

On a first trial, some difficulty of manipulation may be found, in bringing the tin to a sufficiently impalpable powder, and also in hitting the proper quantity of glue to be put in. If the size be too strong, the agate has no effect; and if too weak, the tin crumbles off under the burnisher. A very little practice will make the process exceedingly easy.

NOTE BY MR. GILL.—We have extracted the above article from the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal, with a view of diffusing this useful process more extensively in this country; and also to point out the application of the *granulated tin* to the silvering and gilding of leather, in place of *leaf-silver*, and then varnishing it with a white or yellow lacker.

The granulating of tin or lead is, in this country, generally performed in a wooden box, made to shut closely, and previously rubbed over on its inside with chalk, to prevent the metals from adhering to the wood; and we apprehend, that if the powdered tin be finely searced previously to mixing it with the size, there will be no occasion for the levigation mentioned by Mr. Robison.

We have repeatedly seen iron articles from India, ornamented in the above manner, such as the hilts or handles of sabres, the furniture of their sheaths, &c.; but had always supposed them to have been coated with tin, by dipping them into the fused metal, in the manner commonly practised in this country; and which, for articles small enough to be treated in this way, is a very useful process, on account of the close adhesion of the tin to the iron.

PATENTS.

Every person acquainted with general Science, and particularly with Mechanics, has had frequent occasion to notice the numerous Patents obtained, both at home and abroad, for things which are altogether worthless, or for such as have been long known, and extensively used. To copy the whole of the specifications of foreign and domestic patents, would be to establish an extensive manufactory of waste paper—a business in which the Editor is determined not to engage. Arrangements have been made for obtaining from Washington, a list of all new patents, which will be published in this Journal; as also either a complete, or selected, list of those granted in England. Specifications of such as are deemed useful, will frequently be inserted.

ENGLISH PATENTS.

To RICHARD BADNALL, the Younger, of Leek, in the County of Stafford, Silk Manufacturer, for certain Improvements in Dying.

The object of these improvements is to produce a colour from Prussian Blue that shall be permanent when employed in dying

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