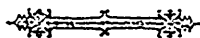


never to be theirs; ended, but leaving the blackest page in the annals of British government; ended with that indomitable fighting spirit which Pitt tried in vain to crush, and to which England plaintively and successfully appeals in their hour of need, still undaunted; ended but always to be looked back upon with the noble sentiment expressed in this verse:

“Who fears to speak of ninety-eight?
Who blushes at the name?
When cowards mock the patriot’s fate;
Who hangs his head for shame?”

V. J. O’NEILL, ’15.



The Philosophy of “Hamlet.”



THROUGHOUT the play of Hamlet can be remarked allusions to the supernatural. This element, which is meditative, renders the popularity of the play all the greater. Hamlet, in his soliloquies, gives expression to many thoughts, which as Emerson says, “knock for answer at every heart.” The essences of these self-utterances contain in themselves absolute truth. Contemplating on the real existence of a life eternal or on a just punishment as a retribution of committed wrongs cannot fail to impress us with the preternatural atmosphere which surrounds the entire play.

To prove the existence of the preternatural atmosphere, as well as to point out the philosophy of the play, quotations from the play itself will be sufficient. The entrance of the Ghost in Act I, Scene I, where it reveals the truth to Hamlet of his father’s death; and in Act III, Scene IV, where it urges Hamlet on to a speedy execution of what he must do.