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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Sixteen Cards being disposed in Two Rows, to tell the Cards which a Person has thought of

Sixteen Cards being disposed in Two Rows, to tell the Card which a Person has thought of.

The cards being arranged in two rows, as A and B, desire the person to think of one, and to observe well in which row it is.

A	B	C	B	D	E	B	F	H	B	I
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*
0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*	0		0		0		0			
0	0		0		0		0			
0	0		0		0		0			
0	0		0		0		0			

Let us suppose that the card thought of, is in the row A, take up that whole row, in the order in which it stands, and dispose it in two rows C and D, on the right and left of the row B; but in arranging them, take care that the first of the row A may be the first of the row C; the second of the row A, the first of the row D; the third of the row A, the second of the row C, and so on; then ask again in vertical rows in which row, C or D, the card thought of is. Suppose it to be in C; take up that row, as well as the row D, putting the last at the end of the first, without deranging the order of the cards, and observing the rule already given, form into two other rows, as seen at E and F; then ask, as before, in which row the card thought of is. Let us suppose it to be in E; take up this row, and the row F, as above directed,

and form them into two new rows, on the right and
left of B; after these operations, the card thought of
must be the first of one of the perpendicular rows, H
and I; if you therefore ask in which row it is, you
may easily point it out; having desired them to be
shuffled, the better to conceal the artifice.

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To tell how many Cards a Person takes out of a
Pack, and to specify each Card.

To perform this, you must so dispose a PIQUET pack
of cards, that you can easily remember the order in
which they are placed. Suppose, for instance, they
are placed according to the words in the following
line :

Seven Aces, Eight Kings, Nine Queens, and Ten Knaves;

and that every card be of a different suite, following
each other in this order : spades, clubs, hearts, and
diamonds. Then the eight first cards will be the se-
ven of spades, ace of clubs, eight of hearts, king of
diamonds, nine of spades, queen of clubs, ten of
hearts, and knave of diamonds, and so of the rest.

You shew that the cards are placed promiscuously,
and you offer them with their backs upwards to any
one, that he may draw what quantity he pleases; you
then dexterously look at the card that precedes and
that which follows those he has taken. When he
has counted the cards, which is not to be done in your
presence (and in order to give you time for recollec-
tion, you tell him to do it twice over, that he may be