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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

The Magical Mirrors

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that the hollow between them be very narrow. Fix them vertically to a pipe from whence a jet proceeds. Bore a number of small holes all round that part where the two pieces are joined together. The water rushing through the holes will form a very pleasing water sun or star.

To cause a brilliant Explosion under Water.

Drop a piece of phosphorus, the size of a pea, into a tumbler of hot water; and, from a bladder, furnished with a stop cock, force a stream of oxygen directly upon it. This will afford a most brilliant combustion under water.

The Magical Mirrors.

Make two holes in the wainscot of a room, each a foot high and ten inches wide, and about a foot distant from each other. Let these apertures be about the height of a man's head, and in each of them place a transparent glass in a frame, like a common mirror.

Behind the partition, and directly facing each aperture, place two mirrors inclosed in the wainscot, in an angle of forty-five degrees. These mirrors are each to be eighteen inches square; and all the space between them must be enclosed with pasteboard painted black, and well closed that no light can en-

ter; let there be also two curtains to cover them, which you may draw aside at pleasure.

When a person looks into one of these fictitious mirrors, instead of seeing his own face, he will see the object that is in front of the other; thus, if two persons stand at the same time before these mirrors, instead of each seeing himself, they will reciprocally see each other.

There should be a sconce with a lighted candle, placed on each side of the two glasses in the wainscot, to enlighten the faces of the persons who look in them, or the experiment will not have so remarkable an effect.

Tree of Crystals.

Put a small quantity of bruised gum benzoin on a piece of thin metal or a saucer; invert over it a tumbler-glass in which place a sprig of heath, or any small-leaved plant; and apply the flame of a candle underneath, so as to melt the gum: dense fumes will soon begin to arise, and deposit themselves in most beautiful crystals of a silky texture, on the sprig of heath, in delicate soft flakes, resembling foliage.

Beautiful Experiment.

Mix a grain or two of potassium with a like quantity of sodium, by rubbing them together with the

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