

NO. 8.

STORIES

ABOUT THE

Balloon, windmill, sofa,
bureau, Harp, Baseviol,
violin, Buglehorn,
Fire-Engine, and
wheelbarrow.

IN WORDS OF

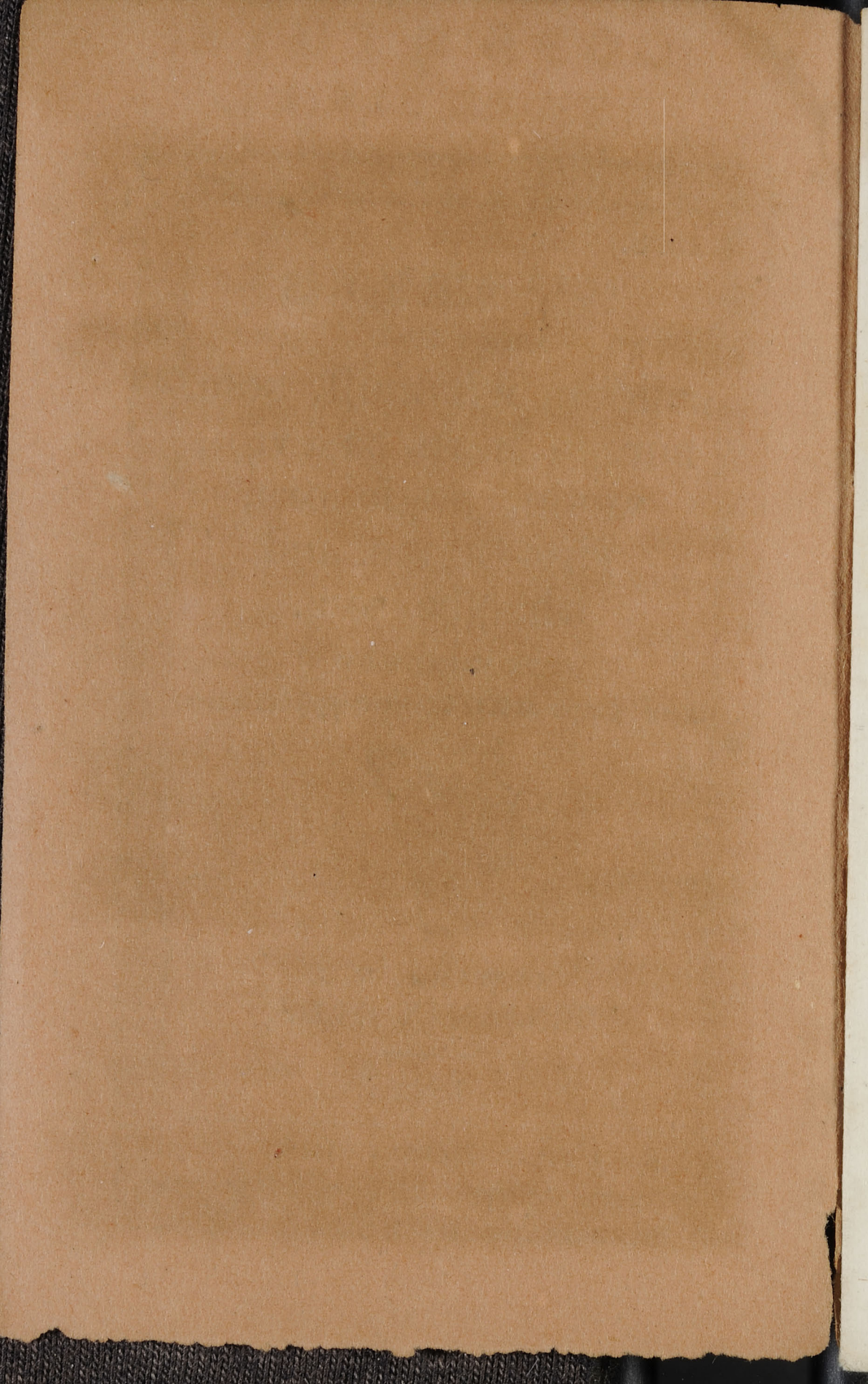
One, two and three syllables.



NEWARK, N. J.
BENJAMIN OLDS.

1844.

Price three cents.



COBB'S TOYS,
THIRD SERIES,

No. 8.

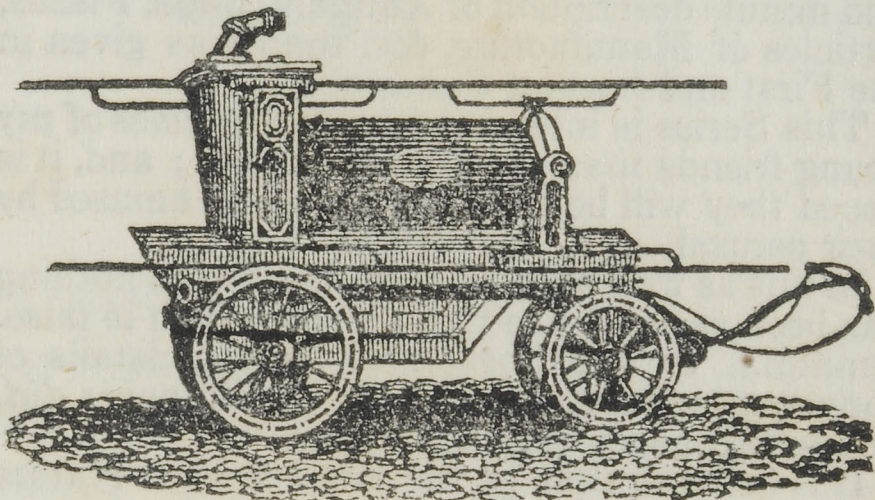
STORIES

ABOUT THE

BALLOON, WINDMILL, SOFA, BUREAU, HARP,
BASEVIOL, VIOLIN, BUGLEHORN, FIRE-
ENGINE, AND WHEELBARROW,

IN WORDS OF

ONE, TWO, AND THREE SYLLABLES.



A FIRE-ENGINE

NEWARK, (N. J.)
BENJAMIN OLDS.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

Entered according to the Act of Congress, in the year, 1835, by LYMAN COBB, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Southern District of New York.

P R E F A C E

TO THE THIRD SERIES.

This Series of Toys contains a more extensive and minute description of Animals, Birds, Fishes, Articles of Manufacture, &c. than was given in the First and Second Series.

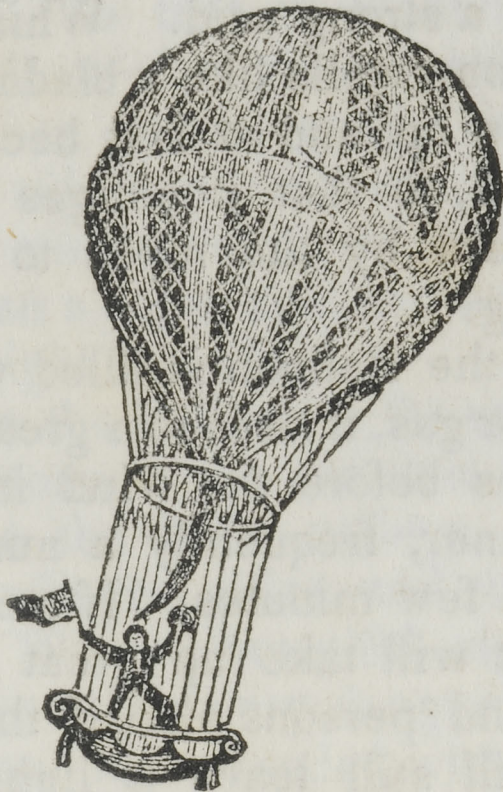
This Series is intended for a larger class of my young friends than the preceding ones; and, it is hoped they will be both benefited and amused by their perusal.

In this as well as in all the other Series nothing has been permitted to find a place which is false, unnatural, or unphilosophical, or any details of conversations among animals which never *did*, and which never *can* take place.

It is believed that in the large field of Nature and Art, there are sufficient materials for descriptions and stories without launching into the field of Fiction and Falsehood, to find subjects which will be interesting to children.

To remove difficulties in the reading of these Stories as far as possible, and thereby render them more interesting, the language used in the descriptions is limited to words of ONE, TWO, and THREE SYLLABLES.

New York, June 29, 1835.



A BALLOON.

A Balloon is a very large bag, somewhat resembling a globe, made of silk cloth, and is covered with a kind of varnish.

The Balloon is then filled with a kind of air called gas, which is much lighter than common air. The Balloon is filled with this gas by means of pipes coming from a number of tubs, in which there are iron-filings and oil of vitriol : for this light air proceeds from iron while dis-

solving in a strong acid. While filling, the Balloon swells like a bladder when it is blown up, and at last becomes almost round, so that it obliges the men to pull hard by the ropes to keep it from rising.

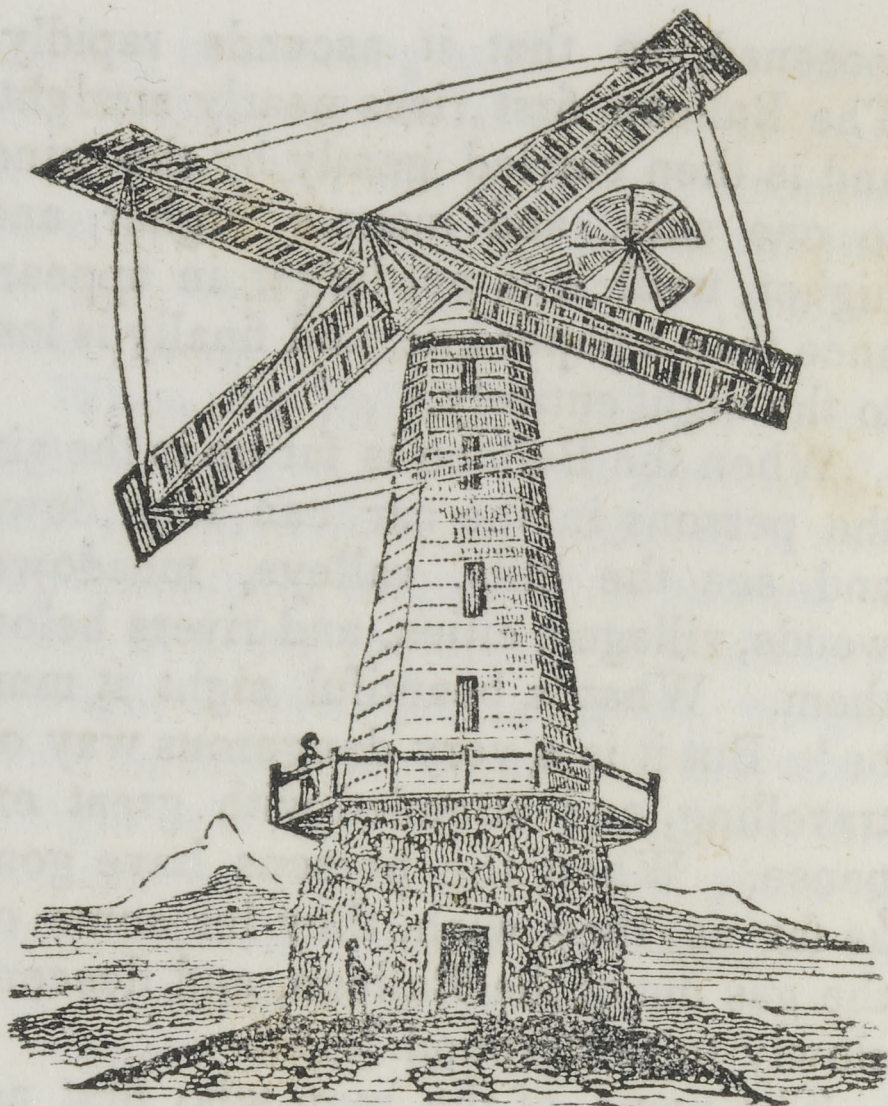
When the Balloon is filled with this light air, or gas, it rises to a great height, and moves before the wind in a very rapid manner, frequently a number of miles in a few minutes. If made large enough, it will take up great weights with it, and persons also, if the whole weight will still leave it lighter than common air; just as a large piece of cork would rise through the water, though a piece of lead were hung to it.

When persons wish to ride up in the air with a Balloon, they surround it with a kind of network, having small cords, or ropes, attached to the bottom of it; and a small car, which somewhat resembles a small boat, is suspended by them. When the car is ready, one or two persons get into it, and the ropes, which held the Balloon from rising, are

loosened, so that it ascends rapidly. The Balloon first rises nearly straight, and is then carried gently by the wind to one side, and mounts higher and higher, until it is not larger in appearance than a paper kite, and finally is lost to the sight entirely.

When the Balloon is far up in the air, the persons in the car can look down and see the hills, valleys, meadows, woods, villages, cities, and rivers below them. What a beautiful sight it must be! But it is a very dangerous way of travelling, and attended with great expense. When the persons have gone as far as they wish, they let some of the gas out of the Balloon, and descend slowly to the ground.

The name of the man who first ascended with a Balloon, was Rosier, a Frenchman, in 1783, who afterward, in company with another person, lost his life by the Balloon's taking fire when about three fourths of a mile from the earth.



A WINDMILL.

A Windmill is a tall house, or building, shaped somewhat like a sugar-loaf.

On the top of the building are placed four long wings, or arms, very high in the air; and, when the wind blows, these wings, or arms, turn round. On

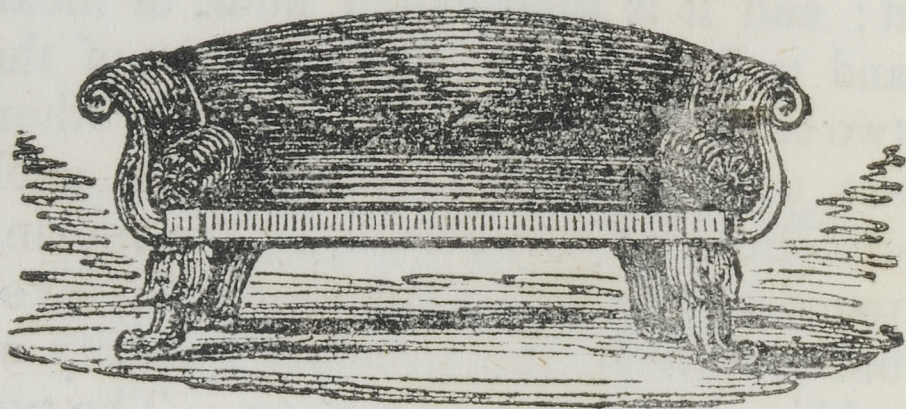
some of these buildings there are a great many small wings placed so as to move round the top of the building in a circular manner.

Within the Windmill there are large stones, connected with wheels, or shafts, which are attached to the arms, or wings, of the Windmill; and, when the wind moves the wings, the stones are turned round likewise. Between these stones the men put corn, rye, or wheat; and, when the stones turn round, they grind it; and it is then called flour, or meal, and is fit for use. The surfaces of the two stones which are next to each other, are cut into shallow furrows, in such directions as may create, by the moving round of the upper stone over the fixed one below it, the greatest quantity of rubbing and grinding motion. The two surfaces do not touch each other at all; and the small distance which is left between the stones is adjusted at pleasure, according to the nature of the grain; the nearer the stones work together, the finer will be the flour, or meal, into

which the grain is ground. Apples, bark, plaster, &c., as well as grain, can be ground by Windmills.

The Windmill makes a very majestic appearance when the wings are in full movement by the force of the wind.

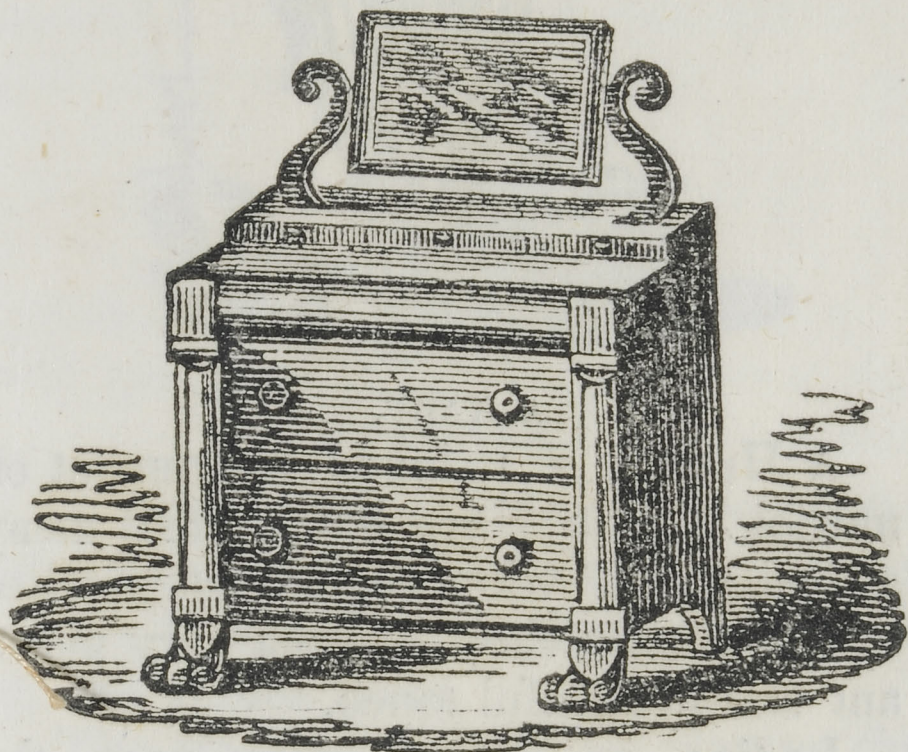
The Windmill is a very happy contrivance, as it can be used in any part of the country where there is no river, or creek, on which a Watermill could be erected.



A SOFA.

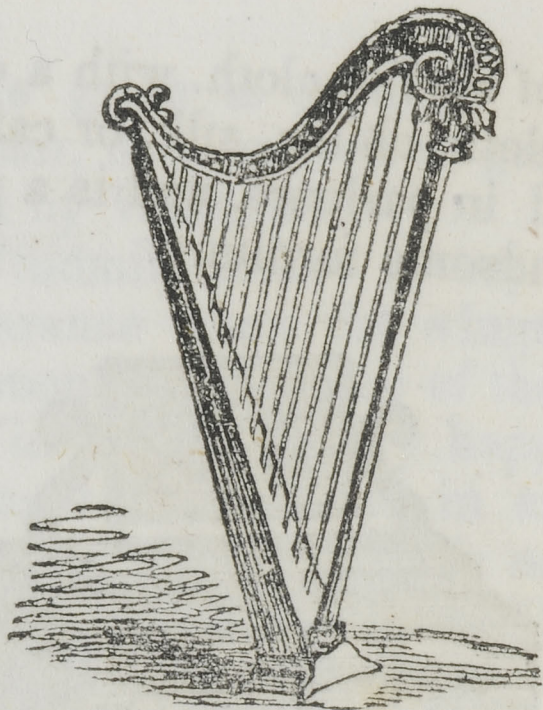
A Sofa is a long, elegant seat, in general with a stuffed bottom. Sofas are, however, made in very different forms, as well as of different articles. In this country the usual frame is made of mahogany, and the bottom is

formed of stuffed cloth. with a covering of hair-cloth, chints, silk, or calico. It is placed in parlours, and is a piece of very handsome furniture.



A BUREAU.

A Bureau is a chest of drawers, in which to keep clothes or papers. They are, in general, made of mahogany, or cherry wood. Some Bureaus are very beautiful, having a looking-glass placed on the top of them, and two nice, handsome glass knobs on each drawer.



A HARP.

A Harp is a stringed instrument of musick. The Harp has a great many strings; and, when these are touched by the fingers, they give out very pleasant and delightful tones.

Ladies, in general, play upon the Harp, which is a very beautiful instrument, and produces fine, sweet musick. It is also a very great ornament in a lady's parlour. Perhaps there is no instrument that produces, when well played, a greater degree of harmony and melody than the Harp.



A BASEVIOL.

A Baseviol is a stringed instrument of musick, having four strings, played with a bow, which is struck on them or drawn across them.

The Baseviol is used for playing the base, or gravest part of musick ; and its tones are deep, soft, and pleasant.

Baseviols were formerly used, more than at present, in the performance of sacred musick in churches ; but large organs are now used instead of them to a great extent.



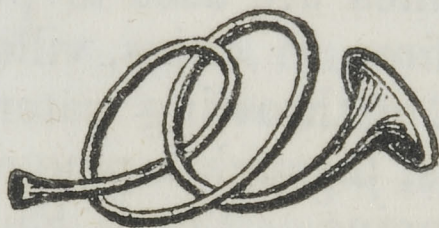
A VIOLIN.

A Violin, like the Baseviol, is a stringed instrument of musick, having four strings played with a bow.

The body of the Violin, as well as the Baseviol, is hollow ; if they were not so, the bow and strings would not produce as much sound, or as pleasant as they now do when the bow is struck on the strings.

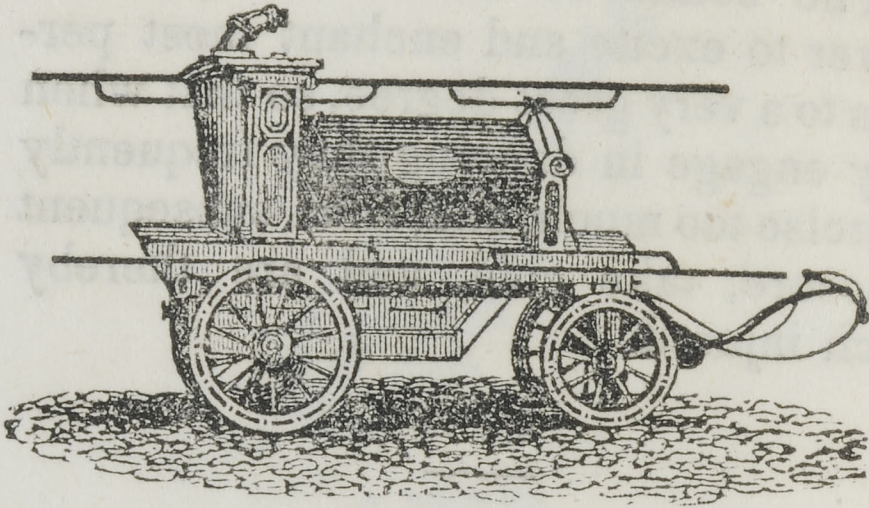
The Violin is in very general use at parties of pleasure, balls, &c. It is one of the most perfect and powerful instruments that has ever been invented, and is well suited to gay musick ; and it is, therefore, almost always used, when people are engaged in dancing.

The sound of the Violin has the power to excite and enchant most persons to a very great degree, so that when they engage in dancing they frequently exercise too much, and, from subsequent exposure, take cold, and are thereby much injured.



A BUGLEHORN.

The Buglehorn is a very fine wind instrument of musick, and produces, when well played, delightful sounds. The Buglehorn is in almost all bands of martial musick; and it adds, more than any other instrument, to the pomp and grandeur of military parade, &c.



A FIRE-ENGINE.

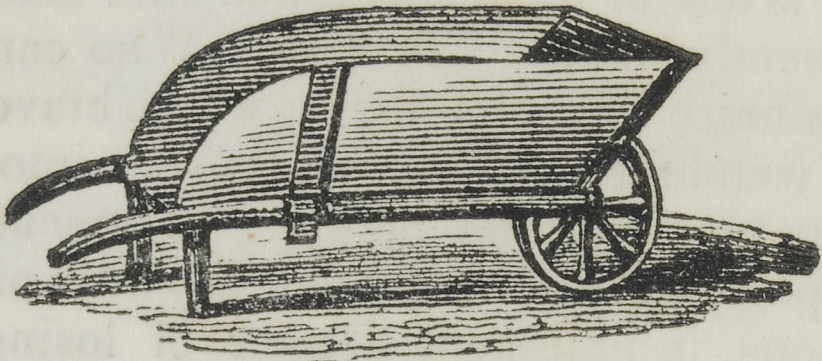
Fire-Engines are used to put out or extinguish fires in cities, villages, and large towns, by throwing water on burning buildings, through a pipe connected with the Engine, These Engines are each managed, or worked by a company of men, each Engine being numbered, as No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, &c. Each company of men belonging to an Engine, chooses a foreman, who has the charge of it during a fire.

Whenever there is an alarm of fire, every fireman is obliged to turn out and hasten to the place where the fire is, or is said to be ; no matter what the weather is, whether it be in the heat of the

summer, or in the severe cold of the winter; during rain and fair weather; in all seasons. The task of the fireman is one of great labour and toil; and, frequently, risk of life also. Who can but admire the noble daring of the brave and watchful fireman, who rushes into, or on to a burning building to rescue the property, and very often the lives of persons, in imminent danger of losing his own?

There are a great many Fire-Engines in the city of New York; and, as the city is now quite large, it is a very severe task for the firemen to draw the Engines from one part of the city to the other by ropes attached to them. Very frequently, on an alarm of fire, a great many boys join with the firemen in dragging the Engines through the streets, hallooing and shouting, making a great noise. It is to be hoped that, as the city is now so extensive, horses will soon be provided to draw the Engines from place to place, as they may be needed; for, as it now is, the firemen

are so much fatigued, many times, on arriving at the fire, that they are unable to work the Engines.



A WHEELBARROW.

Wheelbarrows have one wheel and two legs. They have also two handles, by which a person takes hold and pushes them forward.

Wheelbarrows are in great use in many parts of the country, and to some extent in cities. They are used to convey small articles, or burdens, from one place to another. They are of great use to the mechanick and farmer; and they are much used in the making of canals and rail-roads, saving much labour and fatigue in removing the earth, small stones, &c.

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