

hours of consecutive frost all through. The fall, or autumn, is delightful. I am now writing in my shirt sleeves without a fire, (Nov. 7th,) before an open outside door, and overcoats have been discarded for over a week. Indeed we rarely have any serious cold before Christmas. The summers—I speak from fifteen years' experience—are long and delightful, the air balmy, and the heat not oppressive, nor the nights sultry. There is nearly always a fresh breeze. Thermometer, Fahr. 52, midnight Nov. 7th, '95.

I have also found the climate healthy, indeed, I cannot remember spending one day among these 5,520, in a sick, though much exposed to weather and overwork. Before leaving Hamilton, they told me to bring lots of quinine, as a past generation used to suffer from fever and ague, before the country was drained. I had this ailment seven times, and bilious fever twice in the West Indies and Central America, and should surely have caught it here if there were any to catch.

WATERWORKS.

The City wisely empowered to do so by popular vote, purchased the machinery and plant of the Waterworks Co., of which it is now sole owner. The number of applicants for water service, however since then, has increased so much that additional filtering capacity is absolutely necessary.

In this connection, it may be added that a system of filtration and purification, known as the "Polarite," new in Canada, but adopted successfully in Europe and elsewhere, has been introduced with the best results by Mr. John MacDougall, S. E. The water coming from this apparatus is not only clear but sparkling, owing to the presence of carbonic acid gas, which has been formed during the process of purification and which is the enlivening principle of effervescent drinks.

The best talent of hygienists and sanitary engineers has been spent in the effort to invent some practical method of purification of public waters. Spongy iron, clear sand and gravel, charcoal, lime and electrolysis have been tried with varying success, after working for a time, more or less satisfactorily. The best purifier and destroyer of disease germs in water, is spongy platinum, but its enormous expense puts it out of count. Polarite, however, a much cheaper substance, enjoys, like the spongy platinum, the power of what the chemists call "occlusion," that is of drawing gases from water and condensing them within its own particles, which are porous. It kills poisonous bacteria (very minute germs, which multiply so quickly in water that in Brantford, during a typhoid epidemic, 400,000 colonies of them were found by the Provincial Board of Health, a few weeks ago, in one cubic centimetre, which is about the bulk of the nail joint of a child's little finger), by drawing the oxygen from them, for they, small as they are, die as a man would, if deprived of the life-giving oxygen.

The Polarite apparatus, introduced by Mr. Thos. MacDougall, S. E., has been also adapted for house service and farmers should avail themselves of it, since most serious and sometimes fatal cases of typhoid, diphtheria, etc., are caused by drinking water from wells, which are full of impurities.