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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Artificial Earthquake

[urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-100120](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-100120)

which admits of the mixture being fired by the electric spark. This instrument consists of a cylinder of brass about three-fourths of an inch diameter, and six inches long, in the form of a small cannon or pistol-barrel, properly mounted, and having a wire, passing through a tube of ivory, and not quite touching the interior of the cylinder, at the part usually occupied by the touch-hole, an electric spark communicated to this wire inflames the mixture of hydrogen and atmospheric air in its interior. It may be charged by previously filling it with dry sand, and emptying it out into a phial of hydrogen, which rises into the gun sufficiently mixed with air; the muzzle may be secured by a cork, which is expelled with much violence and a loud report, upon the inflammation of the gas.

Artificial Earthquake.

In the middle of a large basin of water, lay a round wet board. On the board place any kind of building made of pasteboard, of separate pieces, and not fastened together. Then fixing a wire that communicates with the two chains of the electrifying battery, so that it may pass over the board and the surface of the water, upon making the explosion, the water will become agitated as in an earthquake, and the board moving up and down, will overturn the structure, while the cause of the commotion is totally concealed.

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Method

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Place
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