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The young man's book of amusement

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To alter a Card to another which has been secured in a look-up box

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tely to interior pressure, and serving as a door by which you convey the mouse into the box. Being thus prepared, and holding the bottom tight with your hand, require one of the company to place his open hands together, and tell him you mean to produce something very marvellous from this pack of cards; place the cards then in his hands, and while you engage his attention in conversation, affect to want something out of your bag, and at the same moment take the pack by the middle, and throw it into the bag, when the mouse will remain in the hands of the person who held the cards.

To alter a Card to another which has been secured in a lock-up box.

A box must be made on purpose, with a double bottom: upon the false one is laid the card which the first person chooses. In locking the box by a secret spring, the false bottom is raised with the card, and firmly united with that part where the hinges are. On the real bottom lies another card, which had been previously and secretly deposited there. In making a person draw a card, a duplicate of this is forced upon him; for if he attempt to draw another, under some pretence you shuffle the cards again, till at last he takes the very card you intend him. This card you know by feeling it, it being purposely longer than any of the rest, and is, in fact, a conjuror's secret card. You must never let one of

those particular or brief cards remain in a pack when you give it to be examined.*

To name several Cards which Two Persons have drawn from a Pack.

Divide a piquet pack into two parts by a long card; let the first part contain a quint to a king in clubs and spades, the four eights, the ten of diamonds, and ten of hearts, and let the other part contain the two quart majors in hearts and diamonds, the four sevens and the four nines. The cards may be divided in any other way that is easy to be remembered.

Then shuffle the cards, but be careful not to displace any of those cards of the last part which are under the long card: you then cut at that card, and leave the pack in two parts; next, present the first of these parts to a person, and tell him to draw two or three cards, and place the remainder on the table; you present the second parcel in like manner to another; then having dexterously placed the cards

* This feat may be varied. A five-pound note may be changed into a ten, &c. but it ought to be something which will lie in a narrow compass, in order that the false bottom may fall closely into its place. Formerly bird-seed was converted into a living bird, by false lids, but these are more liable to detection than false bottoms to the lid: bird-seed was glued, and the box, when shewn to the company, appeared to be full of it. By drawing up the false lid close to the real one, a bird, which had been previously placed there, was then discovered. The false bottoms are certainly preferable.