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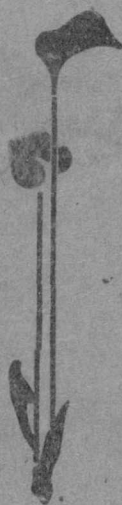
Modern

Magical

Marvels

FOR

Magicians.



By Robert Davison.



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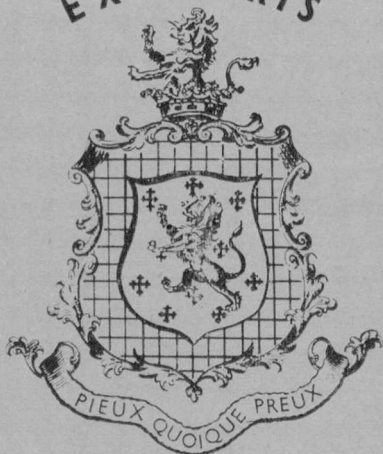
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Robert Davison's Torn and Restored Paper Trick.

EFFECT—Performer passes a piece of Tissue Paper round for inspection. On receiving it back he tears it into small pieces. These he lights and rubbing the ashes between his fingers the paper is found to be restored.

REQUISITES AND PREPARATION—A candle in candlestick, a small piece of tissue paper about six inches by four inches, in a small tumbler; a matchbox half open, containing matches, and a duplicate piece of paper inserted in back of box.

PRESENTATION—Performer passes piece of paper round for inspection and on receiving it back he tears it down the centre then across then down centre again. He places bits of paper in glass tumbler, explaining to the audience that he does this so they will be able to see that he does not change the paper. He then picks matchbox up and extracts a match and lights the candle. Closing matchbox he pushes the piece of paper into palm of left hand. With the same hand he puts box on table and takes the paper from tumbler and lights them with the candle. When these have burned away he pretends to rub them, at the same time bringing the paper from left hand to tips of fingers. This he opens out and shows as the piece of paper restored.

The Charmed Organ Pipes.

The performer lays a long board on the backs of two chairs, and places on it seven tin cylinders of different sizes resembling Organ Pipes, which are numbered 1 to 7. He lifts up number 1 and shows it to be empty, and to prove it is so, he takes number 2 and passes it through number 1, and shows number 2 empty also. Through No. 2 he passes No. 3, and so on until he has passed each one through its neighbour in turn and shown all empty. Dipping his hand into No. 1 he brings forth a white cloth, which he spreads on the table, then serviettes, knives, forks, and dishes, which he arranges on the table. From No. 2 he takes a roast chicken, from No. 3 a bottle of wine, from No. 4 a mackerel, from No. 5 a pineapple, from No. 6 a tart, and from No. 7 several plates. Thus he has covered the table with sufficient food for a small party from seven empty tubes, which can again be examined. The secret is that each cylinder, excepting No. 1, contains the various articles enumerated, tied with thread and suspended to the edges of the cylinders by hooks. No. 1 is first shown empty, and when No. 2 is passed through it, the hook which suspends the "load" in the latter is transferred to the edge of No. 1, and the articles are, of course, left in the larger cylinder, the small one being shown empty. This process is repeated with the other cylinders. Some conjurers, in lieu of the "Banquet," load the cylinders with bird cages, lanterns, flags, doves, rabbits, etc., etc.

Billiard Ball, Candle, and Handkerchief Illusion.

EFFECT—Performer takes a small silk square and rubs it between his hands, when it is seen to become smaller and smaller, finally changing to a Billiard Ball, which is knocked on table to prove it is solid. On breaking a lighted candle on other side of stage the vanished handkerchief is found therein.

REQUISITES AND PREPARATION—A candle with a hole drilled upwards about two-thirds of length. In this is pushed a small silk handkerchief, duplicate to the one about to be vanished. This candle should be stood in a candlestick at one side of stage. A ball with hole in for handkerchief. This is placed on servante at back of chair.

PRESENTATION—You come forward with a small handkerchief and show it both sides, then place it over chair back while you light candle. You now take handkerchief, and with it the ball, and work the handkerchief inside, at the same time moving your arms up and down. Show Billiard Ball and lay it on table. Go over to candlestick, take candle, break over knee, and produce handkerchief.

Albert Thompson's Great Billiard Ball Change.

Performer takes a white Billiard Ball and passes his hand over it when it changes to red. Hands shown to contain one ball only. Again hand is passed over when it changes back to white. Ball is then passed for examination.

SECRET—Performer has a thin white rubber shell dyed red on the inside. Ball is shown, white side, and hand passes over it, at the same time taking rubber shell off, turn it inside out and place back on ball, when it is seen to have changed to red. This is now reversed, ball being shown all white. Shell palmed off and ball passed for examination. If ball is not examined, it can be grooved and one half painted white and the other green, in this way another change can be worked. Cover green with shell, show it to be a solid white one; palm shell off and show green.

To Make an Ordinary Pair of Handcuffs into Trick 'Cuffs.

First have cuffs open, then insert key and screw down until the catchbolt just begins to draw back, then grip with a pair of pincers and hold barrel in the flame of a gas jet in a position that will allow the part where the spring is to be in the hottest part of the flame. In about five or ten minutes they will be very hot; then put them on a stone floor to cool. Repeat the process twice more (three times in all). Do not on any account place them in the fire as this would spoil them entirely, and be sure to let them cool gradually. Don't plunge them in water to cool them as this would harden the springs. After they are cooled for the last time pour some machine oil down the hole where the key goes in, then polish up again with knife polish, but be careful with them; don't let the polish get in the barrel. At first you will not perceive much alteration, but after using them a few times you will find they go quite easy, so that a sharp knock against anything hard will cause them to fly open. In knocking strike the *hinge* on something hard. In case of very *strong* springs a second application would perhaps be necessary.

The New and Unique Handkerchief Tube.

EFFECT—The performer passes for inspection a silver plated tube, together with two rings to fit over the end of same. A spectator is requested to place a cigarette paper over each end of the tube, thereby forming a kind of drum head. Performer now vanishes a handkerchief or flag and requests spectator to break open the paper at one of the ends of the tube, when inside is discovered the handkerchief or flag.

PREPARATION—A small torpedo shaped “feke” is supplied, the existence of which the audience are not aware. A duplicate silk handkerchief or flag is placed inside the “feke,” the ends of which are then tipped with gum, and firmly placed on a cigarette paper. When the gum is dry cut the protruding ends of the paper flush with the sides of the “feke,” and the apparatus is then complete. Secrete this apparatus under the vest on the left side or in the pocket, when you are prepared.

TO PERFORM—Pass the tube and the two rings for examination, then get a spectator to pass the ring over the cigarette paper which is placed on one end of the tube. whilst this is being done get possession of and palm in the left hand the prepared “feke,” drum head portion in palm. When the tube has the first drum head in position take back the tube in the right hand from the spectator, and when transferring it to left hand, reverse it, the other open end then being uppermost. Whilst reversing the tube opportunity is got to insert the “feke” into the tube, the pointed end, which is outwards in the palm, easily and noiselessly piercing the cigarette paper, so that when the “feke” is in position in the tube, it still looks the same owing to the similar drum head of paper being on the “feke.” While the tube is still in the left hand the performer goes to another spectator and requests him to go through the same process as the previous spectator by attaching a cigarette paper to the other end by means of the ring. When this is completed, the performer takes the tube by the tips of the thumb and the first or index finger of the right hand, and hands it to a spectator to hold in this manner. The performer now vanishes in any manner he pleases a flag or handkerchief, the duplicate of the one in tube, and when this has been successfully accomplished, he shows his hands empty, and again taking the tube from the spectator by means of the tips of the thumb and first finger of the right hand, he requests the spectator to break

the cigarette paper. When this is done the end of the handkerchief is observed, which the performer requests the spectator to withdraw, which he visibly does before the audience. The performer by holding the tube in the above manner prevents, by the tip of his first finger, the spectator pulling out the "feke" whilst abstracting the handkerchief.

The New Rice Bowl Illusion.

The effect of this trick is that the performer, having shown two China bowls, visibly places a quantity of rice into one of them from a common paper bag, the rice being then carefully smoothed off until it is just level full. The second bowl is now placed over the first, but upon being subsequently removed, the spectators see that the rice has doubled in quantity even to overflowing; The rice is once more levelled off, and the other bowl, which is shown empty, is again placed over it. Upon separating the bowls for the second time, it is seen that the rice has entirely vanished, and in its place the under bowl is found full to the brim of clear water, which is passed from bowl to bowl.

EXPLANATION—One of the bowls is as honest as it seems, but the other has undergone preparation, as its rim has been ground perfectly flat, the whole secret lying in the application of the well-known principle of air pressure as applied to suction. This prepared bowl is filled with water to within a half-inch to the top, and the glass disc, which is provided, placed on top. Hold the glass disc in position by means of the fingers, then turn the bowl over, and lay on the table. The glass disc will adhere by suction to the bowl, and the bowl can even be inclined to an angle of 45 degrees without the glass disc falling off.

Novel Production from Large Tambourine.

Procure a large hoop from any toy dealer about two feet in diameter, and paste a large sheet of tissue paper over it to resemble a tambourine. Have a folding bouquet made of feathers in left inside pocket of coat. Stand with right side to audience, and hold hoop against chest with left hand. Thrust right hand through paper, grasp end of bouquet, and pull it through hoop. It will expand as it is produced, making a very big display.

New Way of Vanishing Handkerchief.

Have wand on table. Roll handkerchief into a ball, and pretend to place it in left hand (really palming in right). Close left hand. Pick wand up with right, at the same time drop handkerchief into servante. Rap knuckles of left hand with wand and open, showing handkerchief has vanished.

A Mystifying Card Trick.

EFFECT—Performer hands a pack of cards to a member of the audience, and asks him to select a card. This is done and note taken of name of card. The card is then placed in centre of pack. Pack is then shuffled and placed in gent's pocket. Gentleman is asked to name any number and selected card is found at number named.

PRESENTATION—The pack is held fanwise in the performer's hands, and gent takes any card (no forcing). The pack is now closed up and laid face downwards in per-

former's left hand. It is now opened bookwise by right hand, part of pack in left palm and rest in right fingers and thumb. Gent now places card on top of half in left hand, at the same time the right hand moves upwards and middle finger of left hand brings back card of half in right hand over the selected card. The half of pack in right hand is now placed in front of half in left hand. This leaves selected card second from top. You now show bottom card of pack, and also take the top card and show that, thus proving that the card is neither at the top or bottom of pack. You now place top card at bottom of pack. The selected card is now at the top. Shuffle pack, keeping card at top, and place cards in gent's pocket. You ask him to select any number. For example: Suppose it should be nine, you take eight cards separately from front of pack, showing cards as you do so, and then bring the ninth card from back of pack, which will be found to be the card selected. I have worked this trick several times, and it always brings forth great applause.

The Great Goldfish Illusion.

This is a very pretty and attractive trick, and has been received with immense success wherever exhibited. The performer brings forward a fishing rod with hook, also a glass bowl filled with water, which he passes round for examination. He then proceeds to put bait on hook and holds the line over the heads of the audience and waits for a bite, and to the astonishment of all, there is suddenly seen a goldfish wriggling for dear life. The performer at once draws in the line, takes fish of hook, and drops it into the water, when it is seen to dart about in its native element. This may be repeated several times, each time showing the fish is really alive. As the reader may guess the "fish" seen on the hook is not a fish at all. It is a piece of silk shaped and coloured to resemble a goldfish, with a small weight at the tail end. The float consists of a small black tube into which the trick fish, rolled up, is

inserted. The handle of the rod has three partitions, covered by sliding lids painted to match the colour of the rod. A live goldfish is placed in each partition immediately before showing the trick. You then make one or two casts, and in the last one give the rod a jerk, which causes the weighted trick fish to fall from the float to the end of line. After you have "caught" the fish swing the line toward you, catch it, and with the right hand take out the live fish from the top partition while pretending to unhook it. Place it in the bowl of water, roll up the silk fish and replace it in the hollow float. Repeat the process with the other two live fish contained in the other partitions and you will appear to have caught three live goldfish in the air. There is a mechanical fish bowl now invented which releases one fish at a time. If you work the trick with the mechanical bowl you can use an ordinary fishing rod which you can pass for examination, afterwards fixing bait on hook.

The Marvellous Bouquet and Cage Illusion.

The performer brings forward a beautiful bouquet of flowers, and to prove they are real he throws three or four out amongst the audience. He now covers it with a cloth, and on taking it away a large bird-cage is seen in his hand. This is a beautiful trick, which I have worked myself with considerable success, and is very easy to perform. The bouquet is only a wire frame-work, covered with canvas, over which a lot of artificial flowers are sewn. The frame is made to open in the centre like the familiar trap door in the Pantomime, but the action of two springs keep the "lids" down. The bird-cage is a collapsible one, and is fixed inside the bouquet, the ring on top of cage through opening in frame-work. You place three or four real flowers among the artificial ones and throw these out to audience. You now place cloth over and fire your revolver, then catch hold of ring through cloth and drag

cloth away. This pulls cage from bouquet, but the springs cause bouquet to close again, thus appearing to audience same as before. You now take cloth from your hand, and bird-cage is now shown to audience. A real bird can be inserted in cage, but the trick is just as effective if a dummy bird is used.

Medrington's New Bottle Trick.

For this pleasing experiment you require a special bottle, described below, and a couple of tin tubes, the smaller passing easily through the greater, and fitting neatly over the bottle. The latter is a tin "shell" painted in imitation of the genuine article. A partition at the top enables it to hold a small glassful of beer. After filling with this it is corked ready for performance. There is a hole near the bottom one inch in diameter, and a small hook is soldered there as well. The hook enables the bottle to be suspended upside down in one of the cylinders. Also you require a couple of small tumblers, one of which is placed in full sight on your table together with your cylinders, one of which—the smaller—contains the bottle, and the other is put in your right *pochette*.

PERFORMANCE—Show large tube empty, and pass small one completely through it, which leaves the bottle in the big cylinder. It being taken away therein by means of the hook, and the small one is now shown. One of the audience is asked to choose one of the tins and it is placed over the visible tumbler. Of course the choice is of the usual ambiguous kind and in any case the large tube is taken and inverted and stood over the glass, which brings the bottle to cover it. After a little patter the glass in the

pochette is taken, and produced from behind your right knee, which is easily done with the right hand, which gets it under cover of the body and produces unexpectedly. The cylinder is now lifted, exposing the bottle. The cork is pulled out (it should be only put lightly in) and the right hand lifts it with the thumb passing through the hole in its side, holding the concealed glass tightly. After filling the visible glass with the beer from the bottle the trick concludes.

Magicians are asked to give this illusion a trial as the inventor, after having it made for him, was highly pleased at the effect it had on an audience.

I must acknowledge my indebtedness to my friend Mr. Charles Medrington, a very clever conjurer, for the above idea.—AUTHOR.

The Changing Plume.

The performer brings forward a piece of stiff paper and passes it for examination, and with his sleeves up and his hands shown back and front, proceeds to roll paper into a tube. He then exhibits a beautiful red plume, showing it on all sides and places it into paper tube. He then simply waves his hand over and withdraws plume, but to the astonishment of the spectators it has changed to blue. This is examined by audience, and when satisfied the performer replaces it in paper tube, and on withdrawing it again it has changed to white. This in turn is placed back in paper tube, hand again waved, and on undoing the paper tube nothing remains but the one plume, but this time it has once more changed to red.

SECRET—There are in reality four feather plumes used, two red ones, a white one, and a blue one. One red plume is prepared and contains three divisions, or pockets within itself, in which the other three plumes may be hidden. In practice the trick red plume containing the white and blue plumes is lying on the table under the sheet of paper which a little later forms the tube. The ordinary red plume is passed for close examination. The tube is made, the trick plume being secretly introduced, and the examined red plume is passed through the tube, or rather into the empty pocket of the trick red one, which is then withdrawn and the paper unrolled and passed for inspection. The tube is formed again and trick red plume is put in again and retained by pressure while the blue one is withdrawn from opposite end of tube. The blue plume is put into tube again (into its pocket), and the white one withdrawn from the opposite end. The white one is now put into tube (into its pocket in red one) and the trick red one containing the other three is withdrawn and laid on table, tube is unrolled, and paper examined.





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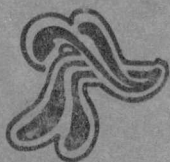
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