ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF FIRE-ENGINES AND APPARATUS, THE TRAINING OF FIREMEN, AND THE METHOD OF PROCEEDING IN CASES OF FIRE

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On the Construction of Fire-Engines and Apparatus, the Training of Firemen, and the Method of Proceeding in Cases of Fire by James Braidwood

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JAMES BRAIDWOOD

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Trieste



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CONSTRUCTION

OF'

FIRE-ENGINES AND APPARATUS,

THE TRAINING OF FIREMEN,

AND THE

METHOD OF PROCEEDING IN CASES OF FIRE.

BY JAMES BRAIDWOOD,

MASTER OF FIRE-ENGINES IN EDINBORGH.

Now come the Men of Fire to quench the Fire .- Rejected Addresses.

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EDINBURGH :

SOLD BY BELL & BRADFUTE, AND OLIVER & BOYD; AND BY W. J. TILLEY, FIRE-ENGINE AND HOSE MAKER, No.166, BLACKFRIARS' ROAD, LONDON.

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PREFACE.

Not having been able to find any work on Fireengines in the English language, I have been led to publish the following remarks, in the hope of inducing others to give farther information on the subject.

FOR the style of the work I make no apology; and as I presume no one will read it except for the purpose of gaining information, my aim will be obtained if I shall have succeeded in imparting it, or in directing the public attention to the advantage which may be derived from the systematic training of Firemen.

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ON

THE CONSTRUCTION

OF

FIRE-ENGINES AND APPARATUS.

DESCRIPTION OF A FIRE-ENGINE.

IN order that the reader may have a distinct idea of a fire-engine, I shall here endeavour to give a description of such a one as I conceive best adapted to general purposes,—the description being chiefly taken from those made by W. J. Tilley, fire-engine maker, No 166, Blackfriars-Road, London.

Plate 1st is a perspective view of a fire-engine.

The elevation, plan, and section, in figs. 1 of plates 2, 3, and 4, represent a fire-engine of sixinch barrels and seven-inch stroke. The cistern marked A in the figures above referred to, is made wholly of oak. The upper work B, and side-boxes or pockets C, are of Baltic fir. The sole D, (in figs. 1 of plates 3 and 4,) upon which the barrels stand, and which also contains the valves, is of cast iron, with covers of the same material, which are screwed down, and the joints made good with

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and the second

common or artificial leather. The pieces E, at each end of the cast-iron sole D, in figs. 1 of plates 3 and 4, are of cast brass, and screwed to the castiron sole D, with a joint the same as above. In one of these pieces is the suction-cock F, and to the other is attached the air-vessel G, made of sheet-copper, joined at R, and attached to the piece E, by a screw. The exit-pipe H, in figs. 1 of plates 2 and 4, is attached to the under side of the casting E, by a swivel-screw. The valves I, in fig. 1, plate 4, are of brass, ground so as to be completely water-tight. The barrels K, in figs. 1 of plates 3 and 4, are of cast brass. The bushes L, in figs. 1 of plates 2, 3, and 4, are of the same material. The engine is set on four grasshopper springs M. The hind axle is kneed at the cistern. The shafts O, of the levers P, are of lancewood. The box S, in fig. 1, plates 2 and 4, is used for keeping wrenches, cord, &c. : it has a false bottom, and the space T below it, is used for keeping the materials necessary for a fire-escape, viz. a chain-ladder of 80 feet, a large canvass bag, and two strong belts; in the fore part of the cistern A, and the box B above the cistern, the hose is kept: the directors and suction-pipes are carried in the side-boxes or pockets C; the rest of the tools and materials are kept along with the above-mentioned articles, or strapped on the outside of the engine, in such situations as not to interfere with the working. Y is a bar for locking the shafts, to prevent them from interfering with the wheels, when the engine turns.