

meminisse iuvabit—and as a solemn closing, and befitting such an occasion, E. H. Stafford, to whom histrionic gifts had been attributed by the same discriminating conspirators who had to Harrington assigned vocal, recited a selection from the theological writings of *Baculavadius*, a copy of which (in the expurgated form) appears elsewhere in this issue.

Among the men of '89 present, besides those who have been already mentioned, were: G. Chambers, F. E. Godfrey, R. G. Howell, E. Meek, J. Noble, F. H. Scherk, O. Sisley and T. S. Webster.

E. H. S.

DRAINAGE AND MALARIA IN TORONTO

A SUBJECT which would interest all physicians and freshen the recollections of the older practitioners would be the description of types of disease prevalent in different sections of Ontario, thirty, forty, or even fifty years ago. The physical conditions of the soil, which were due to the retention of water, have in many well settled parts of the Province been changed by drainage, and types of disease which formerly used to call for the administration of quinine are now rarely observed. At one time, and that not very long ago, Toronto was declared by British medical authorities to be an agueish place. Parke's "Hygiene," sixth English edition, published in 1883, says: "The town stands on ground originally marshy. The new barracks are built on limestone rocks of the Silurian age. Intermittent fevers among the civil population; not very prevalent among the troops." The mortality from malarial fevers is not given. The surface of the soil at Toronto, falling rapidly towards Lake Ontario, is favorable to natural drainage and the water used to reach the lake through several small creeks, running in a direction from the north-west towards the south-east; but in the southerly portion of the city, near the mouths of these creeks, and at some places higher up along their banks, swamps had formed. Thirty years, however, before the publication of the work mentioned, many of these creeks and swamps had been drained into the main sewers constructed in the streets, running to the waterside. So that the conditions which produced a marsh, having been removed by drainage and drying of the soil, malarial fevers among the civil population in Toronto had become rare. So rare, indeed, that unless among the population living in the valley of the Don, in the eastern quarter of the city or in the valley of