

# **Badische Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe**

**Digitale Sammlung der Badischen Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe**

## **The young man's book of amusement**

**Halifax, 1848**

To melt Iron in a moment, and make it run into Drops

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*To make the Appearance of a Flash of Lightning, when any one enters a Room with a lighted Candle.*

Dissolve camphor in spirit of wine, and deposit the vessel containing the solution in a very close room, where the spirit of wine must be made to evaporate by strong and speedy boiling. If any one then enters the room with a lighted candle, the air will inflame, while the combustion will be so sudden, and of so short a duration, as to occasion no danger.

*Two liquids when mixed form almost a solid Mass.*

Put into a wine glass a few tea-spoonsful of a concentrated solution of silicited potash, and add to it gradually drop by drop, sulphuric acid. If these two liquids be stirred together with a glass rod, they become converted into an opaque white and almost solid mass.

*To melt Iron in a moment, and make it run into Drops.*

Bring a bar of iron to a white heat, and then apply to it a roll of sulphur. The iron will immediately melt, and run into drops.

The experiment should be performed over a basin of water, in which the drops that fall down will be quenched. These drops will be found reduced into a sort of cast-iron.

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*To make a Bird seem as Dead.*

Take any bird out of a cage, and lay it on a table; then wave a small feather over its eyes, and it will appear as dead; but directly you take the feather away it will revive again. Let it lay hold of the stem part of the feather with its feet, and it will twist and turn about just like a parrot; you may also roll it about on the table any way you like.

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*To so fill a Glass with Water that it cannot be removed without spilling the whole.*

This is a mere trick: but may afford some amusement. You offer to bet any person that you will so fill a glass with water that he shall not move it off the table without spilling the whole contents. You then fill the glass, and laying a piece of paper or thin card over the top, you dexterously turn the glass upside down on the table, and then drawing away the paper, you leave the water in the glass, with its foot upwards. It will therefore be impossible to remove the glass from the table without spilling every drop.

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