

✓ Library

# THE HESPERIAN.

WEEKLY JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.



## WHEN THE REGIMENT CAME BACK.

All the uniforms were blue, all the swords and rifles new,  
When the regiment went marching down the street.  
All the men were hale and strong, as they proudly moved along  
Through the cheers that drowned the music of their feet.  
Oh, the music of their feet, keeping time to drums that beat!  
Oh, the glitter and the splendor of the sight!  
As with swords and rifles new, and in uniforms of blue,  
The regiment went marching to the fight!

When the regiment came back all the guns and swords were black,  
And the uniforms had faded into gray;  
And the faces of the men who marched through that street again  
Seemed like faces of the dead who lose their way.  
For the dead who lose their way cannot look more gaunt or gray—  
Oh, the sorrow and the anguish of the sight!  
Oh, the weary, lagging feet, out of step with drums that beat,  
When the regiment came marching from the fight!

—ELLA WHEELER WILCOX, In Harper's Weekly.