

LAKE LOTOWANA SOLD TO TWO BROOKLYNITES.

A Beautiful Sheet of Water in the
Heart of the Baiting Hollow
Wilderness.

THEY WAITED TEN YEARS FOR IT.

Waters So Limpid One Can See the Fish
in Its Depths—A Summer Colony
Started.

(Special to the Eagle.)
Wading River, L. I., September 28.—Dis-
coveries are still made on Long Island and
the latest discoveries are John C. Grinnell
of 31 Park place and Robert J. Graves of 257
Prospect place, Brooklyn. They boast of
finding a lake at Wading River, of which
they are fortunate enough to have become
the third owners, since the Indians had it
away back in the seventeenth century. It
has been known locally as Deep Pond, but
its old Indian name of Lotowana—meaning
White Lily, because it abounds in pond
lilies—has been resumed by the present own-
ers.

Fifteen years ago Mr. Graves went to Wad-
ing River for a summer's stay with his fam-
ily, stopping at the home of Robert C. Wood-
hull, a descendant of one of the oldest fami-
lies of the place. Mr. Woodhull lives on
the riverhead road, in a house built a hun-
dred years ago, and still as firm as it was
when first constructed, the timbers for which
were hewn out of the woods surrounding
Deep Pond, as were the shingles of which
the sidings were built.

When Mr. Graves went there he followed
his natural inclination for sport and made
frequent tours of the neighborhood in search
of game, which he found in plenty. He fre-
quented the neighboring lake, a diamond in
a setting of emeralds, where fish of all sorts
were found in profusion, especially pickerel
and perch. He fell in love with it at that



time and longed to possess it. His friend
Mr. Grinnell went there two or three years
later, and became possessed of the same de-
sire. They continued to go every year there-
after, although they are possessed of consid-
erable property at Amityville and Massape-
qua. The rolling country, heavily wooded and
far enough, though not too far, from the
sandy stretches about the seashore, pleased
them and satisfied their families. They have
been going steadily every season since. In the
Woodhull they found people who were su-
perior to the common run of country boarding
house keepers, and the other surroundings
were just to their fancy.

Many times they suggested to Mr. Wood-
hull, now 31 years old, the possible sale of
Lotowana Lake, but the old man loved the
place where his boyhood was passed and so
for long refused to sell. At last, after forty-
ten years of urging, it was decided to sell
the Deep Pond lots to Messrs. Graves and
Grinnell, and the deed conveyed to them 140
acres, including the beautiful sheet of water
and the lands surrounding it. The property
had only been in the hands of the Indians of
Jedah Lupton, who sold it to Robert Wood-
hull, and he willed it to Robert C. Woodhull.

Lotowana Lake is an egg shaped basin, the
deepest part being about forty feet. The bed
of the lake on the eastern side is of white
sand and on the western side of red sand. It has
no visible inlet or outlet, yet its waters are
so clear and limpid that the fish may be seen
in the deepest part sporting beneath the boat
of the fishermen. The ground, which runs
down to the lake's edge at a pleasant in-
cline, is thickly wooded and a strange thing
about the wood inclosing the lake is that a
line divides the character of the trees
surrounding it. Those on the east are oak,
with a sprinkling of maple, while those on
the west are entirely of pine.

Lake Lotowana is but half a mile from the
Wading River station and a mile and a half
from the second shore, yet when at its side
one might think himself in the heart of the
Catskills or the Adirondacks. Since taking
possession the new owners have built a road
entirely around the lake, a mile and a half
long and fifteen feet wide and in making it
they had to clear away the virgin forest and
frequently a covey of cartridges were scared
up by the workmen. A commodious boat
house has also been built.

This fall Messrs. Grinnell and Graves pro-
pose building summer cottages for themselves
and some of their friends have expressed
their willingness to join with them. A sum-
mer have visited the place and expressed their
surprise that such a romantic spot should be
found within seventy miles of Brooklyn and
be reached in two hours time.