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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

How to make a Piece of Metal, or any other Heavy Body, swim upon the surface of the Water, like a Cork

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taking them off again, to say nothing of repairing any defect that may occur. The stalks of other than fruit trees may also suffice, but they should in either case be plucked while in full vigour, or they are apt to break during the manufacture.

How to make a Piece of Metal, or any other Heavy Body, swim upon the surface of the Water, like a Cork.

The specific gravity of water is inferior to that of metals, and consequently water, absolutely speaking, cannot support a globe of iron or lead; but if this ball be flattened, and beat out to a very thin plate, it will, if put softly upon still water, be prevented from sinking, and will swim upon its surface like any light substance. In like manner, if a fine steel needle, which is perfectly dry, be placed gently upon some still water in a vessel, it will float upon the surface without sinking.

But if you would have a metallic body of large dimensions to swim upon water, you must reduce it into a thin concave plate, like a kettle, in which case, as the air it contains, together with the body itself, weighs less than the same bulk of water; it cannot possibly sink, as is evident from large copper boats, or pontoons, by which whole armies are frequently passed over rivers without danger.

And if this concave metallic vessel be placed upon the water with its mouth downwards, it will swim as

before, and the contained air will keep the bottom of it from being wet; for that the water will not rise into any hollow vessel which is immersed into it, may be made evident thus:—Take a glass tumbler, and plunge it in water with its mouth downwards, and you will find when you take it out, that the inside of the vessel is perfectly dry, so that if a live coal was put there, it would not be extinguished.

Patterns for Working Muslin Dresses, &c. may be multiplied by the following easy process.—Termed Stencilling.

Lay the print or drawing, which it is intended to copy over a sheet of paper, and with a pin or fine needle, as the case may require, prick the outlines of the print through both papers; then take the clean paper with the holes in it, and lay it upon the article you wish to have the *design* transferred to, fasten it there tolerably close, and dust it over with finely powdered charcoal, placed in a coarse bag, through the meshes whereof the dust will penetrate, and leave a correct copy of the original. Its adherence may be rendered more sure, by previously moistening the substance that is to receive the pattern, with a thin gum.

The pricked paper will serve again immediately for taking another pattern, and in the case of forming a border, or continuous pattern, care should be taken that the figure at one end begins where the other side leaves off.

By knowing the
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with the nine dig
4, 7; the number
58, 67, 876, 106

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21, 24, and 27.

Then open that
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and desire another
other part.

Let them now m
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Suppose, for ex
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figure, you will re
the series, and that