Mary Masters, â??To the Sun, in a cold dry Seasonâ?•

## Description

MARY MASTERS

**â??To the Sun, in a cold dry Seasonâ?•**

PARENT of Light, whose ever-shining Ray,
Quickens the Globe, and kindles up the Day:
Collect thy Force, the Ardors all prepare,
To mitigate and warm the frigid Air:
Send forth, bright Prince, a more extensive Glow,
And let us feel thy chearing Powâ??rs below.
Let humid Vapours leave their native Streams,
Exhalâ??d from thence by thy attracting Beams;
In rising Mists our Evâ??ning Walks attend,
And kindly on the softâ??ning Earth descend.
Or else, invisibly expanding, rise
Mix into Clouds, and float along the Skies;
There all the Day in bright Suspension stayâ??d,
And beautiful by thy Reflection made;
Borderâ??d with Gold, or tingâ??d with purple Hue,
Like rich *Embossings* on a Ground of Blue,
To the pleasâ??d Eye present a gaudy Scene,
Whilst the pure *AEther* heavâ??nly looks between.
Let nightly Showâ??rs refresh the thirsty Earth,
And daily *Fervors* give her Plants a Birth:
Beneath our Feet the flowâ??ry Buds shall spring,
And on each side the wingâ??d Musicians sing:
Thâ?? indulgent Skies shall bless the Peasantâ??s Toil,
Call forth rich Crops, and make all Nature smile.

Then shall MECENAS grace his rural Seat,
Healthful and happy in a warm Retreat:
The neighbouring Towns by his dear Presence blest,
Shall hail and welcome the illustrious Guest:
MARIA too the general Joy will share,
Applaud his Merit, and divide his Care:
For like thy Beams, his genâ??rous Virtues spread,
And shine benignant on the humble Head.

**NOTES:**

**3** *Ardors* â??Fierce or burning heatâ?• (*OED*).

**16** *Embossing*s â??To adorn with figures or other ornamentation in reliefâ?• (*OED*).

**18** *AEther* â??The clear sky; the upper regions of space beyond the cloudsâ?• (*OED*).

**20** *Fervors* â??Glowing condition, intense heatâ?• (*OED*).

**25** *MECENAS* Gaius Cilnius Maecenas (c.70 BC-c. 8 BC), Roman politician, counselor to the emperor Augustus, and wealthy patron of such poets as Virgil and Horace. His name became synonymous with ideal literary patronage by the eighteenth century (*Encyclopedia Britannica*).

**29** *MARIA* Mastersâ??s poetic name for herself.

**32** *benignant* â??Cherishing or exhibiting kindly feeling towards inferiors or dependants; gracious, benevolent (with some suggestion of condescension or patronage)â?• (*OED*).

**Source:** ***Poems on Several Occasions, (*****London 1733), pp. 52-54. [Hathi Trust]**

*Edited by Veronica Jardeleza*