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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

To Exhibit the Combustion of Charcoal in Oxygen Gas

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which rises slowly and majestically to the ceiling. If bits of phosphorus are kept some hours in hydrogen gas, phosphorized hydrogen gas is produced; and if bubbles of this gas are thrown up into the receiver of an air pump, previously filled with oxygen gas, a brilliant blueish flame will immediately fill the jar.

To Procure Oxygen Gas.

Put a small quantity of the black oxide of manganese into a tubulated retort, and pour upon it as much strong sulphuric acid as will convert it into a thin paste. Support the retort upon a wire stand, and let the open end of it dip under the edge of the glass vessel which is placed on the shelf of the pneumatic-trough full of water to receive the gas; then apply the heat of a lamp to the retort, and the gas will continue to form as long as the manganese contains any of it.

To Exhibit the Combustion of Charcoal in Oxygen Gas.

Take a small piece of red-hot charcoal, and fasten it to the end of a copper wire, then let it down in a jar of oxygen gas, and the appearance will be very beautiful; for the charcoal burns with great splendour and throws out sparks in all directions.