

Badische Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe

Digitale Sammlung der Badischen Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe

The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Money augmented by an Optical Illusion

[urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-100120](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-100120)

Common prudence will dictate the necessity of using great care in the above experiments, as an accident will soon happen, if a person does not get out of the way before the composition explodes.

The Tumbling Egg.

Fill a quill with quicksilver, seal it at both ends with good hard wax; then have an egg boiled, take a small piece of the shell off the small end, and thrust in the quill with the quicksilver; lay it on the ground and it will not cease tumbling about so long as any heat remains in it: or if you put quicksilver into a small bladder, and blow it up, then warm the bladder, it will skip about so long as heat remains in it.

Money augmented by an Optical Illusion.

In a large drinking glass of a conical shape, (small at the bottom and wide at the top) put a shilling, and let the glass be half full of water; then place a plate on the top of it, and turn it quickly over, that the water may not escape. You will see on the plate a piece of coin the size of half-a-crown; and a little higher up, another, the size of a shilling.

It will add to the amusement this experiment affords, by giving the glass to one of the company, (but who of course has not witnessed your operations)

and desiring him to throw away the water, but save the pieces; he will not be a little surprised at finding only one.

To set a combustibile Body on Fire, by the Contact of Water.

Fill a saucer with water, and let fall into it a piece of potassium the size of a pepper corn, which is about two grains. The potassium will instantly burst into flame, with a slight explosion, and burn vividly on the surface of the water, darting at the same time from one side of the vessel to the other, with great violence in the form of a beautiful red-hot fire-ball.

To construct the Camera Obscura.

Make a circular hole in the shutter of a window, from whence there is a prospect of some distance; in this hole place a magnifying glass, either double or single, whose focus is at the distance of five or six feet; no light must enter the room but through this glass. At a distance from it, equal to its focus, place a very white pasteboard, (what is called a Bristol board, if you can procure one large enough, will answer extremely well;) this board must be two feet and a half long, and eighteen or twenty inches high, with a black border round it: bend the length of it

toward to the f
is equal to do
it on a frame
moveable foot
distance from
the greatest
the objects in
the paper in
regularity, a
place a swi
turning it n
all the objec
If, instea
window, yo
(which must
you may ha
horizontally
the objects
Observe,
the best tim

Let the m
fying glass,
cave mirror,
thin strip of
hold it in the
the focal distan
on the opposite