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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

The Green Tint of Plants preserved by Gas

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eight inches in diameter, the upper extremity of which must be covered with a piece of skin or bladder, pierced with small holes. If the weather is to be fine, the solid matters remain at the bottom of the tube, and the alcohol is as transparent as usual. If rain is to fall in a short time, some of the solid particles rise and fall in the alcohol, which becomes somewhat thick and troubled. When a storm, tempest, or even a squall is about to come on, all the solid matters rise from the bottom of the tube, and form a crust on the surface of the alcohol, which appears in a state of fermentation. These appearances take place 24 hours before the tempest ensues; and the point of the horizon from which it is to blow, is indicated by the particles gathering most on the side of the tube, opposite to that part whence the wind is to come.

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The Green Tint of Plants preserved by Gas.

It has been lately discovered that the gas which is now employed for the purpose of illumination (carbonated hydrogen), and which is almost always present in coal-mines, has the curious property of preserving the green-tints of plants unimpaired after all light has been withdrawn from them; various plants having lately been discovered growing in such situations, whose green colour was quite as perfect as those growing in the light.