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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

To cast Figures in Imitation of Ivory

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The Art of Bronzing.

Bronzing is that process by which figures of plaster of Paris, wood, &c. are made to have the appearance of copper or brass. The method is as follows :

Dissolve copper filings in aquafortis. When the copper has impregnated the acid, pour off the solution, and put into it some pieces of iron, or iron filings. The effect of this will be to sink the powder to the bottom of the acid. Pour off the liquor, and wash the powder in successive quantities of fresh water. When the powder is dry, it is to be rubbed on the figure with a soft cloth, or a piece of leather ; but observe, that previously to the application of the bronze powder, a dark blackish sort of green is first to be laid on the figure : and if you wish the powder to adhere stronger, mix it with gum water, lay it on like paint, with a camel's hair brush, or previously trace the parts to be bronzed with gold size, and when nearly dry, rub the powder over it.

To cast Figures in Imitation of Ivory.

Make isinglass and strong brandy into a paste, with powder of egg-shells, very finely ground. You may give it what colour you please ; but cast it warm into your mould, which you previously oil over. Leave the figure in the mould till dry, and you will find, on taking it out, that it bears a very strong resemblance to ivory.