

**THAT FILTER BED.**

Superintendent Laing, of the Water Works, tells us we are "away off" on the idea that a filter bed of sand will not remove the bacteria or germs of contagious diseases as typhoid etc. We confess that we are not up to date in bacteriology, nor yet in filter beds, but the last time we gave the matter any special attention, a dozen years ago or more, the idea did not prevail that a filter would strain out the germs of disease, and we don't see it yet, albeit Mr. Laing says the best authorities say a good filter bed will remove 96 to 98 per cent. If they will, that is enough.

We remember that Sir John B. Lawes, of the celebrated English experiment station at Rothamstead, reported an experiment of using the sewage of a small city, highly diluted on a farm. Tile drains were laid four feet deep all over the farm and the sewage turned on at night. He said after percolating through four feet of soil and running as clear as spring water out of the tile it was fit to drink. That might be at the first, though we rather have our drink from Prof. Gray's artesian. The earth is a tremendous purifier, it is the great resolvent in nature, both mechanical and chemical. If a sand bed filter, one acre in size can purify water up to 95 per cent, we go in for a filter by all means, not only as a means of health, but as an investment for the city. We shall look the matter up and meanwhile hope the views of Mr. Laing are correct, for it will settle the problem of pure water for this city.

**MRS. FREDERIC FRITSCH.**

Mrs. Frederic Fritsch of Deerfield died Dec. 20th, after an illness of a year and one half, aged 77 years and 25 days.

Mrs. Fritsch was born in Switzerland, and was married to Mr. Fritsch in 1882, she surviving him by only two months. She was a kind step-mother, an obliging neighbor, and a consistent follower of Christ. The Deerfield United Evangelical church in her loses a faithful member. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. A. Haefele, of this city, who is also pastor of the Deerfield church.

**CHICAGO.....**

**TELEPHONE**

**COMPANY...**

Chicago is not the only town that is doing a holiday business. At this season you need a telephone to increase your business and make your home complete. The local manager of the CHICAGO TELEPHONE COMPANY will be pleased to call on you and name low rates upon request.

**Cycle Skating...**

The Popular, Joyous and Health-giving Winter Amusement, at

**Fort Sheridan Park.**

Elegant Polished Floor.  
Competent Instructors for Beginners.

**Every Evening  
and Saturday Afternoons**

*Good Music in Attendance.*

**Admission 10c. = = Skates 15c.**

**SUBSCRIBE FOR THE NEWS \$1 A YEAR.  
"LADIES HOME JOURNAL"  
and THE NEWS, \$1.75.**