

## HISTORICAL SKETCH.

I LIKE that ancient Saxon phrase, which calls  
The burial ground God's Acre. It is just,  
It consecrates each grave within its walls,  
And breathes a benison o'er the sleeping dust.

—*Longfellow.*

IT HAVING become necessary to lay before the public the new Rules and Regulations adopted by the Trustees of THE TORONTO GENERAL BURYING GROUNDS, for the management of the Cemeteries held by them in trust for the public, they deem it wise to place in historical order, the following interesting data in connection with the work of the Trust, extending now over a period of more than half a century. Indeed, the many changes in the personnel of the Trust since its creation, mark, more strongly than almost anything else, how necessary it is to gather up such facts in time, ere those who have a personal knowledge of the matters have passed away "to their quiet rest beneath the daisied sod." It is also but right that those for whose benefit this work is carried on, should know the history of the past, should be acquainted with the workings of the present, and be enabled to sympathise with the aspirations of those who are each year striving to work up to an ideal which will make our burying places what they ever should be—worthy of the living, and beautiful resting places for the dead,—so that it may be said, "It might make one almost in love with death to be buried here." Hallowed such grounds must always be, and surrounded