

POETRY.

M A N.

Like as the damask rose you see,
Or like the blossom on a tree,
Or like the dainty flower in May,
Or like the morning to the day,
Or like the sun, or like the shade,
Or like the gourd which Jonas had,
Even such is man, whose thread is spun,
Drawn out and cut, and so is done—
The rose withers, the blossom blasteth,
The flower fades, the morning hasteth,
The sun sets, the shadow flies,
The gourd consumes, and man he dies.

Like to the grass that's newly sprung,
Or like a tale that's new begun,
Or like the bird that's here to-day,
Or like the pearly dew of May,
Or like an hour, or like a span,
Or like the singing of a swan;
Even such is man, who lives by breath,
Is here, now there, in life and death.
The grass withers, the tale is ended,
The bird is flown, the dew's ascended,
The hour is short, the span not long,
The swan's near death, man's life is done.

Like to the bubble in the brook,
Or in a glass much like a look,
Or like the shuttle in weaver's hand,
Or like the writing on the sand,
Or like a thought, or like a dream,
Or like the gliding of the stream;
Even such is man, who lives by breath,
Is here, now there, in life and death!
The bubble's out, the look's forgot,
The shuttle's flung, the writings blot,
The thought is past, the dream is gone,
The water's glide, man's life is done.

Like to an arrow from the bow,
Or like swift course of water-flow,
Or like that time 'twixt flood and ebb,
Or like the spider's tender web,
Or like a race, or like a gaol,
Or like the dealing of a dole,
Even such is man, whose brittle state,
Is always subject unto fate:
The arrow's shot, the flood soon spent,
The time no time, the web soon rent,
The race soon run, the gaol soon won,
The dole soon dealt, man's life soon done.

Like to the lightning from the sky,
Or like a post that quick doth hie,
Or like a quaver in a song,
Or like a journey three days long,
Or like the snow when summer's come,
Or like the pear, or like the plum;
Even such is man, who heaps up sorrow,
Lives but this day, and dies to-morrow.
The lightning's past, the post must go,
The song is short, the journey so,
The pear doth rot, the plum doth fall,
The snow dissolves, and so must all.

VARIETIES.

SELF-MADE MEN.

James Ferguson, the celebrated writer on astronomy, is one of the most remarkable instances of self-education, which the literary world has seen. His father was in the humble condition of a day-laborer.

At the age of seven or eight, young Ferguson actually discovered two of the most important elementary truths in mechanics—the lever, and the wheel and axle. He afterwards hit upon others, without teacher or book, and with no tool but a simple turning lathe, and a little knife. While he was feeding his flock, in the employment of a neighboring farmer, he used to busy himself in making models of mills, spinning wheels, &c. during the day, and in studying the stars at night.

Before his death, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society; the usual fees being remitted, as had been done in the cases of Newton and Thomas Simpson. George III. who, when a boy, was occasionally among the auditors of his public lectures, soon after his accession to the throne, gave him a pension of fifty pounds per annum from the privy purse.

Thomas Simpson, a very able English Mathematician, Professor of Mathematics at Woolwich Academy, and fellow of the Royal Society, was the son of a weaver.—After having acquired a very slight acquaintance with reading, he was placed in the shop with his father. Instead of giving any encouragement to his son's fondness for reading, the father after many reprimands, forbade him even to open a book, and insisted upon his confining himself to his loom for the whole day. He was finally banished from his father's house, and compelled to seek his fortune abroad. He contrived to maintain himself for a while, in a neighboring town, with a poor widow, by working at his trade, devoting his spare moments to his favourite employment of reading, whenever he could borrow a book. In his twenty-fifth or twenty-sixth year, he went to London, without a letter of recommendation, and with scarcely any thing in his pocket, except a manuscript treatise of his own on Fluxions, more valuable than any preceding treatise on the subject in the language.

William Hutton, author of the History of Birmingham, Fellow of the Antiquarian Society, &c. was the son of a working wool-comber at Derby. 'My poor mother,' says Hutton, 'more than once, one infant on her knee, and a few more hanging about her, have all fasted a whole day; and when food arrived, she has suffered them with a tear, to take her share.' From his seventh to his fourteenth year he worked in a silk mill—and was then bound as an apprentice to a stocking weaver in Nottingham.

EXPERIMENTS.

Many ladies ornament their rooms with flower baskets, urns, &c. made of crystals of alum, formed by their own hands as follows.—They saturate with alum as much water, when boiling, as will cover the frame of the basket they wish to form. When removed and put into any vessel convenient for the occasion, and suffered to cool, the article on which they wish the crystals to form is immersed in the water, and crystals of great beauty form all over the wire thread, &c. which gave it shape.

A lady took three or four leaves of red cabbage, and after bruising them, she poured a pint of boiling water upon them in a glass. After tea she placed three tumblers upon the table, which she one half-filled with the water infused with the cabbage. Into one she poured some vinegar; which turned it red; into another some pearlash water, and it became green; into the third some alum water, which changed it to purple.

QUESTIONS ON COMMON THINGS,
Nos. 5 and 6.

What part of our globe contains a mixture of the greatest variety of substances?—What portion of the ocean, by weight, is common salt?—What other useful salts are dissolved in the ocean?—What are some of the most noted salt mines upon the earth?—Which have been longest wrought, those in Poland, or those in England?—In what part of Europe are hills or mountains of salt?—In what state is salt found in Africa?—Is rock salt generally used in its natural state, or is it first dissolved and then evaporated?—To what depth has the earth been perforated to procure salt water?—When salt springs are found at a great distance beneath the earth, is the water raised by pumps or by some internal pressure?—By what process is common salt crystallized, by evaporation or by cooling?—How are glauber and epsom salts crystallized, by evaporation or by cooling?—What is the definition of the term salt as used in science?—What common things in the language of science are called oxids?—Why is the term oxid preferable to rust or dross?—Which is most difficult to reduce to a metallic state, the oxid of iron, or of lead?—What are examples of oxids of iron, also of lead?

Printed and Published every FRIDAY, by
James Bowes, Marchington's Lane.
TERMS.

Five shillings per Annum, or Three shillings for six months, delivered in Town, and Six shillings and three pence, when sent to the country by mail, payable in advance.

Any person ordering six copies will be reckoned an Agent and shall receive a copy gratis.

☞ All Letters and Communications must be post paid.

Cards, Circulars, &c. &c. neatly printed at this Office.