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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

To construct and inflate a small Balloon

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stop it with a piece of cork ; and having suffered it to cool, preserve the mixture in small bottles well closed.

If you unclose one of these bottles, and let fall a few grains of this powder on a bit of paper, or any other very dry substance, it will first become blue, then brown, and will at last burn the paper or other substance on which it has fallen.

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To construct and inflate a small Balloon.

It is an interesting and amusing experiment to inflate a small balloon made of gold-beater's skin, (using a little gum-arabic to close any holes or fissures) filling it from a bladder or jar, and tying a thread round the mouth of it to prevent the escape of the gas.—When fully blown, attach a fanciful car of coloured paper, or very thin pasteboard to it, and let it float in a large room ; it will soon gain the ceiling, where it will remain for any length of time : if it be let off in the open air, it will ascend out of sight. This experiment may be varied, by putting small grains of shot into the car, in order to ascertain the difference between the weight of hydrogen gas and atmospheric air.

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