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

**Halifax, 1848**

The Metamorphosed Cards

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are sure it is one of the two cards on the top. You then pass those two cards to the bottom; and drawing off the lowest of them, you ask if that is not his card. If he again say *no*, you take up that card, and bid him draw his card from the bottom of the pack.—If, on the contrary, he say his cards are among those you *first* drew from the bottom, you must dexterously take up the four cards you put under them, and placing those on the top, let the other two be the bottom cards of the pack, which you are to draw in the manner before described.

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*The Metamorphosed Cards.*

In the middle of a pack place a card that is something wider than the rest, which we will suppose to be the knave of spades, under which place the seven of diamonds, and under that the ten of clubs. On the top of the pack put cards similar to these, and others on which are painted different objects, viz.

- First card . . . . . A bird,
- Second . . . . . A seven of diamonds,
- Third . . . . . A flower,
- Fourth . . . . . Another seven of diamonds,
- Fifth . . . . . A bird,
- Sixth . . . . . A ten of clubs,
- Seventh . . . . . A flower,
- Eighth . . . . . Another ten of clubs.

Then seven or eight indifferent cards, the knave of spades, which is the wide card, the seven of dia-

monds, the ten of clubs, and the rest any indifferent cards.

Two persons are to draw the two cards that are under the wide card, which are the seven of diamonds and the ten of clubs. You take the pack in your left hand, and open it at the wide end, as you open a book, and tell the person who drew the seven of diamonds to place it in that opening. You then blow on the cards, and, without closing them, instantly bring the card which is at top, and on which a bird is painted, over that seven of diamonds. To do this dexterously, you must wet the middle finger of your left hand, with which you are to bring the card to the middle of the pack. You then bid the person look at his card, and when he has remarked the change, to place it where it was before. Then blow on the cards a second time, and bringing the seven of diamonds, which is at the top of the pack, to the opening, you bid him look at his card again, when he will see it is that which he drew.—You may do the same with all the other painted cards, either with the same person, or with him who drew the ten of clubs.

The whole artifice consists in bringing the card at the top of the pack to the opening in the middle, by the wet finger, which requires no great practice. Observe, not to let the pack go out of your hands.

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*To tell the Number of the Cards by their Weight.*

Take a parcel of cards, suppose forty, among

which insert  
example, th  
sixth from th  
then cutting  
you have cu  
should be her  
second long c  
cards. Then  
are fourteen

*To separate*

*To perform*  
colour must be  
them the other  
to say one tha  
them between  
extremity, wit  
and diamonds f

*The*

*Take the fou*  
place two other  
Then spread o  
and put the six  
Draw one of th  
pack. Draw o