

**Badische Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe**

**Digitale Sammlung der Badischen Landesbibliothek Karlsruhe**

**The young man's book of amusement**

**Halifax, 1848**

To make Crackers

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*To make Squibs and Serpents.*

First make the cases, of about six inches in length, by rolling slips of stout cartridge paper three times round a roller, and pasting the last fold : tying it near the bottom as tight as possible, and making it airtight at the end with sealing-wax. Then take of gun-powder half a pound, charcoal one ounce, brimstone one ounce, and steel filings half an ounce, (or in like proportion), grind them with a muller or pound them in a mortar. Your cases being very dry and ready, first put a thimble-full of your powder, and ram it hard down with a ruler ; then fill the case to the top with the aforesaid mixture, ramming it hard down in the course of filling two or three times ; when this is done, point it with touch paper, which should be pasted on that part which touches the case, otherwise it is liable to drop off.

*To make Crackers.*

Cut some stout cartridge paper into pieces, three inches and a half broad, and one foot long ; fold down one edge of each of these pieces lengthwise, about three quarters of an inch broad ; then fold the double edge down a quarter of an inch, and turn the single edge back half over the double fold. Open it and lay all along the channel which is formed by the fold-in of the paper, some meal powder ; then fold it

over and over till the paper is doubled up, rubbing it down every turn; this being done, bend it backwards and forwards, two inches and a half, or thereabouts, at a time, as often as the paper will allow. Hold all these folds flat and close, and with a small pinching cord, give one turn round the middle of the cracker, and pinch it close; bind it with packthread, as tight as you can: then in the place where it was pinched, prime one end, and cap it with touch paper. When these crackers are fired, they will give a report at every turn of the paper; if you would have a great number of bounces, you must cut the paper longer, or join them after they are made; but if they are made very long before they are pinched, you must have a piece of wood with a groove in it, deep enough to let in half the cracker; this will hold it straight while it is pinching.

ARTIFICIA

fruit....

Ale and water  
 Almond trick  
 Aquatic dance  
 Astonishing height  
 Apparent impossibility  
 Aromatic vine  
 Air-pump, the  
 -, bottles broken  
 -, water boiler  
 -, glass broken  
 -, hand fixed  
 -, bubble, vegetable  
 -, a fountain,  
 -, respired from