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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Very beautiful Artificial Petrifications

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middle of the beam, with a slender tongue, a foot and a half long, pointing to the division on the arched plate fitted to it; or the other extremity of the beam may be made so long, as to describe a larger arch on a board placed for the purpose.

To prepare the sponge, it may be necessary to wash it in water, and when dry, in water or vinegar in which sal-amoniac or salt of tartar has been dissolved, and let it dry again: then it is fit to be used.

Very beautiful Artificial Petrifications.

Put into a retort a quantity of pounded fluor spar, with a few bits of broken glass, and pour upon them some sulphuric acid; fluoric acid gas will be disengaged, holding silex in solution. The subjects that you wish to resemble petrifications must now be moistened with water, and placed in a vessel connected with the neck of the retort. The fluoric acid gas will be absorbed by the moisture adhering to the substances, and the silex will be precipitated upon them like a sort of hoar frost, which will have a very beautiful appearance, and is very durable.

Singular Illusion with the Fingers.

A very singular illusion may be produced, that has its origin in the touch.

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