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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Feather and Guinea

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the air be exhausted, it will be fixed as if pressed by a weight of sixty pounds.

The Floating Stone.

To a piece of cork tie a small stone that will just sink it; and putting it in a vessel of water, place it under the receiver. Then exhausting the receiver, the bubbles of air will expand from its pores, and adhering to its surface, will render it, together with the stone, lighter than water, and consequently they will rise to the surface, and float.

Feather and Guinea.

It is sometimes imagined that mass for mass, a pound of gold would be heavier than a pound of feathers; and hence the paradoxical experiment of "which is heaviest?" And yet we may place a guinea and feather under such circumstances that they will both arrive at the ground at the same instant of time when discharged from a proper apparatus. Fig. 16 shews the glass receiver and plate of the Air-Pump by which the air must be withdrawn, and it will then be seen that it is the air alone that makes the difference in their descent.