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**The young man's book of amusement**

**Halifax, 1848**

To Produce a Scarlet Pattern on a Black Ground

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ficient to elevate the temperature so much as to cause instant inflammation.

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*An Apparent Impossibility.*

A glass shall be quite filled with rain-water, yet substances shall be added and it shall not run over. Dissolve a portion of salt in the water; after which it will receive a certain quantity of sugar, and after that a certain quantity of alum, and perhaps other dissoluble bodies, and not increase its first dimensions; which proves that fluids have vacuities, or are not perfectly dense.

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*To Produce a Scarlet Pattern on a Black Ground.*

Boil a piece of white muslin, or calico, for a few minutes, in a solution of acetate of iron, and dry it strongly near a fire. Having done this, rinse it in water, and dye it black, by boiling it for a short time with a few chips of logwood and water; and lastly, clear it of the superfluous dye, by rinsing it in water. Then suffer the dyed cloth to dry again, and sprinkle it over with lemon-juice, or dilute muriatic acid. It will then be seen, that, wherever the lemon juice is applied, it will turn the dyed stuff of a scarlet colour; and in this manner any pattern may be produced upon a black ground, upon calico or linen cloth.