

Achates scorns poetry; but haunted by historic memories, with the sentiment of Quebec strong upon me. I could not resist saying:—

“Quaint old town of toil and traffic,  
Quaint old town of art and song,  
Memories haunt thy pointed gables  
Like the rocks that round them——”

“See,” said he, interrupting, and following the direction of his finger I saw on the fence:—“*Calmant Strop de Madame Winslow pour la dentition des enfans.*”

## BRIEF MEMOIR OF THE OLD FRENCH FORT AT TORONTO.

By THE REV. DR. SCADDING.

[The foundation stone of an Obelisk to mark the site of the old French fort or trading post at Toronto, was laid on the last day of the Semi-Centennial week, 1884, by the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, assisted by the Mayor of Toronto, A. Boswell, Esq., and J. B. McMurrich, Esq., Chairman of the Committee. The following paper, prepared at the request of the Committee, was read on the occasion.]



THE domain of the Five Nations of the Iroquois, which extended along the whole of the south side of Lake Ontario, was for a time, regarded, in theory at least, as neutral ground, by the French of New France and the English of New England. But both French and English soon shewed a desire to obtain a foothold there; first for the purposes of trade, and secondly with a view, it cannot be doubted, of ultimate possession by treaty or otherwise.

By permission from the neighbouring Aborigines, La Salle, in 1679, erected a small stockade at the mouth of the Niagara River, to be simply a receptacle for the peltries brought down from the far West, from Michilimackinac and Detroit, by way of Lake Erie: which stockade, by 1725 had become the strong, solid fortress which, with some