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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

To tell the Card that a Person has touched with his Finger

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to burn it in the candle. Now the ring being so constructed, that the silk conceals the card underneath it, you first shew him the ring, that he may see it is not there, and tell him you will make it appear; then rubbing the ashes of the card on the ring, you manage to turn the stone or glass dexterously round, and exhibit to him the small card at the bottom.

The Card discovered under the Handkerchief.

Let a person draw any card from the rest, and put it in the middle of the pack; you make the pass at that place, and the card will consequently be at top; then placing the pack on the table, cover it with a handkerchief, and putting your hand under it, take off the top card, and after seeming to search among the cards for some time, draw it out.

This amusement may be performed by putting the cards in another person's pocket, after the pass is made. Several cards may also be drawn and placed together in the middle of the pack, and the pass then made.

To tell the Card that a Person has touched with his Finger.

This amusement is to be performed by confederacy. You previously agree with your confederate on cer-

tain signs, by which he is to denote the suite, and the particular card of each suite; thus: if he touch the first button of his coat, it signifies an ace; if the second, a king, &c., and then again, if he take out his handkerchief, it denotes the suite to be hearts: if he take snuff,—diamonds, &c. These preliminaries being settled, you give the pack to a person who is near your confederate, and tell him to separate any one card from the rest, while you are absent, and draw his finger once over it. He is then to return you the pack, and while you are shuffling the cards, you carefully note the signals made by your confederate; then turning the aces over one by one, you directly fix on the card he touched.

To hold four Kings or four Knaves, in your Hand, and to change them suddenly into blank Cards, then into four Aces.

You must have cards made for the purpose of this feat; half cards, as they may be properly termed; that is one half kings or knaves, and the other half aces. When you lay the aces one over the other, nothing but the king or knaves will be seen. Then turning the kings or knaves downwards, the four aces will be seen. You must have two perfect cards, one a king, or knave, to cover one of the aces, or else it will be seen; and the other an ace to lay over the kings or knaves. When you wish to make them all appear blank cards, lay the cards a little lower, and

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