

**Morning and evening amusements, at Merlin's Mechanical Museum, No. 11, Princes Street, Hannover Square.**

**Contributors**

Merlin's Mechanical Museum.  
Merlin, John Joseph, 1735-1803.

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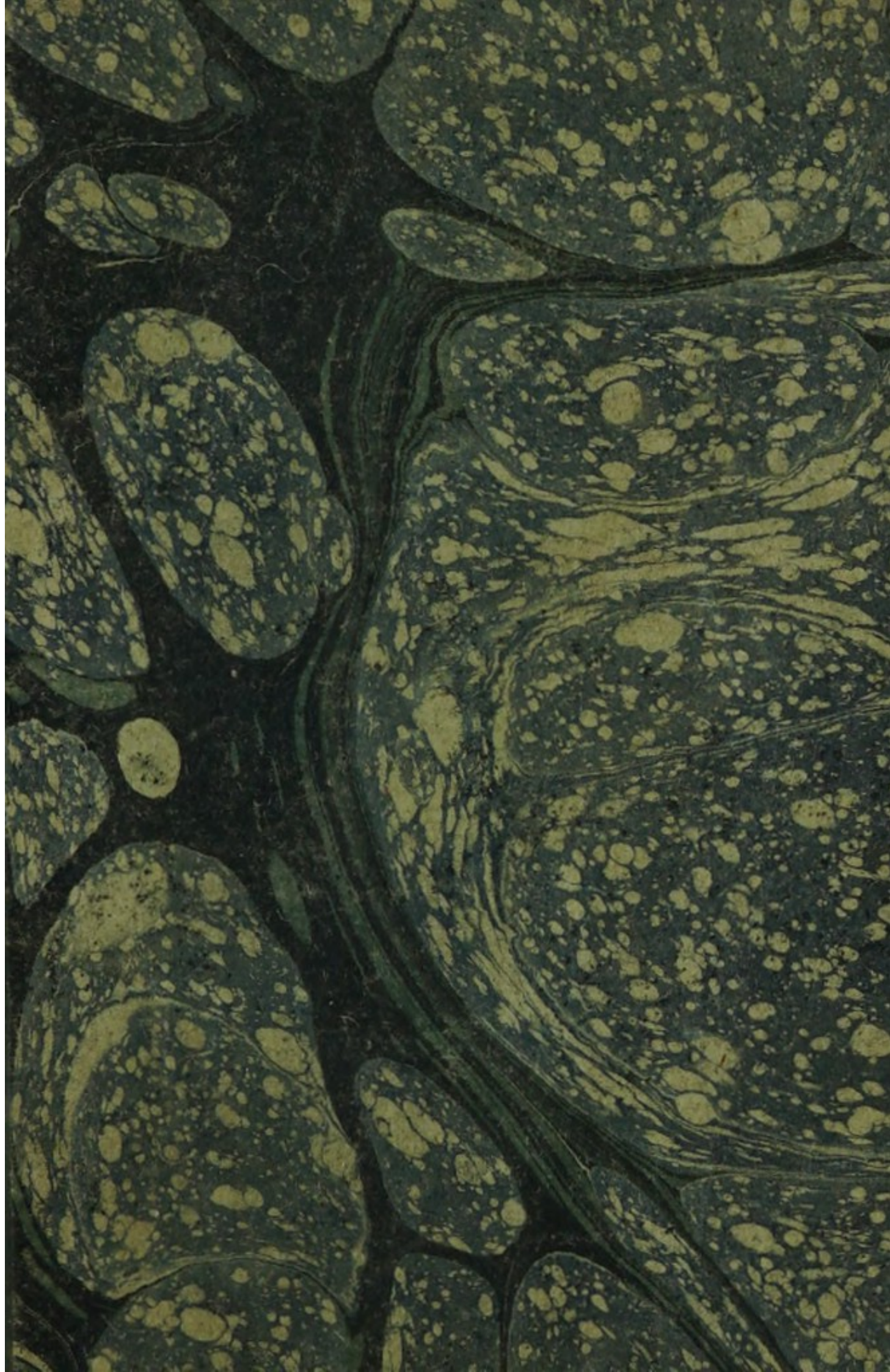
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36524/P

5 feet 9 inches

11 Stone 8 panned

John H. Mason - May  
April 30<sup>th</sup> / 1803.



MORNING AND EVENING  
AMUSEMENTS,

AT  
MERLIN'S  
MECHANICAL MUSEUM,  
No. 11, PRINCES STREET,  
HANOVER SQUARE.

Admission every Day during the whole  
Year (Sundays excepted) from Eleven  
till Three o'Clock,

AT HALF-A-CROWN,

And close at Four;  
And in the Evening, from Seven till  
Nine o'Clock,

AT THREE SHILLINGS,

And close at Ten.

LADIES and GENTLEMEN, who ho-  
nour Mr. MERLIN with their Com-  
pany, may be accommodated with  
TEA and COFFEE,

AT ONE SHILLING EACH.



Wrote by a LADY on seeing Mr. MERLIN's EXHIBITION.

---

IN the records of CLIO, you'll frequently find,  
The names of great Patriots who lov'd human kind,  
Of Heroes who nobly have shone in the field,  
And Poets whose verses instruction must yield:  
Come Patron of Merit! bright Goddess of Fame!  
Aloud to the world MERLIN's talents proclaim;  
To the favourite of Genius you surely should raise,  
A tribute of lasting and glorious praise.

MERLIN, ever anxious to contribute to the amusement of a generous Public, who has patronised his endeavours upwards of Forty Years, begs to acquaint them that he has now finished, and added to his Museum, a **WONDERFUL MAGICAL ILLUSION**, consisting of a great variety of animated Figures, which in design and effect far surpasses any thing of the kind ever before exhibited.

To be seen at 2 at Noon, and 8 at Night.



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MERLIN, ever anxious to con-  
tribute to the amusement of a  
generous Public, who has patro-  
nized his entertainments upwards of  
forty years, begs to acquaint them  
that he has now finished, and added  
to his Museum a NEW WIZARD  
MAGICAL ILLUSION, consist-  
ing of a great variety of animated  
Figures, which in design and effect  
far surpasses any thing of the kind  
ever before exhibited.

To be seen at 2 o'clock, and 8  
at Night.

# CATALOGUE.

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No. 1. A New and Curious constructed Balance, which will weigh 100 Persons in 15 Minutes without Weights, 336 lbs.

2. A New Invented REGULATOR, with a short Pendulum, which being placed over the Door of any Room winds itself up by the Opening of the Door, and will go correct for a Number of Years, and not liable to be out of order. It shows the Minutes, Quarters, and Hours, by ONE HAND ONLY. The Crown Wheel goes once round in a Minute, and shows Seconds, and half Seconds.

3. A New Invented CURIOUS CLOCK, which has neither Springs, Weights, or Wheels, and tells the Hour and Minutes with



ONE HAND ONLY, by the attraction and repulsion of three Magnets.

4. Merlin's Bird Cage for Ladies.

5. The Hydraulic Vase.

6. The Grand Band of Music.

7. The MORPHEUS and GOUTY-CHAIR is intended for the infirm, to wheel themselves from room to room, with the greatest ease; affording both exercise and amusement. It has a cradle, on which the legs may be placed in different positions, and also a small table to read and write at, or take refreshment off. The back of the MORPHEUS-CHAIR is made to fall down, at pleasure, so as to form a Bed or Couch, for the repose of those who have occasion to use it.

8. The Air-Gun.

9. The Library-Table.



10. The Mechanical GARDEN, wherein may be viewed Ladies and Gentlemen riding on horse-back, Ponds with gold and silver fish, Fountains, and several beautiful Temples and Pine-apples in jewel-work.

11. The TEA-TABLE enables a Lady to fill a dozen tea-cups, without using her hands.

12. SANCTORIUS'S BALANCE, which will give the weight and stature of any person who stands on it. It will weigh from 4 oz. to 600lb. and is so constructed, as that one lb. put into the scale, is equal to 112 lb. placed on the platform.

13. The Circus of *Cupid* is a representation of a piece of still-water, on which are seen moving in regu-



lar progression, a FISHERMAN in a boat, an elegant figure of FORTUNE standing on a moving wheel, two Flying Doves which draw a beautiful VENUS sitting in a shell, a SWAN, a FLYING-FISH, and a CUPID with bow and arrows. The latter, at the word of command, shoots at any of the Ladies; or at a flaming heart fixed on an Altar, which stands by the side of the water.

14. A Mechanical Cruising FRIGATE, rigged in the most perfect manner, sailing, by means of clock-work, on a curious representation of artificial water.

15. The Temple of FLORA, in which there is a number of beautiful Cascades, several Butterflies sporting upon flowers, Windmills in motion, &c. &c.



16. The Model of *Merlin's* Cave.
17. The JUGGLER playing with  
Cups and Balls.
18. The large double Escarpo-  
lette.
19. The small double Escarpo-  
lette.
20. The Card Machine.
21. The Gambling Machine.
22. A Barrel-Harpfichord.
23. The Whispering Busts.
24. The Stone-Eater.
25. The VOCAL HARP, is the  
body of a *Welch* Harp, strung with  
catgut, and laid on one side; form-  
ing an instrument somewhat simi-  
lar to a Harpfichord. It has a re-  
gular set of keys, by playing on  
which the most melodious and



pleasing sounds may be obtained, alternately resembling Violins, Violoncellos, Tenors, Flageolets, Eolian Harps, and a full Organ.

26. The Fire-Screen.

27. The HYGEIAN AIR-PUMP draws foul air out of Ships, Hospitals, Bed-clothes, &c. &c. and supplies them with that which is fresh, warm, or possesses a medicinal virtue.

28. The Aerial Cavalcade.

29. An ARTIFICIAL BAT which flies in the Cupola.

30. A Large Invariable TIME-KEEPER, in the shape of a WATCH, three feet diameter, now suspended in his MUSEUM. IT BEATS DEAD SECONDS with a short pendulum.

NEW ROOM.

31. A Double Escarpolette.

32. The Patent PIANO-FORTE  
HARPSICHORD, with Trumpets  
and Kettle-drums.

33. A Curious Hand-Organ.

34. A curious Music Stand.

35. A Curious BALANCE, which  
shews to any Lady or Gentleman  
who sits upon it but a short time,  
their Gradual Decrease in Weight.

36. A BARREL-ORGAN, which  
plays twelve tunes by clock-work.

37. The *Hygeian* Chair.

38. A REFLECTING MIRROR,  
which operates in a style entirely  
new, and must cause a risibi-  
lity in the countenance of every  
spectator, from the variety it dis-  
plays in the transfiguration of the  
human face.



## TO MR. MERLIN.

SIR,

*I enjoy such comfort and convenience in the use of the Chair you have supplied me with, that I hold myself bound in duty to acknowledge my share of the public obligation to you, for an invention where the performance so far exceeds the expectation. I shall have the pleasure to wait on you, with a friend or two, as soon as I recover the strength which a smart fit of the gout has for the present impaired; and in the mean time beg the favour of you to accept a few rhymes, not only sug-*

gested by your Chair, but written in  
 it, and coming from sensations as  
 warm at my heart as the disease was  
 in any joint about me. I am, SIR,

*Your obliged humble Servant.*

---

YOU who on Fortune's rough  
 high-way,

Which all are doom'd to whirl  
 in,

For gouty feet would take a seat,

Apply to Master Merlin.

Tho' coronets, fringe, and velvet,  
 deck

The chair that holds an Earl in,

At gout's first touch he'd chan-  
 ten such

For one of Master Merlin



The Beau must have a powdering  
chair

To frizz, toupee, or curl in ;--  
Let him be fine, while ease is mine  
In chair of Master Merlin.

Some hire an holiday-chaife and  
one,

To cram man, wife, boy, girl in ;  
I neither steed nor company need  
In chair of Master Merlin.

Talk not of Eastern caravans,

With silk, spice, gold or pearl in,  
Life knows no gain, like rest from  
pain

In chair of Master Merlin.

You travel, at your driver's will,

In dilly, hack, or berlin;

I choose my ground, back, for-  
ward, round,

In chair of Master Merlin.

The splendid carriage oft admits

A proud, self-center'd churlin;

I wish mankind the joy I find

In chair of Master Merlin.

Your very wheels a tax must pay

If public road they twirl in

I wish mankind the joy I find

In chair of Master Merlin.

Fancy, meanwhile, enjoys full  
scope

Her amplest sails t'unfurl in;

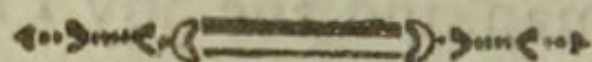
But three yard's race is ample  
space

In chair of Master Merlin.



To facts so felt, toes, ancles, knees,  
 Their conscious suffrage hurl in,  
 And truth encores, from thousand  
 pores,

O bravo! Master Merlin!



## HYGÆIA'S CHOICE.

A POEM.

HYGÆIA, goddess! lovely fair!  
 With wreathing smile and auburn  
 hair,  
 With cheek that mocks the rose's  
 hue,  
 With lips empearl'd with balmy  
 dew,  
 With breath exhaling odours round,  
 And vig'rous nerves that freely  
 bound;

Thee I have fought and follow'd  
long,

Thro' proud Augusta's busy throng;  
Each street explor'd and ev'ry fane,  
Where pleasure leads her laughing  
train ;

The festive board, the sportive ball,  
The gay parterre, the crowded hall,  
The park, the op'ra, concert, play,  
Each lov'd assemblage of the gay ;

Thro' ev'ry haunt where fashion  
roves,

Thro' each retreat her vot'ry loves.

Thee too I've fought at early dawn,  
On heath, and mead, and verdant  
lawn ;

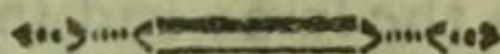
I've wander'd to the woods among,  
Where Philomela pour'd her song,



And by the gently flowing stream,  
 Have view'd the moon's reflected  
 beam,  
 And by the taper's sober light,  
 With looks consum'd the waining  
 night ;

Yet still, ungrateful, lovely fair,  
 Still, still, you fled my utmost care.  
 At length I've found thy fly retreat,  
 Where you with MERLIN hold  
 your seat ;

Then with each blessing in thy train,  
 There, goddess, fix thy constant  
 reign,  
 While I to all admirers tell,  
 That health presides at MERLIN'S  
 CELL.



AT Merlin's you meet with delight,  
His Clock of magnetical pow'r,  
Keeps motion by day and by night,  
By one hand tells the minute and  
hour.

His Hydraulic Vase shews his skill,  
He water can raise at his pleasure;  
His grand band of Music his will,  
To confine you to ease without  
measure.

The Musical Cabinet shews,  
His wonderful skill how to please;  
Four people it always allows,  
To sit down and play at their ease.



His Morpheus Chair for the gout,  
 Gives ease to the lame and infirm ;  
 His Air-Gun makes balls fly about,  
 When shot by the gentle or stern.

His Library-Table likewise,  
 To the student much pleasure affords ;  
 And gives ease to the aged and wise,  
 When reading or writing of words.

His Mechanical Garden delights,  
 Every one who's so happy to view ;  
 Tho' it's shown them on several nights,  
 It pleases as much as when new.

The Tea-Table next comes in sight,  
 With such wonderful pow'r to please,  
 That ladies by day or by night,  
 May sit down and fill at their ease.

The Balance Sanctorius they call,  
 Will shew you your weight in a trice;  
 Will measure your height great or  
     small,  
 And to measurement comes very nice.

The Circus of Cupid must please,  
 Must elate every young female heart;  
 But he sometimes deprives them of ease,  
 If too deep in their hearts shoots his  
     darts.

The Fisherman rows in his boat;  
 The Goddess of Fortune appears;  
 He dress'd in his nautical coat,  
 She fix'd on the circle of years.

The Goddess of Love now appears,  
 In her favourite car drawn by doves;



Her hair flowing loose, she appears  
As May, the kind mother of loves.

The Swan proudly swims on the  
waves;

The Flying-Fish wafts in the air;

The Frigate the elements braves,

Her masts and her sails always fair.

The Temple of Flora bestows,

A prospect of plenty and peace;

The Butterfly sportingly goes,

From flower to flower with ease.

The Windmills their motions display,

They delight every eye & each heart;

They excel all the blossoms in May,

When the chaff from the wheat does  
depart.

There is Merlin's fam'd plan brought  
you forth,

Of a Cave he proposes to all ;

The Model has given him birth,

That now on your feelings he'll call,

To subscribe to his Cave, when you see

The improvements he means to produce ;

For the joy and delight, of all free

From the weight of the pomegranate  
juice.

When in ballrooms you'll revel at ease,

There's music to cherish the soul ;

You may dance, or may sit at your ease,

Nor e'er want the full flowing bowl.

You may speak from each end of the  
room,

Nor be heard by the company by ;



And converse with each friend that  
 should come,  
 Nor any one give you the lie.

There's a Juggler so wise as to know  
 Which hand shall contain the round  
 ball,  
 And he frequently lets you down low,  
 When you find you have made a wrong  
 call.

There's the Swings where you'll find  
 exercise,

At once will restore you to health ;  
 And if you're both prudent and wise,  
 No longer you'll value your wealth.

If you wish to amuse at the Game,  
 And Whist is your favourite play,  
 The cards tho' you're blind you may  
 name,  
 If you'll follow the rules and obey.

You may gamble at even and odd,  
 And never be sure you shall win;  
 You may run o'er the ground you  
     had trod,  
 And yet meet with a double take-in.

There's a Harpsichord next you will  
     view,  
 An Organ it keeps; by the hand!  
 (You'll certainly think it quite new,)  
 You can play seven tunes in a band.

There's another 12 tunes you will find,  
 By clock-work continually plays;  
 And amuse both body and mind,  
 And enraptures the poetic lays.

There's the Turk, who eats all he can  
     get,  
 Of stones when put into his mouth,



He's a figure you'll rarely forget,  
 Tho' remov'd from the north to the  
 south.

The renowned Welch-harp you will  
 find,

On one side, laid to play on with  
 pleasure;

Without boasting of knowledge of  
 mind,

You'll always be sure of true measure:

Five instruments always in tune,

It's a sight you can't always survey;

Composed in one instrument's tune,

All of which one Musician can play.

The Fire-screen next may be seen,

Wherereading and writing you'll do;

The Bedstead and Couch too is e'en,

A snug place of rest, when your due.

The Pump with the Hygean aid,  
 Draws foul air from the house or the  
 ship ;

Keeps your rooms always free, nor  
 afraid

Are you ever on dangers to slip.

There's four Horses! you'll ride in  
 the Air!

And above all the company placed.

Whoever takes most rings off fair,

With the title of Hero'll be graced.

Then let every one quickly repair,

To the Temple of Comfort and Joy;

Merlin's always both open and fair,

Other treats are no more than a toy.

For here you can mingle together,

Distinctions are all at an end ;

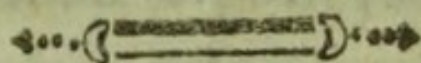


Should we have either foul or fair  
 weather,  
 Go there, and you'll meet with a  
 Friend.

You'll find neither Party, nor Pride,  
 'Cause insults, or scorn from the Great;  
 The Cit, with his Wife by his side,  
 There's, as great as the Premier of  
 State.

Joy infuses itself all around,  
 Exhilarates every soul;  
 No place on the earth can be found,  
 To give so much life to the bowl.

It enlivens the mind when dull care  
 Overcrowds the concerns of this life;  
 It's a pleasing resort for the Fair,  
 And a treat to the Youth, Man and  
 Wife.



To all ARTISTS of GENIUS,  
&c.

THE daily increasing numbers that honour MR. MERLIN's unparalleled MUSEUM with their preference and approbation, calls for his warmest gratitude and thanks. After forty years study and employment to please the eye and instruct inquisitive minds, he is now anxious to employ the few that may remain in compleating some valuable unfinished Pieces, in addition to those already exhibited; but that he may have leisure for



that purpose, he is necessitated to decline in future the manufacturing some of his Inventions of great utility for preserving health, meliorating complaints, and alleviating the infirmities of age; yet still anxious that the Public, when he is no more, may have the benefit of his past labours, all ingenious Mechanics are invited to come to his MUSEUM every Morning, (Sunday excepted), and take the drawings and dimensions of these articles for their own private advantage, on paying the usual terms of admission, viz.

1. Quartetto Music Cabinet.

2. Morpheus and Gouty Chair.

3. The Library Table.
4. The Tea Table.
5. Sanctorius Balance.
6. Large double Escarpolette, or  
Swing.
7. The Fire Screen.
8. Valetudinarian Bedstead.
9. Hygeian Air Pump.
10. A Curious Music Stand.
11. The Hygeian Chair.
12. The Prophetic Bell.

No. 11, Princes-Street,  
Hanover-Square.

N. B. Any ingenious Cabinet-makers or Mechanics, who are desirous of making and copying any of Mr. Merlin's curious and useful



pieces of mechanism, Mr. Merlin will recommend to the Nobility and Gentry by favouring him with their addrefs.

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Printed by Keating, Brown and Keating,  
No. 37, Duke Street, Grosvenor Square.

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