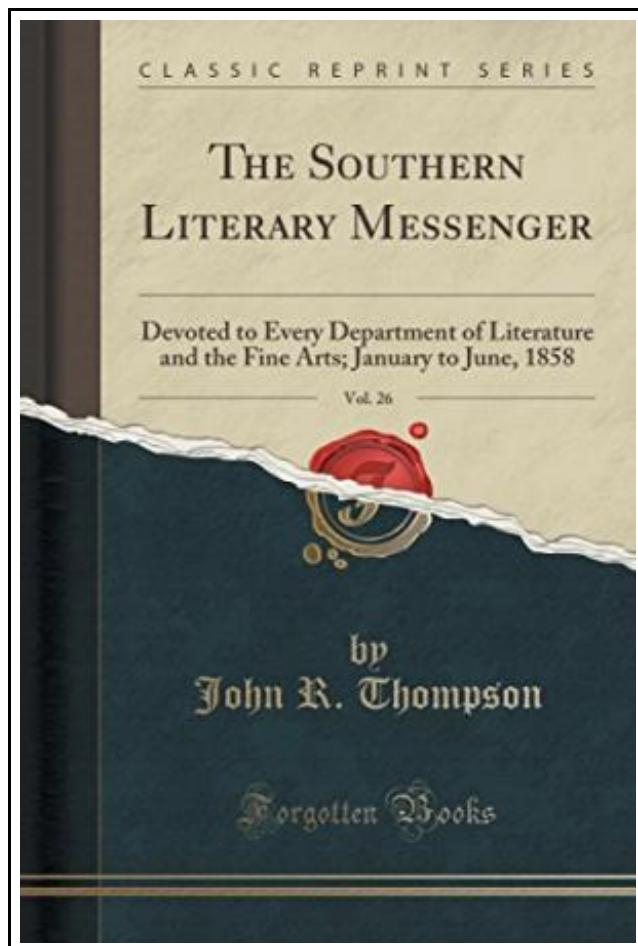


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Southern Literary Messenger, Vol. 26: Devoted to Every Department of Literature and the Fine Arts; January to June, 1858 One of the most irresistible propensities of the human character, is that which Phrenologists designate by the name of Combativeness. Man, in his actual condition, is a fighting animal; and whatever may be the lucubrations of vegetarians and Peace societies, his pugnacious disposition is likely to endure, at least until that millennial period, in which he shall turn his swords into ploughshares and his spears into pruning hooks. Casting a glance at the still smoking ruins of Sebastopol, around which and for which half a million of lives have been sacrificed, we can hardly admit that that blessed time is at hand; it is unfortunately more probable that for several centuries yet, the nations of the earth will have recourse to those gentle persuaders, cold steel and villainous saltpetre. It is indeed sad to think, that history is little else but the record of sanguinary strife. If the human blood shed on our planet, in mortal combat, from Abel to this day, had imparted to it a permanent stain, perhaps the whole earth would be clothed in a crimson robe, and old ocean himself would be dyed with the gory hue. What region of the Old World has not furnished its many battlefields? And even in this new and virgin continent, who knows how many dusky warriors the old primeval oaks of the wilderness have seen perish in general conflicts or in single combats, of which neither history nor tradition has preserved the memory? Perhaps there is not a single dell in our now peaceful...



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