

Students' Quarter.

PROFIT-SHARING.

This is an age of conflict between laborer and capitalist, an age when capitalist and laborer are becoming more and more widely separated. Not so much, perhaps, that the laborer is degenerating or reaping less from his toil, as that the capitalist is receiving almost all the benefit of improvement in machinery, transportation, ease of communication, and all other advantages accruing from the increased facility in production. Instead of the employees, who are in the greatest need of betterment, being elevated and made comfortable, the majority of them have been left in the squalor of their poverty, the degradation of their ignorance, and the stupor of their crushed condition. Not, however, so crushed as to be incapable of feeling somewhat of their need, nor so ignorant as to suffer their poverty without a cry for something better. Their cry has found expression in anarchic movements, strikes, labor unions and socialistic conventions; it has sounded out from platform and pulpit, through daily press and leading magazines; the movement has marked itself by the decisive manner in which its strikes paralyze trade in the completeness of its labor organization, and in its alarming universality. This labor problem demands a solution, and, if it does not receive it, threatens to bring about a revolt. Various economic writers and philanthropists have endeavored to point out its cause or causes and to indicate remedies. Dr. Howard Crosby makes improvidence the great source of poverty—"improvidence, with regard to saving money, with regard to making a reputation, with regard to seizing opportunities, with regard to gaining useful knowledge." Improvidence is no doubt the immediate cause of poverty in many cases, but back of that there is a primary cause, which is in many instances a crushed and despairing spirit handed down, it may be, from broken spirited ancestors, and cherished by circumstances of poverty and sin. But apart from such, there are many whose poverty is in no way directly attributable to their improvidence. In any case two difficulties must be overcome if we are fully to remedy the unfair relations existing between workman and undertaker. Their must be found some means of bringing about a juster distribu-