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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Concealed Money

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may be purchased at an optician's) and the balance of the watch must be of steel, which may be easily ascertained by previously opening it, and looking at the works.

Concealed Money,

May be discovered by means of the magnetic compass, if it be previously loaded with a touched needle. This may be effected by boring a hole in the edge of the money, and having driven in the needle, let the hole be filled with a bit of pewter, or silver, to hide the head of it. Next take a needle that is balanced on a pivot, in the same manner as the mariner's compass, and this will turn towards the needle inclosed in the money. Desire any person to lend you a crown, or other piece of money, and having dexterously changed it, let him at his option, secretly place the piece in a snuff-box, or not, as he thinks fit, and it then becomes your task to say whether he has or has not done so, without touching the box. Your own compass, or needle upon a pivot, enables you to do this, by placing it near the box: if the needle maintains its northerly direction, unalterably, be assured the money is not contained in the box, unless the north-pole of the needle, (which lies hid within the money) happens to be placed in a northerly direction—a thing not very likely to happen. However, to be quite sure, find fault with the position of the snuff-box—contrive to move it—and if the needle

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does not vibrate one way or the other, the loaded money is not in the box. Two points remain, upon which you may deceive yourself, viz. first, your needle must be very sensible, or the influence will be too inconsiderable to effect any change in it; second, take good care that your adversary (or person acted on) does not change your piece for another, and thus defeat the accomplishment of your purpose.

*To suspend a Needle in the Air by means of the
Magnetic Fluid.*

Place a magnet on a stand to raise it a little above the table, then bring a small sewing needle, containing a thread, within a little of the magnet, keeping hold of the thread to prevent the needle from attaching itself to the magnet. The needle, in endeavouring to fly to the magnet, and being prevented by the thread, will remain curiously suspended in the air.

The Magnetical Table.

Under the top of a common table, place a magnet that turns on a pivot, fix a board to cover it, so that it may not be discovered. At one end of the table, secretly place a tin, that communicates with the magnet, and by which it may be placed in several different positions. Strew some steel filings, or very small