

THE
HESPERIAN STUDENT.

—:O:—
Qui non Profcit, Dcficit.

—:O:—

VOL. VI.

NOVEMBER, 1877.

NO. 9.

[For the STUDENT.]

ASHTABULA.

Oh scenes of death; oh horrid mien,
Such as were ne'er by mortals seen,
Of rending cries, and wild laments,
Of black and charred tenements,
That once were buoyant with the gay;
But lo, how soon came fatal day!

Who though, erewhile that doomed train
Was rushing stately o'er the plain,
That ere the dawn of coming day,
Yes, ere the twilight's hazy ray
Would usher out their last days eve,
Fate usher them into a grave.

With frightful crash, and quick as breath,
That train rushed heading into death,
And on the cars of that fated night
Pealed hideously low tones of fright,
And on the wings of turbed air,
Was borne the sound of deep despair.

Death stillness reigned for one brief space,
Nought heard but moaning winds apace,
When by the lips that then were hushed,
And not by shattered timbers crushed,
The dismal dell was roused and stirred,
And groans of dying ones were heard.

Full many a hope was blighted then,
Full many a tear was shed in vain;
And many a longing then to take
Each other from that burning lake,
And many a form was lowered there
Low in its grave, 'thout thought or prayer.

—J. C. F. McKesson.

THE SOUTH.

A country is seldom an harmonious whole. It may contain one nation only, or several, but in either case the habits, customs and interests of its people vary in different sections. This diversity is a fruitful source of internal commotion. The relations which arise from it present, therefore, problems of great social and political importance.

Our country is an example of this truth. Sixteen years ago, a war broke out between the Northern and the Southern sections of our country. It proved desperate and bloody because each side contended for interests, both private and public which it deemed of the highest importance. The uprising of the South was a failure and comparative peace was finally restored. We say comparative peace and we say it purposely, for though the operations of war ceased, yet the thoughts and feelings, which the war had brought out and intensified, were too deeply seated to be blotted out by its mere termination. This event, therefore, found neither section fully reconciled to the other, and for this reason the whole country has suffered ever since. And further, as if the natural effects of the war was not bitter enough, the real attitude of each section