

*Urania's Mirror, or a View of the Heavens: accompanied by Aspin's familiar Treatise on Astronomy.* London 1824. S. Leigh.

AMONG the many ingenious and beautiful inventions to promote the study of science, and render it as delightful as it is valuable, we have never seen any thing to surpass this admirable production. It is stated in the title, to be "on a plan perfectly original, designed by a lady;" and we are sure that thousands of her sex and all the young of both sexes will repay her with gratitude for the pure and elegant pleasure she has thus prepared for them. Like almost every interesting discovery, the present is exceedingly simple. It consists of a number of large cards, on which are engraved and coloured the various constellations which occupy our northern hemisphere; each containing one or more of those remarkable divisions which ancient astronomers framed to assist the memory and enable them to describe the positions of the stars. Thus marked out for more distinct elucidation, the new plan is completed by perforating every star in the constellation in proportion to its relative magnitude, and in its actual place; so that by holding the card up to the light you perceive at once the entire form, the precise situation, and the character, of those heavenly bodies

which are visible in each constellation. Nothing can be more demonstrative and instructing, while at the same time nothing (as we have said) can be more ingenious and beautiful. With this assistance any person may become acquainted with the "starry heavens," or make their youthful friends astronomers, while they are charmed by an amusement. Mr. Aspin's Treatise is an excellent guide; and we have only to repeat our most cordial encomium upon the whole of this fine invention.