

ENGLISH POETICAL LITERATURE.

Honours.

NOTE.—Honour candidates and candidates for the Senior Leaving Examination will take questions 1—8 inclusive. Candidates for Scholarships will take questions marked with an asterisk.

1. Write a brief account of the great work to which Shakespeare is indebted for the groundwork of this drama.

2. When did Coriolanus live? Describe the condition of the Roman people at that time.

3. Does this drama reveal the political sympathies of Shakespeare? Give reasons in support of your view.

*4. *Menenius*. A letter for me! It gives me an estate of seven years' health; in which time I will make a lip at the physician: the most sovereign prescription in Galen is but empiricist, and, to this preservative, of no better report than a horse-drench. Is he not wounded? he was wont to come home wounded.

Virgilia. O, no, no, no.

Volumnia. O, he is wounded, I thank he gives for 't.

Menenius. So do I too, if it be not too much:—brings a' victory in his pocket? the wounds become him.

Volumnia. On 's brows: Menenius, he comes the third time home with the oaken garland.

Menenius. Has he disciplined Aufidius soundly?

Volumnia. Titus Lartius writes, they fought together, but Aufidius got off.

(a) Why is this in prose form? Write note on Shakespeare's changes from verse to prose.

(b) Who was Galen? Note the anachronism.

(c) *empiricist*. Derive and explain. Give other readings.

(d) *O, no, no, no*. What does this express beyond the negation? How is it that Virgilia denies, whilst Volumnia asserts, that Coriolanus is wounded?

(e) *"brings a'," "On 's brows."* Account for the ellipsis.

(f) *the oaken garland*. What did this

signify? Is Shakespeare correct in giving the garland three times to Coriolanus?

*5. *Coriolanus*. Shall remain!—Hear you this Triton of the Minnows? mark you His absolute "shall"?

His popular "shall," against a graver bench Than ever frown'd in Greece.

(a) Explain the references in "*Triton of the minnows*," "*Hydra*," "*a graver bench*," etc.

(b) "*'Twas from the canon*." What does this mean? Give reasons for your view. What different meaning is sometimes taken?

(c) Write a note on Shakespeare's use of the subjunctive as illustrated in this passage.

(d) "*of the monsters*." Explain the construction.

*6. Give an outline of Volumnia's appeal to Coriolanus to spare the city.

*7. Contrast Volumnia and Virgilia. In illustration of Virgilia's character quote the sayings ascribed to her in this play, and also the words addressed to her by Coriolanus.

*8. By disregarding the dramatic unities what advantages does Shakespeare secure in the development of the character of Coriolanus.

*9. Discuss the relation of the ethical element to the æsthetic element in comedy and in tragedy. Show how the due balance is maintained in this play.

*10. What is the effect of the comic passages introduced by Shakespeare into his tragedies? Illustrate from this play and from any other play of Shakespeare.

Pass.

Examiner:—A. H. Reynar, LL.D.

NOTE.—Candidates for Scholarships will take only the questions marked with an asterisk. Other candidates will take under I., II., IV., and V. the first question and any following question, and under III. and VI. some one of the subjects specified.

I.

1. Give dates of Byron's birth and death and such particulars of his parentage and early life as may help to account for his peculiar character.

*2. What are the excellences and what