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The young man's book of amusement

Halifax, 1848

To draw Beer from a Knife

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To draw Beer from a Knife.

To do this, you must have a small piece of sponge, which privately soak in some beer, taking care that the sponge be neither too large or too full of liquor, lest you be discovered. Place this either in the cavity of the right ear, or behind the ear under the hair; then, taking a knife, stick it, with the handle upwards, in a table or stool (but observe that your company is placed opposite you); then bid them look, saying, "Then you see there is no liquid either on this handle, or on the table;" stretch your empty hand towards your ear, saying, "Now, somebody cross my arm," and, speaking some powerful words, as "*Jubio bisco*," you will then have a fair opportunity to take the sponge into your hand from behind your ear. Stretch forth your hand, take up the knife, and squeeze it gently, and afterwards a little harder, which will make the beer run the faster, to the amazement of the company; at the same time saying, "Thus could I do till I had drowned you all." Then sprinkle a little in their faces, which will cause them to shut their eyes, whilst you convey away the sponge.

Method of Painting on Silk or Satin.

First make an outline according to your fancy, then lay on a wash of isinglass with great care, which will