

Badische Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe

Digitale Sammlung der Badischen Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe

The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

Another

[urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-100120](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:bsz:31-100120)

Ingenious Problem.

Place ten halfpence in a row upon a table; then taking up any one of the series, place it upon some other, with this proviso, that you pass over just one penny. Repeat this until there are no single halfpence left.

SOLUTION.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, halfpence.

Place 4 upon 1, 7 upon 3, 5 upon 9, 2 upon 6, and 8 upon 10.

Another.

The sum of four figures in value shall be
Above seven thousand nine hundred and three;
But when they are halved, you'll see very plain,
The sum shall be nothing—the mystery explain?

SOLUTION.

The sum is 8, 8, 8, 8, which should be written down; then by wiping off the upper or lower part of each of the figures, there will remain 0, 0, 0, 0 = to nothing.

A countrywoman carrying eggs to a garrison, where she had three guards to pass, sold at the first

half the num
second the
more; and
half an egg
place, she
possible, w

It would
is impossibl
out breaking
be evident w
greater half
1). It will
fore she pass
ing, for by se
the half); s
manner, befo
had 147; and

To place Four
equa

Let three of
so as to form
of each in the
triangle as a b
to the distance
the fourth poi
ale is answer

half the number she had, and half an egg more; at the second the half of what remained, and half an egg more; and at the third, the half of the remainder and half an egg more; when she arrived at the market-place, she had three dozen still to sell, how was this possible, without breaking any of the eggs?

SOLUTION.

It would appear on the first view, that this problem is impossible; for how can half an egg be sold without breaking any; The possibility of it however will be evident when it is considered, that by taking the greater half of an odd number, we take the exact half $\frac{1}{2}$. It will be found, therefore, that the woman, before she passed the last guard, had 73 eggs remaining, for by selling 37 of them at that guard, which is the half $\frac{1}{2}$, she would have 36 remaining. In like manner, before she came to the second guard, she had 147; and before she came to the first, 295.

To place Four Poles in the Ground, precisely at an equal distance from each other.

Let three of the poles be placed at equal distances, so as to form a triangle; when, imagining a mound of earth in the shape of a pyramid to be raised on that triangle as a base, having one of its slant sides equal to the distance between any two poles, then placing the fourth pole on the apex of the pyramid, the puzzle is answered.