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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Astonishing Heat of the Flame of Oxy-hydrous Gas

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into the ball, set fire to it, and introduce it quickly into the bottle filled with oxygen gas. The zinc will take fire, and burn with a beautiful green flame surrounded by a white one.

Another way.

If a current of oxygen gas be conveyed to filings of the metals, they will burn with great rapidity. For this purpose, fill a large bladder with oxygen gas, and adapt it to a tube; by pressing the bladder, and throwing the gas on a piece of ignited charcoal, on which filings of metal have been put, they will burn rapidly. The filings of metal which exhibit the most brilliant appearances, are those of zinc, copper, antimony, iron, and steel.

Astonishing Heat of the Flame of Oxy-hydrous Gas.

On projecting the flame issuing from the compound blow-pipe, against the outside of a small tinned iron cup, full of cold water, the outside of the cup will become red hot, and at length assume a white heat, not only on its outside, but within, in contact with the water: and in an instant afterwards the flame will break through the side of the cup, and enter the water without being extinguished. The

jet-pipe and flame are plunged under water; with due precautions, the flame will continue to burn with undiminished energy, in actual contact with the water, which latter, in a tumbler holding about half-a-pint, will quickly become heated from about 56 degrees to 170 degrees of Farenheit.

Instantaneous Light Apparatus.

The extremity of a fine platina wire is to be rolled into a spiral form, and then dipped in ammoniamurate, or muriate of platina, until about two grains are taken up; after which it is to be heated red-hot in a spirit lamp. In this way a quantity of spongy platina is formed on the wire so minute, that if put in contact with a mixture of oxygen and hydrogen, it becomes heated, and inflames the glass as rapidly almost as if an electrical spark had passed. Such a wire as this, fixed on the jet pipe, so that the spongy metal shall be exposed to the current of hydrogen, immediately inflames it. It happens that if an instrument of this kind has been exposed for some hours to a humid atmosphere, the inflammation does not take place readily, but in this case, if the top of the platina be touched by the finger or palm of the hand, either before or during the time that the current of hydrogen is passing out, the inflammation immediately takes place. Contact, indeed, is not necessary, for the mere approach of the hand is suf-

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