

(d) **Simonides** (5th Century) : Song of praise to the heroes who fell at Marathon.

(e) **Pindar** (5th Century) : "The Theban Eagle" ; the greatest of Greek lyric poets.

3. Dramatic :

(a) TRAGEDY :

(1) **Aeschylus** (525-456) : "Father of Attic tragedy." *Persæ*, or Persian Wars ; *Oresteia*, the murder of Agamemnon and consequences.

(2) **Sophocles** (495-406) : *Ajax*, *Oedipus*, *Antigone*.

(3) **Euripides** (480-406) : *Medea*, a story of passion and revenge.

(b) COMEDY :

(1) **Aristophanes** (452-375) : *Clouds*, an attack on philosophers, particularly Socrates ; *Birds*, an exposition of the folly of the Sicilian expedition ; *Wasps*, an attack on Athenian lawyers ; *Frogs*, an attack on Euripides.

II. Philosophy :—

1. **Thales** (6th Century) : Founder of the Ionic philosophers, who taught that Water was the origin of things in Nature.
2. **Pythagoras** (5th Century) : Taught that all things in Nature had their origin in Number, and that a transmigration of the soul took place at death.
3. **Socrates** (469-399) : "The loftiest genius of the pagan world.... The great exponent of morality, virtue, personal worth.... Breadth and profundity of understanding, sturdy defence of truth, masterful grasp of the greatest themes, honest assaults on error, pungent dramatic method of setting forth aphorisms.... His themes were practical morals, human conduct, virtue as the source of happiness." Having been accused by jealous, narrow-minded bigots, of neglecting the worship of the Gods, of introducing new duties and of corrupting the youth of the city, he was sentenced to drink the fatal hemlock.