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

**Halifax, 1848**

To Make an Aeolian Harp

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M. Dobereiner, of Jena, conceives that the phenomenon now described, is the effect of an electro-magnetic action; and he proposes to try if the brass wire would not sound when it communicates at its extremity with an energetic electrometer.

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*To Make an Æolian Harp.*

This instrument may be made by almost any carpenter: it consists of a long narrow box of very thin deal, about five or six inches deep, with a circle in the middle of the upper side, of an inch and a half in diameter, in which are to be drilled small holes. On this side, seven, ten, or more strings, of very fine gut, are stretched over bridges at each end, like the bridges of a fiddle, and screwed up or relaxed with screw pins. The strings must be all tuned to one and the same note, and the instrument be placed in some current of air, where the wind can pass over its strings with freedom. A window, of which the width is exactly equal to the length of the harp, with the sash just raised to give the air admission, is a proper situation. When the air blows upon these strings, with different degrees of force, it will excite different tones of sound; sometimes the blast brings out all the tones in full concert, and sometimes it sinks them to the softest murmurs.