

QUESTIONS ON SCOTT'S TALISMAN

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41. Describe the Master of the Templars and Conrade of Monserrat. Write a brief character sketch of each. Whom did the Venetian government send to watch over Conrade's conduct? Describe this man.
42. Give a brief sketch of the career of Conrade and of the Master of the Templars, showing the influence each has on the plot of the story. Of what crimes was The Templar guilty? How was he punished for his last crime? What was it? Who discovered this last crime? How?
43. Make a collection of the different proverbs quoted. Who quotes them continually?
44. What were the amusements of the English soldiers in Richard's time? In ours? How did Richard win the love of his soldiers? What attention did King George pay his soldiers in order to win their affection? What did Conrade call the English soldiers? What military familiarity did Richard allow? Comment.
45. What was the parable told to the Grand Master by a santón of the desert. Explain its bearing on the then present situation. What is a parable? Name some familiar ones. Explain santón.
46. Give in your own words the gist of the conversation between the Templar and Conrade after their visit to Richard's tent. What did the Templar suggest? Conrade? As far as the success of their plans was concerned, which gave the better advice? What determined Conrade to try milder measures?
47. Write a brief character sketch of Leopold of Austria. Describe his personal appearance. Why did Richard despise him? Who helped to widen the breach? Why? Describe the noonday meal of the Archduke.
48. Write notes on Frangistan, spruchsprecher, blind Baynard, oriflamme of France, Pyrenean shepherds, morrice-dancing, signet of Graougi, Stradiots, the public executioner and the effect he produced on Berengaria, Rosamond of Woodstock minnesingers, Blondel's tale.
49. Find and explain, orisons, a rated hound, the sound of the lands, novices, chaplet, white-stoled, red samite, brindled, coif, biggen, mangonel, demesnes, astucious mark, shalms, keuledrums, los, vert and venison, vespers, a tall man and true, noble art of venerie, uleruat, astrolabe, bills and bows bagnio, book of gramarye, partizans, coil, leasing, dromond, khirkhah, thy tale of patients, charegites, bower-woman, Coptish slaves, soldans, costards, apothegems, morion, a stag of ten tynes, haiks, swart, accipe hoc.
50. Describe the scene on St. George's Mount when the Austrian Standard was removed by Richard. How often does this Mount figure in the story? What important events take place there?

51. Whose appearance calmed both Richard and Leopold? Quote Philip's politic speech. Show how it was politic. Who was delighted with it? Why? What do you think of it?

52. Describe Philip of France and compare him with Richard. What was Richard's opinion of him?

53. Who is the heroine of the story? Describe her personal appearance and character. Compare her with Berengaria. What qualities had she and Richard in common? When do we first meet the heroine? Is the hero worthy of her? Give reasons for your answer. How does she show her affection for the hero? What does Richard think of her? Berengaria? Blondel? Saladin?

BIRDS AND SPRING MIGRATION

The tide of bird migration is at its flood. Some by day, and more by night, the little winged travellers have been making their long journey from southern climes, many from the South American Republics, to our northern fields and groves. Others pass on to their nesting grounds in Labrador. The bobolink's "mad music" resounds from the meadows by the river. He has just arrived, this rollicking fellow, from his winter quarters in Central South America, having pulled up some of the young rice for the southern planters on the way, and, although a most delightful bird of unimpeachable manners during his stay with us, will on his fall migration cause great depredations in the rice fields of the Southern States where he is known as the reed or rice bird. One of our birds most famous for the length of its migration route is the Golden Plover. In its spring and fall migrations it travels practically the entire length of the two continents. It winters in Argentina and wings its way up through South America and on to its breeding grounds along the arctic coast of this continent. While the spring migration continues, almost any morning we go out a newcomer will meet our eye or a new song greet our ear. And it is a real delight to welcome back our old bird friends with a bow of recognition.

Now is the time to observe the birds. They all have on their wedding suits and their honeymoon manners. Their little throats are quivering, almost bursting, with their nuptial songs. The season of courtship and nest-building has come. There are interesting little scenes of courtship being enacted in our meadows and groves, some comical, others tragic (for the rejected suitor) and all entertaining, and it is no irreverence to train an opera glass upon such scenes. The ardor, the gallantry and the deep sincerity of a beau flicker suitor will often put to shame the attentions of the beau novice of the higher species whose fancy has lightly turned this springtime to thoughts of love. Yes, now is the time to study birds for soon their family cares will take the song out of their hearts and the gay colors out of their suits.