

A king sate on the rocky brow
Which looks o'er sea-born Salamis ;
And ships, by thousands, lay below,
And men in nations ; — all were his !
He counted them at break of day—
And when the sun set, where were they ?

Must *we* but weep o'er days more blest ?
Must *we* but blush ?—our fathers bled.
Earth ! render back from out thy breast
A remnant of our Spartan dead !
Of the three hundred grant but three,
To make a new Thermopylæ !

In vain—in vain : strike other chords ;
Fill high the cup with Samian wine !
Leave battle to the Turkish hordes,
And shed the blood of Scio's vine !
Hark ! rising to the ignoble call—
How answers each bold Bacchanal ?

2. Describe (in as far as appears from the poem itself) the person who might be supposed to give utterance to "The isles of Greece," and the circumstances under which it is uttered.

3. Give briefly and exactly the meaning of the italicized words in the following passages :—

(a) Twice seven *consenting* years have shed
Their utmost bounty on thy head.

(b) "Surely," said I, "surely that is something at my window-lattice."

(c) What of the heart of hate
That beats in thy breast, O Time ?
Red strife from the furthest *prime*,
And anguish of fierce debate.

(d) He stared at the Pacific—and all his
mien
Look'd at each other with a wild *surmise*.

(e) The weak and the gentle, the *ribald*
and rude,
She took as she found them, and did
them all good.

4. Either quote any two consecutive stanzas of *The Cloud*, or state clearly in a single phrase or short sentence the Subject of *Eucn and All*, and show how the poet enforces and illustrates it.

5. Among the following four poems, select one which you admire, and shew the reasons for your preference by comparing the poem

which you select with any other one of the four :—*The Cloud*, *The Raven*, *Gloud Confines*, *The Return of the Swallows*.

B.

Mighty victor, Mighty lord !
Low on his funeral couch he lies !
No pitying heart, no eye, afford
A tear to grace his obsequies.
Is the sable warrior fled ?
Thy son is gone. He rests among the dead.
The swarm, that in the noontide beam were
born ?

Gone to salute the rising morn.
Fair laughs the Morn, and soft the Zephyr
blows,

While proudly riding o'er the azure realm
In gallant trim the gilded vessel goes ;

Youth on the prow, and Pleasure at the
helm ;

Regardless of the sweeping Whirlwind's
sway,

That, hush'd in grim repose, expects his
evening prey.

6. Mention the historical events and personages referred to in the above passage, indicating in each case the words which contain the reference.

C

TO THE SKYLARK.

Ethereal minstrel ! pilgrim of the sky !

Dost thou despise the earth where cares
abound ?

Or, while the wings aspire, are heart and eye
Both with thy nest upon the dewy ground ?

Thy nest, which thou canst drop into at will,
Those quivering wings composed, that music
still !

To the last point of vision, and beyond,

Mount, daring Warbler ! that love-prompt-
ed strain,

('Twixt thee and thine a never-failing bond)

Thrills not the less the bosom of the plain :
Yet might'st thou seem, proud privilege ! to
sing

All independent of the leafy spring.

Leave to the nightingale her shady wood :

A privacy of glorious light is thine ;

Whence thou dost pour upon the world a
flood

Of harmony, with instinct more divine ;