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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

To Find the Poles of a Magnet

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EXPERIMENTS IN MAGNETISM.

THE smallest natural magnets generally possess the greatest proportion of attractive power. The magnet worn by Sir Isaac Newton, in his ring, weighed only three grains, yet was able to take up 756 grains, or nearly 250 times its own weight: whereas, magnets weighing above two pounds, seldom lift more than five or six times their own weight.

For the more clearly explaining the following experiments, it is to be observed, that the two ends of a magnet are called its poles. When placed on a pivot, in just equilibrium, that end which turns to the north is called the north pole, and the other end the south pole.

To Find the Poles of a Magnet.

Immerse a magnet in iron filings, and when drawn out, it will be found covered all over with them; but it will be observed that there are two places, diametrically opposite to each other, which are the poles, where the filings are closer, and where the small oblong fragments stand as it were upright, while in other parts they lie flat.