He was followed by John Arthur Collins, Jr., Class Secretary, who told the class about "A Few of My Particular Friends." He reminded his hearers that there was more than one kind of friends as well as more than one kind of "particular." His clever portraiture of the "particular" characteristics of well-known Institute fixtures left no doubt as to the kind of friends to which his toast referred.

The '97 Quartette, Messrs. Lamb, Barker, Robinson, and Howland, sang a selection so much to the taste of their audience that they were forced to reply to encores.

Mr. Thurlow Washburn drew a rather sombre picture of "Athletics," but spoke hopefully of the future and of the Worcester meet.

As the list of toasts stated, "the best laid schemes o' mice and giants oft slip their trolleys," and Mr. Joseph Bancroft recounted in an entertaining manner the story of several plots "that failed," in response to the toast "Fifty Years Ago."

Mr. Harry Draper Hunt followed Mr. Bancroft's bright remarks with a more serious speech on "Philistinism and Science." His subject did not, as might be supposed, have anything to do with the suggested alliance of Harvard and Technology.

The quartette again sang, and in response to calls from their hearers the individual members sang solos.

The last toast was responded to by Mr. Oswald Constantine Hering, D.D., who gave some most interesting "Snide Talks with Men." Mr. Hering's facile powers as an impersonator showed to their best advantage in the sermon he preached from the text—

"Poor Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard,
To get her poor dog a bone,
But when she got there,
The cupboard was bare,
And so the poor dog got none."

Among the pleasant impromptu events of the evening were Mr. Ilsley's clever impersonation of Chevalier and Mr. Schuttler's amusing stories.

Typical Theses.

COURSE I.

(Thesis of Mr. E. P. Bliss.)

The subject of this thesis is "The Design of the Steel Work for an Eight-story Office Building."

Within the last few years architects and engineers have been called upon to design buildings of such enormous heights that a new method of construction has been devised to meet the demands. Had the old method of carrying all the loads on brick or stone walls been used in some of our twenty-story buildings there would have been a considerable diminution of available floor space in the lower stories on account of the great thickness of the walls. Because of this great height and thickness of walls steel framework has been introduced to carry the loads. In addition to its own weight, the steel frame may carry only the weight of the floors, partitions, etc., or it may carry also the weight of the exterior walls. In the latter case the walls serve merely as a covering to protect the steel, and consequently, on account of their thinness, a very small proportion of the floor area is sacrificed. Another advantage of using this steel construction is the increase of window space whereby each office is provided with ample facilities for light. An excellent example of this mode of construction may be seen at present on State Street, corner of Devonshire, where an eleven-story building is being erected.

The matter of bracing the structure against wind pressure is a very important one, especially if the building is somewhat isolated. This may be done either by trussing between the columns, or by the use of gusset plates connecting rigidly together the vertical columns and the horizontal girders.

When we consider that many columns in our tall buildings carry three or four million pounds, it is at once apparent that the founda-