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The young man's book of amusement

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How to Make a Drawing Desk

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besides this advantage, as the glass is transparent, correct copies may be placed below it, which the scholars ought to follow till their hand is properly formed. What is here said of drawing may be applied also to writing.

How to Make a Drawing Desk.

Let a frame be made of a reasonable size, so that a tolerably large piece of crown glass may rest upon it, supported by a ledge at the bottom part; where, by two hinges, it may be fastened to a drawer of the same dimension, which may be divided to serve for pen, ink, and paper, and other small utensils or instruments for drawing. To the top of the frame, fix two stays, by which the frame may be raised higher or lower, as occasion may require.

The manner of using this frame is thus:—lay the print or drawing you intend to copy on the glass, and fasten a sheet of fine white paper, with some wafers or paste, upon it; if you work in the day-time, place the back, after you have raised the frame to a proper height, against the window; but if by night, put a *lamp* behind it, and you will see every stroke of the print or drawing, which with your pen you may copy very accurately, and finish according to the manner you think proper. If it be a solid piece you intend to copy, then place it behind the desk, and having fastened your paper to the frame, put the lamp so as as to produce a strong shade on the object

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you have before you to draw, and you will plainly see to trace the outlines with black lead pencil : after which, fill up the shades in the manner it appears *without the desk*.

The Confederate Shilling.

Having previously marked a shilling with a cross, conceal it under some object in the room ; then request one of the company to lend you a shilling, and say, " Now I am going to perform a trick with this, and that you may know it again, I will mark it." Take a penknife, and cross it on the same side as the concealed shilling. Ask him if he will know it again, and then knock under the table and say, " Presto, be gone." Convey it secretly up your sleeve, and tell the company it has vanished ; but you have an idea where they will find it. Name the place where you concealed the first shilling, which will be immediately discovered, and from the similarity of the mark, will be taken for that which was lent you.

Effect of Heat on the Ruby.

In subjecting rubies to a high degree of heat, Dr. Brewster observed a very singular effect produced by their cooling. At a high temperature, the red ruby becomes green ; as the cooling advances, this green