

and possibly the similarity between *Philomela* (nightingale) and *Filomena*, caught the poet's fancy. But in any case he saw in each of the two women "a noble type of good heroic womanhood."

18-20. In the Crimean war.

42. The palm is the symbol of St. Filomena's triumph over suffering; the lily is a symbol of her purity; the spear is a symbol of her martyrdom. According to the legend, the spears which were thrown at her recoiled and killed those who threw them.

QUESTIONS.

1. Show the relation of the first three stanzas to the rest of the poem.
2. Explain the name "A Lady with a Lamp," as applied to Florence Nightingale.

A PSALM OF LIFE.

1. mournful numbers. Melancholy verses. The word *numbers* is sometimes applied to poetry because of the necessity of counting, or measuring off, the syllables.

14-6. This is the poet's way of saying that every heart-beat brings us nearer to the grave.

18. bivouac. An open-air encampment.

86. to wait. To wait patiently for the results.

QUESTIONS.

1. Justify the title *A Psalm of Life* as applied to this poem.
 2. (a) What, according to the poet, is the purpose of life?
 - (b) What reasons does he give as to why we should be "up and doing"?
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