

LANGUE ANGLAISE

Recitation

DEATH'S SEASON

1 Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the north (1) wind's
breath,
And stars to set,—but all,
Thou hast *all* seasons for thine own, O Death!

2. Day is for mortal care;
Eve for glad meetings round the joyous hearth;
Night for the dreams of sleep, the voice of
prayer.—
But all for thee thou mightiest of the earth.

3. We know when moons shall wane,
When summer birds from far shall cross the
sea (2),
When autumn's hue shall tinge the golden
grain,—
But who shall teach us when to look for thee?

4. Is it when spring's first gale (3)
Comes forth to whisper where the violets lie?
Is it when roses in our path grow pale?
They have *one* season—*all* are ours to die!

5. Thou art where billows foam,
Thou art where music melts upon the air;
Thou art around us in our peaceful home,
And the world calls us forth—and thou art
there.

6. Thou art where friend meets friend,
Beneath the shadow of the elm to rest—
Thou art where foe meets foe, and trumpets
rend
The skies, and swords beat down the princely
crest.

7. Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the north wind's
breath,
And stars to set,—but all,
Thou hast *all* seasons for thine own, O Death!

F. HEMANS.

MEANINGS

Wane, grow less

Gale, usually means a great storm; but here
nothing more than a gentle breeze.

Bend, tear in two.

Crest, here means helmet.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is the north wind specially mentioned?
2. Name any birds that do this.
3. What word in next line shows us that 'gale' cannot here mean 'a strong wind.'
4. How, in analysing, would you deal with
"to fall" (verse 1), "from far" (verse 3), "when
to look for thee" (verse 3) "spring's first"
(verse 4), "in our path" (verse 4), "upon the
air" (verse 5), "beneath the shadow of the elm"
(verse 6), "the skies" (verse 6), "flowers" (verse 7).

DICTATION AND COMPOSITION.

THE SKY-LARK

II

Di'-et, habitual food.

May'-haps, perhaps.

Sky-larks are plentiful everywhere in Europe
and in winter they fly about in large flocks.
Their summer food is mostly earth-worms but
in winter they are driven to vegetable diet. (1)
We call the wild plants *weeds* and the garden ones
flowers but each alike bears its little seeds after
its own kind, and each of these little seeds has
its own work to do. We gather the pods of
our sweet-peas and our lupines, and store them
carefully away till we plant them the following
summer. And the wild-flower seeds—does nobo-
dy gather *them*? Yes; God lays them in his
storehouse, and not one is wasted. Some fall
to the ground, ready to take root and grow up
in the spring-time, but the greater part are
for the spreading of the little birds' table.
The larks especially feed on these seeds in
the winter, and all the cold weather through-
they come and eat and are satisfied.

Everybody loves the sky-lark's song; and
sometimes, when people have gone to other

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