

SUBJECT AND OBJECT.

BY WILLIAM MORTON PAYNE.

A DROP of water from the ocean's face
Dashed up, to sparkle a moment in the light,
Then fall, its impulse spent, leaving in sight
Upon the eternal vast expanse no trace
Behind ; a phantom, hounded in the chase
By cruel clamorous years ; an atom, quite
Helpless, and hurled along in aimless flight
Upon the void unbounded ways of space—

Viewed from without, even such is man, but how
Other, seen by himself, within ; the sum
Of sufferings measureless, of raptures dumb,
Being beyond reach of words ; purpose his brow
Enthroning, defiant of fate's deepest curse ;
His mind the bearer of the universe.