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

**Halifax, 1848**

To Destroy Caterpillars

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cut straw. By diluting the sulphuric acid with a due addition of water, sawdust, cut linen, paper, &c. were converted into gum and saccharine matter. It must excite great interest in reflecting minds, to see an indissoluble, tasteless substance, like the filaments of wood, converted, by chemical re-action, into two new bodies, and chemistry thus exercise a power, which, till lately, appeared to belong to nature alone, and in particular to vegetation. For this artificial formation of sugar and gum, now discovered, must not be confounded with the extraction of these two substances from bodies in which they already existed, a process which has been known from time immemorial. What has now been discovered, is a transformation—a metamorphosis, of which the most ingenious chemist had previously no idea; and it affords a new proof of the boundless extent of the domain of practical chemistry.

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#### *To Destroy Caterpillars.*

A mode of destroying caterpillars, has been discovered by accident. A piece of woollen rag had been blown by the wind into a currant-bush, and when taken out was found covered by these leaf-devouring insects. Pieces of woollen cloth were immediately placed on every bush in the garden, and next day the caterpillars had universally taken to them for shelter. In this way thousands were destroyed every morning.

*Cheap Mo*

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