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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

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

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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.

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.

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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