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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Of such Ingredients as show themselves in Sparks when rammed into choaked Cases

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359

A Brilliant Fire.

Meal powder, six pounds; saltpetre, half a pound; brimstone, two ounces; and steel-dust, twelve ounces.

Of such Ingredients as show themselves in Sparks when rammed into choaked Cases.

The set colours of fire produced by sparks are divided into four sorts, viz. the black, white, grey, and red : the black charges are composed of two ingredients, which are meal powder and charcoal; the white of three, viz. saltpetre, sulphur, and charcoal; the grey of four, viz. meal powder, saltpetre, brimstone, and charcoal; and the red of three, viz. meal powder, charcoal, and saw-dust.

There are, besides these four regular or set charges, two others, which are distinguished by the names of compound and brilliant charges; the compound charge being made of many ingredients, such as meal powder, saltpetre, brimstone, charcoal, saw-dust, sea-coal, antimony, glass-dust, brass-dust, steel-filings, cast iron, tanners' dust, &c. or any thing that will yield sparks; all which must be managed with discretion. The brilliant fires are composed of meal powder, saltpetre, brimstone, and steel-dust; or with meal powder and steel filings only.

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