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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Conductors or Non-Electrics

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upon its point, which is a proof that the tube is electrified positively: but if this pointed conductor be presented to an excited stick of sealing-wax, a stream or pencil of light will be observed, which is an equally distinctive mark of the negative electricity in the electric.

All bodies which admit electricity to pass through them, are called *conductors of electricity*; the same bodies are often called *non-electrics*.

All bodies which are impermeable to electricity, are called *non-conductors of electricity*; they are also called *electrics*, with almost equal frequency.

The following lists of these bodies will be useful to the reader: they are classed according to their excellence:

Conductors or Non-Electrics.

- Gold,
- Silver,
- Copper,
- Platina,
- Brass,
- Iron,
- Tin,
- Quicksilver,
- Lead,
- Semi-metals, and metallic ores,
- Black lead, or carburet of iron,
- Charcoal from all substances,
- The fluids of an animal body,
- Salt-water, fresh-water, and all non-elastic fluids, except fixed oils.
- Ice and snow, till cooled down—13 of Fahren-

heit's thermometer; below this temperature, Achard of Berlin, found that they became electric.

Most saline substances, of which the metallic salts are best.

Earthy substances,

Smoke,

The vapour of hot water

Electrics or Non-conductors.

Glass, and vetrifications, whether of earths, or metals.

All precious stones, of which the most transparent are the best,

Amber,

Jet,

Sulphur,

All resinous substances,

Baked wood,

Wax,

Silk,

Cotton,

Hair, wool, feathers, and most animal substances, when dry,

Paper,

Air, and other elastic fluids,

Fixed oils,

Metallic oxides,

The ashes of animal and vegetable substances,

Dry vegetable substances,

Most hard stones, of which the hardest are the best.

The be
poses is r
glass cyl
meter, an
between
mahogan
in length
diameter
pillars B
wood, by
be adjust
attached
as the cyl
half wide
of oil-silk,
the upper s