

# **Badische Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe**

**Digitale Sammlung der Badischen Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe**

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

**Halifax, 1848**

To cut and tear into Pieces a Handkerchief, [...]

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

place as soon as it touched the water, and so strong as to act on other bodies swimming on the surface, as straw, leaves, chips, &c. forcing them to recede every way from the drop as from a centre, leaving a large clear space

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*To cut and tear into Pieces a Handkerchief, and to make it whole again.*

This feat, strange as it appears, is very simple: the performer must have a confederate, who has two handkerchiefs of the same quality, and with the same mark, one of which he throws upon the stage to perform the feat with. The performer takes care to put this handkerchief uppermost in making the bundle, though he affects to mix them together promiscuously. The person whom he desires to draw one of the handkerchiefs, naturally takes that which comes first to his hand. He desires to shake them again, to embellish the operation, but, in so doing, takes care to bring the right handkerchief uppermost, and carefully fixes upon some simpleton to draw; and if he finds that he is not likely to take the first that comes to his hand, he prevents him from drawing, by fixing upon another, under pretence of his having a more sagacious look. When the handkerchief is torn and carefully folded up, it is put under a glass upon a table placed near a partition. On that part of the table on which it is deposited is a little trap, which opens and lets it fall into a drawer. The confederate, concealed behind the curtain, passes his hand

within the table, opens the trap, and substitutes the second handkerchief instead of the first; then shuts the trap, which fits so exactly the hole it closes, as to deceive the eyes of the most incredulous. If the performer be not possessed of such a table, (which is absolutely necessary for other feats as well as this) he must have the second handkerchief in his pocket, and by sleight of hand change it for the pieces, which must be instantaneously concealed.

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*To keep a Snow-ball all Summer in a perfect state.*

Get a Snow-ball, and squeeze it very hard together, then put it in a pot and surround it well with flour, which must be pressed very hard about it, and you shall have as perfect a snow-ball in the height of summer, as you had when you first put it in the pot.

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*Easy Method of Purloining without Discovery.*

A lady had occasion to send a diamond cross to a jeweller, to be repaired. To provide against any imposition, she had the precaution to count the number of diamonds, which she did in the following manner. She found the cross contained in length, from A to B, nine diamonds. Reckoning from B to C, or from B to D she also counted nine. When the cross was returned, counting them in the same way, she found the number

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