

Badische Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe

Digitale Sammlung der Badischen Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe

The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Substitute for a Copying Machine

[urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-100120](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-100120)

Working and joining of Tortoise-shell.

Tortoise-shell and horn become soft in a moderate heat, as that of boiling water, so as to be pressed in a mould, into any form, the shell or horn being previously cut into plates of a proper size. Plumier informs us, in his *Art de Tourner*, that two plates are likewise united into one by heating and pressing them; the edges being thoroughly cleaned, and made to fit close to one another. The tortoise-shell is conveniently heated for this purpose by applying a hot iron above and beneath the juncture, with the interposition of wet cloth to prevent the shell from being scorched by the irons; these irons should be pretty thick, that they may not lose their heat, before the union is effected. Both tortoise-shell and horn may be stained of a variety of colours, by means of the colouring drugs commonly used in dyeing, and by certain metallic solutions.

Substitute for a Copying Machine.

Write with common writing ink, in which lump sugar has been dissolved, in the droportion of four scruples, or a drachm and a half of sugar to one ounce of ink. Moisten copying paper, (a paper which is sold at the stationers at 1s. 10d. per quire, for the use of copying machines) by passing a wet soft brush over it, then press it gently between soft

cap paper, so as to smoothen it, and absorb the superabundant moisture. Put the paper so moistened upon the writing, and both between cap or other smooth soft paper, placing the whole on the carpet or hearth-rug, one end of which is to be folded over. By standing and treading upon this, an impression will be taken, equal, if not superior, to what would have been taken by a copying machine.

Artificial Jewels.

The base of all these imitations is strass, or white crystal. The materials employed are melted in Hessian crucibles, and a porcelain furnace, or what is preferable, a potter's furnace is afterwards used. The more tranquil and prolonged the fusion is, the more hardness and beauty does the strass acquire.

STRASS.

The following three mixtures give a very fine strass :

Rock Crystal	0,321	0,3170	0,300
Minium	0,490	0,4855	0,565
Potash, pure	0,170	0,1770	0,105
Borax	0,021	0,0200	0,030
Arsenic, oxide of	0,001	0,0005	

1,000 1,0000 1,000

M. Lancon recommends the following mixture for a pure strass :