XXVI. Description of a new method of applying the filtering stone for purifying water

Mr. William Moulton

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Thus then, it appears, sir, that Dr. Maskelyne never determined the mean density of the earth: that Mr Cavendish's late attempt can be considered only as a pretty and amusing little experiment, tending to corroborate the result of the calculations made on the large experiment, by, sir,

Your obliged humble servant,
CHARLES HUTTON.

London, August 14, 1811.

XXVI. *Description of a new Method of applying the Filtering Stone for purifying Water.* By Mr. WILLIAM MOULT*.

SIR, IF you think the following information, relative to a new method of filtering water, is deserving of the attention of the Society of Arts, &c. I wish you would lay it before them. My objections to the old method of filtering by putting water into the filtering-stone are, that the dirt falls to the bottom, and fills up or chokes the pores of the filtering-stone, so that the stone requires frequently to be cleaned with a brush and sponge to allow the water to pass, after which the water passes through the stone in a muddy state for two or three days; it likewise requires to be frequently filled, and as it empties, less water comes in contact with the stone, and therefore a smaller quantity only, in such a state, can pass through. Likewise a filtering-stone used in the common way soon becomes useless, from the filth insinuating itself into the internal parts of the stone, out of the reach of the brush.

In the method I propose and practise, the filtering-stone is placed within the water to be purified, which presses upon the outside of the filter, and the stone does not require to be supported in a frame, as it needs only to stand within the water cistern; it will thus filter, in an equal time, double the quantity of water procured in the common mode; it fills itself, and requires no cleaning. I have upon this plan used one for more than three years with great success.

I am, sir,

Your humble servant,

No. 37, Bedford-square, April 18, 1810.

WILLIAM MOULT.

To C. Taylor, M.D. Sec.

* From *Transactions of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce*, for 1810.—The Society voted their silver medal to Mr. William Moulton for this communication.

Re-

Reference to the Drawing of Mr. Moul's Filtering Apparatus, Fig. 1. Pl. IV.

AA is the cistern containing the water to be filtered ; the filtering-stone B is suspended in the cistern by a ring around the inside of it, which catches the projecting part of the stone ; the water in the cistern filters through into the stone. D is a syphon which conveys the filtered water from the inside of the stone into a cistern E, which is the reservoir for clean water. *d* a cock to draw it off as it is wanted. By this mode of filtration the impurities of the water are deposited in the bottom of the cistern A, instead of being left in the bottom of the stone as in the usual mode.

XXVII. *Method of raising a loaded Cart when the Horse in the Shafts has fallen.* By Mr. BENJAMIN SMITH*.

SIR, I HAVE taken the liberty of sending you a model with a brief explanation of the utility of my invention, in order that it may be laid before the Society instituted for the Encouragement of Arts, &c. to whose comprehensive judgement and abilities I with great deference submit it for their determination, whether they think it likely to be attended with the success and utility which I flatter myself it deserves. From the simplicity of the construction and the trivial expense attending it, I presume there will be no bar to its universal adoption. I respectfully submit it to the discernment and decision of the Society, who will, I am convinced, give it all the merit and approbation it may deserve.

The reason which prompted me to undertake this business is, the having seen a horse which had fallen down under the immense weight of a heavy loaded cart, where it lay for a considerable time in that painful and dangerous situation, which naturally excited compassion even in the most obdurate heart. Every person frequenting the streets of this metropolis must have witnessed similar scenes ; and indeed it surprises me that long before now some expedients have not been publicly suggested to remove the mischief arising from such occurrences, considering the great encouragement that is given in this enlightened age to all useful improvements.

* From *Transactions of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce*, for 18 O.—The Society voted fifteen guineas to Mr. Benjamin Smith for this communication.

M^r Moulis' Filtering Apparatus.

M^r Smith's method of relieving a Horse which has fallen in the shaft of a loaded Cart.

M^r Taylor's Air Exhauster for Mines.