gould have leased Osborn Terrace, the country home of Dr. and Mrs. Lucien C. Warner, at Irvington-on-Hudson. Dr. and Mrs. Warner have taken the Van Liew cottage, in Larchmont, and will spend the summer there.

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In July there will be meetings of medical societies at the Pequot. The vessels of the New-York Yacht Club will rendezvous off the Pequot House on July 3, and the presence of the fleet will be marked by a round of gayety at the hotel and on the yachts. The warships of the North Atlantic Squadron are also expected in New-London Harbor this summer. These and other attractions will bring a throng of visitors from all parts of the country.

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