THE HELOT.

xiv.

Fierce and full her pulses beat; Bacchic throbs the dry earth shook; Stirr'd the hot air wild and sweet;

Madden'd ev'ry vine-dark brook.

χ́ν.

Had a red grape never burst,

All its heart of fire out ; To the red vat all athirst, To the treader's song and shout :

XVI.

Had the red grape died a grape ;Nor, sleek daughter of the vine,Found her unknown soul take shape In the wild flow of the wine :

XVII.

Still had reel'd the yellow haze:

Still had puls'd the sun pierc'd sod : Still had throbb'd the vine clad days :

To the pulses of their God.

XVIII.

Fierce the dry lips of the earth Quaff'd the subtle Bacchic soul : Felt its rage and felt its mirth,

Wreath'd as for the banquet bowl.