



YOUNG KIRKE WHITE READING HIS FIRST PRIZE POEM.

1874—**FEBRUARY**—28 days.

THE MOON'S CHANGES.

Full Moon, 1st, 11.36 pm. | New Moon, 16th, 7.45 ev.
Last Quar. 9th, 4.29 aft. | First Quar. 23rd, 10.43 mn.

		SUN Rises & Sets.	MOON Rises & Sets.	Age.
1 S	Septuagesima Sunday.	7 41r	Rises P.M.	☺
2 M	The <i>Royal Sovereign</i> , man-of-war, burnt at Chatham, 1666.—The levies of money for building this vessel caused the rebellion which cost Charles I. his life.	4 49s	5 50	15
3 Tu	In 1685 a tax was placed upon Births, Deaths, and Marriages in England!	7 37r	7 2	16
4 W	" <i>Lazy folks take the most pains.</i> "	4 52s	8 12	17
5 Th	The Order of St. Patrick founded in Ireland by George III., 1783.	7 34r	9 20	18
6 F	Bourdonne (formerly secretary to Bonaparte) died in a madhouse in Normandy, 1834.	4 56s	10 30	19
7 S		7 30r	11 39	20
8 S	Sexagesima Sunday.	5 0s	After Mid- night	21
9 M	The " <i>Remains of Henry Kirke White</i> " (edited by Southey), published in 1822.	7 27r	A.M.	☾
10 Tu	Queen Victoria married, 1840.	5 3s	2 8	23
11 W	" <i>Fair and softly go sure and far.</i> "	7 23r	3 24	24
12 Th	Execution of Lady Jane Grey and her husband, Lord Guildford Dudley, 1554.	5 7s	4 39	25
13 F	Duke de Berry (father of Comte de Chambord) assassinated by Louvel, 1820.	7 19r	5 45	26
14 S	<i>St. Valentine's Day.</i>	5 11s	6 37	27
15 S	Quinquagesima—Shrove Sunday.	7 15r	7 16	28
16 M	The Liturgy altered by order in Council, the name of Queen Caroline being omitted, 1820.	5 14s	Sets P.M.	☾
17 Tu	<i>Habeas Corpus</i> Act suspended in Ireland, and 250 suspected persons arrested, 1866.	7 12r	6 12	1
18 W	Ash Wednesday. —The Year 1291 of the Mohammedan era commences.	5 18s	7 44	2
19 Th		7 8r	9 11	3
20 F	Joseph Hume (celebrated financial reformer) died, 1855.	5 22s	10 40	4
21 S	Rev. Robert Hall died, 1831.	7 4r	After Mid- night	5
22 S	1st Sunday in Lent.	5 26s	A.M.	6
23 M	" <i>The hasty angler loses the fish.</i> "	7 0r	1 34	☾
24 Tu	James, Earl of Derwentwater, beheaded for high treason, 1716.	5 29s	2 57	8
25 W	Sir Christopher Wren died, 1723, aged 90, and was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral.—Over his tomb was placed the fitting inscription—"Si monumentum quaeris circumspice."	6 55r	4 7	9
26 Th		5 33s	5 5	10
27 F	Jaffa (the Joppa of Scripture, whence Jonas embarked) taken by Bonaparte, 1799.	6 51r	5 48	11
28 S	Richard Porson elected professor of Greek at Cambridge, 1792.	5 37s	6 21	12

NOTES TO THE ABOVE ILLUSTRATION.

THE premature death, at the age of twenty-one, of that promising poet, HENRY KIRKE WHITE, has been sincerely regretted by every admirer of genius; and his brief life has afforded one of the finest examples on record of youthful talent and perseverance devoted to the purest and noblest objects.

He was born at Nottingham, in 1785. His father was a butcher by trade; but "argentea cras"—and so little sympathized he with his son's tastes and predilections, that he not only kept him from school one day a week to carry out meat, but for a time employed him entirely in this ungenial task. The boy manifested an ardent love of reading from his childhood, and it was a passion to which everything else gave way. It is related of him that when he was but seven years old, he would steal into the kitchen to teach the servant-girl to read and write; and his first composition was a tale of a Swiss emigrant, which he gave to this same servant to read—being ashamed to show it to his mother.

It is related of young White, that at school one day, when only eleven years of age, he wrote a separate theme for the twelve boys who were in his class. The master, on reading these, was much struck with their supposed productions, and said he had never known them write so well upon any subject before, and could not refrain from expressing his astonishment at the excellence of Henry's own! But a little inquiry on the part of the master soon cleared up the mystery.

Anxious that his son should learn a trade, his father placed him, in his fourteenth year, at a stocking-loom, with the view at some future period of getting a situation in a hosier's warehouse; but the young poet could not endure the thought of spending seven years of his life in an employment so ungenial to his tastes; and after drudging at it most unwillingly for a year, he persuaded his mother to place him in the office of a solicitor, where, as no premium could be paid with him, he had to serve two years before he could be articled. In his leisure hours he applied himself to the study of languages, and was able, in the course of ten months, to read *Horace* with tolerable facility, and also made some progress in Greek. Such was his love for learning, and such his application, that he taught himself Greek, Latin, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese, before attaining his nineteenth year. He now became a member of a literary society in Nottingham, and delivered an extemporaneous lecture on *Genius*, which attracted much deserved notice. At fifteen, he gained a silver medal for a translation from *Horace*; and the following year a pair of globes, for an *Imaginary Tour from London to Edinburgh*, was awarded him by a London publisher. He determined upon trying for this prize one evening when at tea with his family, and at supper he read to them his performance, his mother listening to him with the greatest delight.

In his seventeenth year White published a small volume of poems, which possessed considerable merit. In his preface to the volume, he very

"In all difficulties, be patient, and overcome them by perseverance."