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AUTOMATON CALCULATOR.—Dr. Roth's automaton calculator was exhibited, and its action explained by Mr. Wertheimer. He gave a short review of the various attempts at constructing calculating machines, noticing the Roman Abacus; the calculating boxes of the Chinese and Russians; the several classes of instruments invented by Napier, in 1617, by Perrault, and others, in 1720, and, subsequently, the slide rule invented by Michael Scheffelt, of Ulm, in 1699; the more important machines attempted by Pascal in 1640, by Moreland in 1673, by Gersten, and Leibnitz, which were submitted to the Royal Society of London, and the Academie des Sciences in Paris; he then mentioned the machine of Mr. Babbage, upon which upwards of £22,000 had been expended before the project was abandoned, and the finished part, which formed tables of progression up to five figures, was consigned to the museum of King's College, London. Dr. Roth's machine appears very simple, and its results, which were severally tested, were very accurate; it performed all the operations of arithmetic from simple addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of numbers, or of pounds, shillings and pence, to vulgar and decimal fractions, involution and evolution, and arithmetical and geometrical progression; it appears particularly adapted for checking long calculations of quantities, for contractors, for merchant's counting houses, or for government offices.

The same principle had been adopted as counters for rotary, or reciprocating machines, and they appeared from the compactness of their form, and their regularity of action, to be well adapted for the purpose.—*Civil Eng. & Arch. Journal.*

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A LETTER FROM ROME, of the 20th ult., states

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