

THE WOUL TALE OF JOTHAM BROWN, Showing the Danger of Possessing Only One Head.

Alack alas! alack alas! me!
A world tale I'll tell to thee!
Of Jotham Brown, known as J. B.,
Who in his books stood six foot three,
At twenty-one, with one "ide"!
Himself a man, and a man to look
Which—I have read within a book—
Great genius has; his visage glum
And sombre, like a man of sorrows;
And how a thought could ever gain
A lodgment in his narrow brain!
Sam, his master, had no knowledge,
Beyond the ken of school or college.
No master—there's the fact—keep still;
Leave him to his books, and his books will
Men's minds are far to prone to borrow.
What a world of trouble is in store!
In this same youth, this brave J. B.

Poor J. B., on an evil day,
Had chanced to hear some persons say
That "there's no gain but pain."
Upon the spot, he rent his hair,
And wailed, "Woe is me! What gain
Can I have, if I am to be a man?
And still twice over for some keen mind
Which foot is always last to find!"

Then J. B., in a fit of rage,
And scolded his master over head and slate,
Resolved that his mind should
Be set to work, and not to play.

Poor Jotham Brown!

Poor Jotham Brown,

All night, and all day, he reft in vain,
This puzzle rankling in his brain.

And if by chance he fell asleep,
Such a dream he had, that he would sleep

Of feet, feet, feet, ten thousand feet,

Drifting on, and flying, feet,

Feet, feet, feet, feet, feet, feet,

Of every hue and shape, soever.

That would wake, with shrieking moan,
To see the world all in a heap, and groan.

To rise at last, and figure out,

If possible, some new-found doubt.

This blessed fit, without a doubt.

Poor Jotham Brown!

Now went a-pacing up and down,

And went a-rumming here and there,
In a circle, round a square.

Night and day, both foul and fair,

Sixty days, and more,

Until he grew quite lean and spare.

And these few words were all he said,
On which he died, and spied:

The left ahead,

The left ahead,

The right!

The left ahead,

The right ahead,

The left!

And Jotham talked, and talked, and talked,

And Jotham talked, and talked, and talked,