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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

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

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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 he 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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In shuffling, le before, or, which of the cards; pr right over your by hiding the aces they will all appear white on both sides. You may then ask the company which they choose, and exhibit the kings, aces, or blanks, as required.

The Card in the Pochet Book.

A confederate is previously to know the card you have taken from the pack, and put into your pocket book. You then present the pack to him, and desire him to fix on a card, (which we will suppose to be the queen of diamonds,) and place the pack on the table. You then ask him the name of the card, and when he says the queen of diamonds, you ask him if he is not mistaken, and if he be sure that the card is in the pack: when he replies in the affirmative, you say, "It might be there when you looked over the cards, but I believe it is now in my pocket;" then desire a third person to put his hand in your pocket, and take out your book, and when it is opened, the card will appear.

To shuffle Cards in such a manner, as always to keep one certain Card at the Bottom.

In shuffling, let the bottom card be always a little before, or, which is best, a little behind all the rest of the cards; put it a little beyond the rest before, right over your fore finger, or else, which is the best

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