

The only paper in the British Empire devoted solely to the Interests of Magicians, Jugglers, Hand Shadowists
Ventriloquists, Lightning Cartoonists and Speciality Entertainers.

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HISTORY OF LIGHTNING CALCULATION.

There is no doubt that the power for mental calculation varies to a remarkable degree in different individuals, but it is not so much in adults as in children that the difference in the development of this particular faculty is so strikingly apparent, and many remarkable instances are recorded of children in whom it has developed itself in an extraordinary manner at a very early age. Among these, one of the most remarkable is the case of George Parker Bidder.

This boy was born in 1806, at Morton Hampstead, in Devonshire, on the borders of Dartmoor, where his father carried on a small business as a stone-mason. At the early age of four he showed a most extraordinary ability for calculation, which with slight assistance from an elder brother assumed quite phenominal proportions. His peculiar talents soon attracted general attention, and his father found it a much more profitable employment to carry his son about the country, and exhibit him as the "Calculating Phenomenon," than following his trade. In this way young Bidder visited many parts of the country, astonishing the different people who came to see and question him, with the wonderful rapidity with which he was able to answer, without external aid of any description, the most difficult questions.

Of these the following are a few of the most extraordinary examples: If a flea springs 2ft. 3in. in every hop, how many hops must it take to go round the world, the circumference being 25,020 miles; and how long would it be performing the journey, allowing it to take 60 hops every minute without intermission? Answer; 58,713,600 hops, and 1 year 314 days 13 hours 20 mins.

The following question was solved by him in 40 secs.: Suppose the ball at the top of St. Paul's Cathedral to be 6ft. in diameter, what did the gilding cost at 3½d. per square inch? Answer: £237 10s. 1d.

The following in 1min. 20sec.: Suppose a city to be illuminated with 9,999 lamps, each lamp to consume 1 pint of oil of every 4 hours in succession, how many gallons would they consume in 40 years? Answer, 109,489,050 gallons.

Another curious question was . Suppose the earth to consist of 971,000,000 inhabitants, and suppose they

die in 30 years and 4 months, how many have returned to dust since the time of Adam, computing it to be 5,850 years? Multiply the answer by 99.

It is related that on one occasion the proposer of a question was not satisfied with Bidder's answer. The boy said the answer was correct, and requested the proposer to work the sum over again. During the opera-



GEORGE PARKER BIDDER (age S).

From a Painting by Miss Havter.

tion Bidder said he was certain he was right, for he had worked the question in another way; and before the proposer found he was wrong, and Bidder right, he had solved the question by a third method.

But Bidder was not always content with being questioned only, but would sometimes puzzle his interrogators by a question of his own, and on one of these occasions he put the following:—

"A man found thirteen cats in his garden. He got out his gun fired at them and killed seven. How many

"Six," was the reply, were left?" wrong," he said, "none were left. The rest ran away."

Whether or no he was the originator of this time-

honoured joke, his biographers do not say.

During one of his exhibition tours, fortunately for the lad his performances attracted the attention of some eminent scholars, who, after making inquiries, subsequently undertook his education, and he was placed at a first-rate school at Camberwell, and afterwards at Edinburgh, where he carried off the prizes given by the magistrates of that town for the study of higher mathematics.

Bidder was afterwards employed for a short time on the Ordnance Survey; but finally he decided to follow the profession of an engineer in which his extraordinary gift would have ample scope. It was while thus employed that he became associated with Robert Stephenson and the Birmingham Railway, and in the construction of

this he took a very active part.

Some years after he entered Parliament and numerous stories are extant of his wonderful skill in detecting a flaw in some elaborate set of calculations, whereby he was often enabled to upset an opponent's case. Or, at other times, he would establish his own case by arguments based upon mathematical data, possibly only at the moment placed before him. It is said that on one occasion an opposing counsel asked that he might not be allowed to remain in the committee-room, on the ground that " Nature had endowed him with qualities that did not place his opponents on a fair footing.'

After taking a leading part in many important engineering works he died at Dartmouth, September

20th, 1878.

(To be continued).

IMPORTANT_

This offer will not appear again. Special Offer to Subsribers.

To anyone sending an annual subscription to "Magic" to reach us any time before the 1st of October, 1902, we will present gratis and post free any one number of our serial works (No. 8 & 9 excepted) forming up-to-date and advanced lessons in Sleight of Hand.

MAGIC.

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Agents wanted in all the large cities throughout the

World.

Original Lessons in Magic.

BY ELLIS STANYON.

In every issue from No. 1, Vol. I. to present date.

Coins dropped into Tumbler, re-appear in performer's hand .- The effect of this trick is as follows :-A glass tumbler is given for inspection; on being returned performer drops into it, one at a time, four or five coins, and covers glass with a borrowed handkerchief; he now shows back and front of both hands; then placing hands together, obtains the coins, and on removing the handkerchief from the glass they have vanished.

"How it's done."-The coins dropped into the tumbler are each drilled one small hole in the centre and threaded on to a piece of cotton. The first coin dropped into tumbler is fixed to the end of the thread; the others run loosely on the thread which admits of them being dropped one at a time giving the impression that all is fair and above board. To the opposite end of the thread is attached a small button which is left hanging near the mouth of the tumbler on the side most remote from the audience.

The button admits of the coins being secretly removed under cover of the handkerchief at the proper time.

The coins to appear in the hand are a duplicate set each drilled a couple of small holes, the whole being tied tightly together with fine but strong flesh-colored silk thread, a loop being left to pass over the thumb that the bundle may be passed to back or front of the hand as may be required in the prosecution of the effect above described.

Genuine Lightning Calculations.

To instantly raise any number of two figures to its cubic or Third Power.

This is not a trick in the sense of the word, it partakes more of the nature of a mental juggle-dexterity of mind. The system is not difficult—it may be learned in a few readings, and when acquired will be found of general utility inasmuch as the great majority of memory and calculation feats are performed by its aid.

For the feat in question what is required is that the performer must commit to memory the cubes of the numbers I to 100. This done the rest follows as a matter of course. To commit to memory such a vast quantity of figures may at first sight appear a formidable task, but attention to what follows will prove it to be otherwise-further that the feat worked on the principle set forth is far simpler than working out each cube separately as required by the most condensed system of mental aritmetic.

Note that it is necessary to

FIRST.—Learn the Mnemonic Alphabet, page 16 of "New Miscellaneous Tricks" in such a manner as to be able at any time to name the figure corresponding to any letter of the alphabet—and vice versa.

SECOND.-Commit to memory the 100 key words on page 17 of New Miscellaneous Tricks. If you have learned the alphabet thoroughly the whole of these words will be indelibly stamped on the mind after only three or four readings. Note that should you be in doubt, at any time, as to the key word of any number, say 32; simply translate the figures 32 into their corres

ponding letters, in this case M - - N, which looks very much like the key word required i.e. moon—the system, as explained elsewhere, being Phonetic, vowels and

dipthongs are not considered.

THIRD. - Write out the whole of the cubic numbers of the numbers I to 100, then translate each number so formed into a word, or, if necessary, two words. Example:—The third power of 32 is 32768, which translated may read M-N-T-B-SH- which, vowels inserted, will read Manitoba Shoe. - 11

FOURTH.-To memorize the number 32768, you have simply to connect the key word Moon with the words representing the cube (Manitoba Shoe) making a MENTAL PICTURE as described at p. 18 of "New Miscellaneous Tricks." In this case it will suffice to think of the moon obscured by a QUAINT SHOE. Now it follows that on being asked to cube the number 32 the first thing that strikes you is the key word for that number i.e. MOON, which you at once remember was obscured by a MANITOBA SHOE, the consonants of which translated give the figures of the required cube, i.e. 32768, which you forthwith call out or write down on a black-board—and so on for any number.

Square Numbers .- The SQUARE of any number of two figures may be found in the same way as the Third Power above explained, but to avoid confusion of "key" words I advise my pupils always to work. "Squares" by mental arithmetic. As this method, while simple, may not be familiar to my readers I append an example :

To multiply any Two Figures by any Two Figures. Proceed as follows: - Multiply units by units for the 82 first figure. Carry and multiply tens by units and 54 units by tens, (adding) for the second figure. Carry and multiply tens by tens for the remaining figure 4428 or figures. In this example proceed as follows: 2 x 4 equals 8 equals First Figure.

(4 x 8) plus (5 x 2) equals 42. Therefore 2 Second Figure.

(5 x 8) plus 4 carried equals 44 equals Third and Fourth Figures.

Also an example of Mental Arithmetic for three figures: FIRST.—Multiply units by units for the First Figure. SECOND.-Multiply units by tens and tens by units (adding) for the Second Figure.

THIRD.—Multiply hundreds by units, units by hundreds and tens by tens (adding) for the Third Figure.

FOURTH.-Multiply hundreds by tens, and tens by hundreds for Fourth Figure.

Fifth.—Multiply hundreds by hundreds for the remaining Figures. Carry when necessary.

I will put a plain question: " Is not the above method of multiplication much easier than the long laborious methods taught, to this day, in our public schools"? Yes: Then why not always do it this way.

To be continued.

IMPORTANT.

Magicians sending Five Annual Not Impossible! Subscriptions to this office will receive their own booked gratis

and post free for one year.

We don't expect impossibilities or ask you to do too much: the above is an interesting and simple task and will pay you in more ways than one.

Explanatory Programmes.

MADAME HERRMANN (Hippodrome, July 8, 1902).

(See also pages 45, 56, 67, 75, 83, 90, 91, & 99 of Vol. I).

(Continued from page 83).

Entertainment entitled a "A Night in Japan," and stage decorated appropriately, Large japanese centre and two small japanese side tables. Performer and two women attendants attired in japanese costumes.

The whole of the tricks are preformed in pantomime to slow soft music.

Performer enters and produces one red silk handkerchief from bare hands; places sheet of paper on one side table and inverts soup plate on paper; vanishes handkerchief and finds duplicate under plate. Method: talse bottom in plate.

Produces a blue handkerchief from the red one found under plate. Sticks the red one in waistband and ties a

magical knot on the blue one.

Produces egg from red handkerchief (egg probably taken from waistband) and breaks egg into dove-pan. Sets light to dove pan, fires pistol, opens pan and out fly two doves with ribbon streamers tied to them.

Leaves stage and attendants arrange apparatus. Performer re-appears with fan, gesticulating, and produces one red billiard ball from fan and proceeds to produce four balls at finger tips of left hand. In conclusion the balls are vanished in the orthodox manner, save that one is found at the left elbow and replaced between fingers; also, with last two solid balls and the half shell (supposed two solid balls) a pass is made at the left knee-a ball appearing to pass through the knee. The last ball is, seemingly, placed in left hand (really dropped from right hand in profonde arranged on loose robe under right arm-pit) from which it is " fanned" away.

Performer again leaves the stage and re-appears with tambourine rings which are put together on one of the side tables (trick top table for "load"). Makes three holes in paper front of tambourine and produces handkerchiefs and floral paper balls which are arranged on suitable holder by attendants; also pulls out a lot of ribbon with hand, changing the tambourine from one hand to the other the while. The paper ribbon is pulled out from the BACK, not the front of the tambourine as usual. In conclusion a lot of feather tulips also a live duck are produced from the ribbon.

Performer again leaves the stage while attendants put things in order and place lighted candle on side table. Re-appears with fan and tears up pieces of paper (flash paper) lights paper in candle, papers disappears and a quantity of small colored paper flags are produced from hands. These small flags are finally fluttered about in right hand while left hand secures unobserved a "load" This movement of still larger flags from left profonde. is repeated continually for larger and still larger flags, and, finally, two large silk flags are produced on the folding staff.

The flag production, which concluded the show was received with considerable applause.

CONFESSIONS OF A MIND READER.

By FRANK W. THOMAS.

Continued from page 84.

Inquiries as to Thefts and Losses.—Many questions can be answered in a satisfactory manner, although the truth of the answer cannot be proven. instance, one lady wished to know where some jewelry was which had been stolen from her two months before. By omitting the word jewelry and the item giving the time of the robbery from the first statement of the question, we managed to convey the impression that we actually divined these facts, the lady, of course, corroborating them. This gave an air of likelihood to the further statement that the goods were even then in a pawn-shop on State Street, Chicago. By the time they could write to that pawn shop, if any such really existed, we should be out of the city. Performers making a speciality of this illusion would have lists of pawn-shops in all prominent cities, and would give accurate names and addresses, so that even when the goods were not found, the fact that such a place really existed would lend a certain amount of genuineness to the answer.

During the course of the performance Mr. Stevens said: "The name of Professor Williams comes to me. He must be sitting quite near me, for his name comes very strongly, although he has written no question." Sure enough, there sat the Professor in the front row, not half a dozen feet away. On inquiry, he stated that he had not written any question, but admitted that there was something which he wished to know. Mr. Stevens told him the question he had in his mind was, "Is Mr. Thomas married or not?" This he acknowledged to be correct, and it was answered for him. After the performance, the Professor, who was the principal of the public schools of L, came to the platform, and told me that it was the most remarkable manifestation of psychic phenomena he had ever witnessed. And he could hardly be blamed for believing it, for there was no collusion with him in the matter.

The fact was, I had given a short entertainment at the same place in the afternoon, and on leaving the hall had overheard him ask another gentleman if he knew whether or not I was married. On reaching the door I learned his name, and requested the secretary to give him an urgent invitation to attend the evening performance, and to be sure and see that he got a good seat. We noticed that he wrote no question, and it was quite easy to impose on him sufficiently to make him believe he was thinking about that question then, when probably he had not thought of it since the afternoon.

Amusing Matrimonial Questions.—A most amusing incident was precipitated by Mr. Stevens saying: "The same thought comes to me from three young ladies. They wish to know when the eventful day will arrive. The young ladies have signed fictitious names to their questions and I will not embarrass them by stating what their real names are; but in order that they may know that their identity has been revealed to me, I will say that the initial of the last name of the young lady who has signed as Mary Brown is H., and she will be married within six months. The initial of the one who has signed Carrie Smith is L., and she will be married within a year. The initial of the one who has signed Lulu

Gilbert is D., and she will not be married for a long time.

These girls sat together in the centre of the hall.

They were unable to appear unconcerned, and the audience, recognizing the initials, burst into a laugh which so disconcerted them that the three ran down the aisle and out of the hall, accompanied by shouts of delight

from the audience.

Two men, father and son, had had their store robbed, and in connection with this question Mr. Stevens said: "Nearly the same thought comes to me from two different parts of the house. Two men have had their store robbed. One wants to know what the robbers took. It was sixty dollars in money. The other wishes to know where the robbers are, and if the money can be recovered. The robbers took the one o'clock train going north last Sunday. They are now in Chicago, where they will be apprehended in about ten days, but the money will never be recovered. This greatly excited the older man of the two, who jumped up from his seat, and fairly shouted: "That must be true, for the robbery occurred at noon on Sunday."

This answer, much of which they knew to be correct, and more of which afterwards turned out to be true, was simply the result of good reasoning, based on a little substantial information. We were able to learn that sixty dollars had been taken and also the time of the robbery. On looking up time-tables we found that there had been a train going north at one o'clock. It was most likely that the robbers did take this train, for they would naturally want to leave the town as soon as possible, and as this train would put them in a large city in a few hours, it would be a most desirable route to take.

(Concluded).

New Method of Card and Sword Trick.

The old method of catching the chosen card upon the point of the sword is all very well in it's way, but as the card must be forced and the duplicate be ready on sword attachment, it has it's disadvantages. The way I work this experiment is as tollows:— A genuine pack of cards is used and any card can be selected by the audience, and their name, or quotation, etc., written upon it to ensure that the same card is used. The sword is then passed for examination, it is without any preparation, being a blade about 27 inches long, narrow, and having a sharp point, card is placed in the pack, and the pack thrown up in the usual way, and the correct card is transfixed on the sword point. Sword with card on, being handed "instantly" to the person who selected the card for him to examine.

The card is freely chosen, but in putting the card back into pack, make the pass to top, palm off in right hand, hand pack to be shuffled, transfer card from right palm (face upwards) to left palm face downwards. While the cards are being shuffled hand the sword for examination and when taking it back show the quality of the steel by bending sword by handle and point, and seize the opportunity to pierce carl with the point, and push the card down a few inches letting the point protrude between the second and third fingers of the left hand. You then ask the person who holds the pack to spread it out and throw it up when you strike at the shower of falling cards and apparently catch the chosen card on sword, which is instantly handed down for inspection.

Personally, I prefer this method as any prepared piece of apparatus prevents close examination, whereas in this way of performing the experiment cards and sword can be freely examined or even borrowed. A "sword-stick" answers admirably.

ERNEST E. NOAKES.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CONJURING.

Consiled with Notes by Ellis Stanyon. Ably assisted by Mr. Arthur Margery. (Continued from page 85, see no Vol. I.)

Lynn, (Dr.) H. S. Howit's Done. The adventures of the Strange Man. Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, London, 1873. Paper, 57 pp. Another Edition in 1882 with portrait.

Macaire, Sid. Shadowgraphie. Particulars and Copy

wanted.

-Mind-Reading or Muscle-Reading? London, 1889,

Coloured wrapper, 8vo. 8o pp. Rare. Maccabe, Frederic. The Art of Ventriloquism, with London, 1875. Boards, 8vo. Amusing Dialogues.

The Compositions of Frederic Maccabe, and thematic selections, songs, and music, as sung in his musical, dramatic and ventriloquial entertainment, in which is merged the programme of characters and incidents. Season 1868. Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, London. Large 8vo. Paper, 24pp. Coloured Wrappers. Frontispiece. Portrait of McCabe.

Extrordinary Popular Delusions. Mackay, Chas. Cloth, 8vo. 322 pp. Illustrated. London, 1869.

Systematic Memory. The Book for Maclaren, T. Lightning Memorizers. London, 1866. Boards, 8vo. Third Edition, Second Edition. Rare. 55 PP.

1869. 89 pp.

Macmahon, Parkyns. Memorial, or Brief, for the Comte De Cagliostro, Defendant : against the King's Attorney-General. Plaintiff, in the cause of the Cardinal De Rohan, Comtesse De La Motte, and others. From the French original, published in Paris in Feb., last, with an Introductory Preface. London, 1786. Calf, 8vo.

MacWalter, J. G. "The Modern Mystery," or Table Its history, philosophy, and general attributes. London, 1854. Cloth, 8vo. 175 pp. Mack, W. Strange Power Baffles Strong Men who

cannot lift him. Increases his weight from 80 to 800 pounds at will-mere touch stops horse. Des Moines, (U.S.A.) Daily News, February 14, 1901. Three Photographs.

Mad Magician, The. Particulars and Copy wanted. Magazine of Magic and Conjurer's Companion. Par-

ticulars and Copy wanted.

Tricks with Fire, Parlour Magazine of Mysteries. Magic, Illusions, etc. London, about 1840. Paper,

Curious Engravings

"Magic." (Established 1900). The conjurer's illustrated monthly magazine. Full of clever and original conjuring tricks. Tricks for parlour and stage. Pretty Great handcuff tricks. Exposure of table tricks. Bogus Lightning Calculators. Tricks of card, coin, and handkerchief kings. Special Coronation Number, (July, 1902), coloured supplement. Edited by Ellis

The only paper in the British Empire devoted solely to the interests of Magicians, Jugglers, Hand Shadowists, Ventriloquists, Lightning Cartoonists and Speciality Entertainers.

Magic. Tyas' popular shilling hand-books on. 32 mo. Published by Geo. Routledge & Co., Soho Square. Particulars and Copies wanted.

Magic Book, (The). London, 1750 (?) 4to.

This is a coloured picture book of various figures and designs, similar to the "Magic Blow-Book." By passing

the leaves quickly through the fingers, the pictures vary, &c. It has no reading matter beyond a slip of instructions.

Magic Book, (The), or the whole art of Legedermain. Containing instructions how to perform tricks with dice, cards, cups, balls, &c. By the Great Magician. Glasgow, 1820 Paper, 8vo. 24 pp.

Contains explanations of 27 various tricks. Page 1.—How to cut a man's head off. &c. Page 6.—The Pascinated Bird. Page 14.—The Sentinel Egg. Page 24.—To find the

points cast on two dice, &c.

Magic and Conjuring Magazine and Wonderful Chronicle, (The). Including a regular and complete series of recreative and experimental philosophy; with a new translation of the whole of Laviter's celebrated system Illustrated with upwards of 800 of physiognomy. Vol. I. For the year 1795. capital engravings. published. London. Paper, 8vo. pp.96. 3 plates.
The subject matter comprises card tricks, fortune telling,

gambler's tricks, conjuring games, &c., largely drawn from Pinetti, Breslaw, &c. The style and get up it similar to its contemporary "The Conjurer's Mag.," or this may, possibly have been "The Conjurer's Mag.," continued under another

Magic and Mystery, (from Bentley's Miscellaneous). N.Y. The Eclectic Magazine. June, 1859. pp. 193-200. A review of Hou lin's Confidences d' un Prestidigitateur.

Magic and Mystery, as may be performed by Prof. Anderson and other eminent Prestidigitateurs. Lon-

dou, 1864. Pamph. 4to. 8 pp.

Explains 49 various tricks. The front page is illustrated.

Magic and Mystery. Part I. Instructions for performing

nearly 20) Marvellous Tricks.

— do. — Part II. Instructions for performing nearly 100 Wonderful Tricks and Delusions with Cards. Each about 64 pp. Paper. Published by Hart & Co., London. N.D.

Magic and Mystery unveiled. Particulars and Copy

wanted.



Fascimile reproduction from the poster of Mons. Robin. further particulars of this celebrated French Conjurer see our issue of July last.

Items of Interest.

Bosco, Jr. (Capetown) sends us a couple of nice, and very inour gallery is now rapidly growing in size and importance.

Are you represented? Are you represented? portance. Mr. Chas. D. Hughes writes, "Thanks very much for the 'Original Tricks of Clement de Lion,' I am delighted with the book."

The "Hove Echo" for May 31st, 1902, says:—
"The most unexpected turn of the evening was that provided by the Brothers Joy, two handcuff experts and conjurers. the performers was handcuffed, enveloped in a sack, which was tied round at the top, and then placed in a massive brass bound box. The latter was securely pa llocked and roped round. The other Brother was handcuffed to two poles, so that his arms were stretched out on each side of him. His neck was encircled by a locked collar, which was in turn fastened by a chain to a bar above. and his feet were shackled. The curtain was drawn for a few moments and when it fell apart again, lo! the two had changed places, and not a sign of how it was done, nor traces of a knot displaced could be found by two of the audience who officiated as This is really an exceedingly smart and mystifying turn, and it reflects great credit on the Joys, who are mere youths, and who made the box themselves. While the brothers were preparing their apparatus. Mr. Noble edified the audience with one or two smart feats of conjuring."

During the month the editor has been favoured with a visit from Mr. Francis Martinka, chief of the well known firm of that name in New York. Mr. Martinka was also commissioned by Dr. Saram R. Ellison, M.D., to leave at this office an original full-plate photograph of the latter's wonderful collection of Books, Photos, and Magician's Wands. Will the Dr. kindly note that the photograph is much appreciated and that a very pleasant afternoon was spent.

Prof. Wilton Warton sends the Editor the clever little sketch which appears at the head of this column. Such contributions, which prove a lively interest in the paper, are at all times welcome, and will receive due acknowledgement.

Mr. Ernest E. Noakes, Exponent of Modern Magic, Dioramic Entertainer, &c., sends as an excellent cabinet Photograph of ihimself, which we are pleased to add to our collection. The photo s accompanied with a well-gotten up circular giving full particulars of his work as an entertainer and teacher of sleight of hand. Noakes adopts the original idea of explaining on his circular the secrets of some half-dozen clever but simple card tricks.

Percy Verto (The King of Handcuffs) writes from Australia:—
"I am glad to tell you that we had a very successful tour through New Zealand, where my Handcuff Act went very big; had some very trying tests, police coming in disguised to show with their own Handcuffs and having key-holes blocked, but surprises came for them just the same, made no difference to my act. am now keeping up my speed in freeing myself from seven (7) different makes in the very short time of 45 seconds; time taken by Captain of Perth Fire Brigade. Prof. Powell is out here doing the World's Entertainer's Circuit, general impression only fair—doing all old work. He introduced Coin Crystal Staircase and works Colour Change Handkerchiefs and the old-time Japanese Rings. Now we have Prof. Harcourt who opened with Harry Ricard's I consider him a very neat performer, but he has not One wants something sensational to make a stir here Tivoli Coy. caught on. as they have been getting too much magic of late." Am sending you a report re his opening. I myself am working up an act after the style of Lafayette, not a "Lyon and Cage," but a story of "Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf."

I am leaving here next month for a tour down to Noumea, New Caladonia, where we will fill in six weeks. There is also a 10 days Carnival Festivities which the French hold annually. Here the government partly manage one's show, they sell all tickets and take 10 per cent. on profits. Shall write you from there with all particulars. During the Winter here and on my return from Noumea shall open school for magic. My intention is to put your

works forward as they are the best for amateurs; also apparatus your way I shall recommend. I now must draw to a close with best wishes and every success with Magic."

MANCHESTER NOTES.

Mille. Talma (The Queen of Coins) opened at the Tivoli Theatre on August 11th, and produced her new act "The Legend of the Silk Worm." The performer first explains the legend, and then proceeds to catch a number of silk handkerchiefs out of the air, about one dozen different colours being caught. This is evidently done by means of the producing ball described in "Magic" about a month ago.

One handkerchief is then passed through closed left hand and changes colour. A number is then asked for, and seven being given, the required handkerchiefs are produced one by one. Seventy is then suggested (by the performer) and from the seven a large quantity, presumably seventy is produced (introduced in one

Mdlle, then shows two silver plated rings about 18 inches in diameter, with which she forms a tambourine. This is loaded from a From the tambourine liefd by assistant, the following articles are produced: first, a long roll of silk about 8 ins. wide, Standards and about 23 flags (without staffs), then two Royal Standards and about 23 flags of all nations, about 4 feet by 3 feet, from several of which are produced pigeons, ducks, and a very large rooster and two hens, and finally a large Union Jack on staff.

Talma's show is very good and meets with the approval of the

audience.

Ching Ling Soo, the Chinese conjurer, is at present playing to crowded houses at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, His pro-

gramme is as follows

Soup-plates, bran and doves, it should be noticed that the plates are not turned over. A number of large eggs are then placed in a tin box, shaped like a drain pipe, and vanished, only to appear in a crystal casket held by the Chinese assistant at the other side of the stage, and from the tube-like box is taken two round bird-cages with birds. Chung then places two canaries in a paper bag and blows it to bits with revolver, whereupon the birds appear in square cage held by lady assistant.

Then follows the famous fire eating trick as described in MAGIC ee Explanatory Programmes). He then performs the pretty (see Explanatory Programmes). He then performs the pretty trick commonly known as Kellar's Growth of Flowers, two real rose trees in pots on side table from cardboard tube, flowers distri-

buted to audience.

Next on the list comes the fishing trick (three fish caught) and his method is undoubtedly the best at present-before the public, the same small tube-like bait being used each time. assistant at this stage does the fire swinging, two balls of fire at the end of chain, and then hoists himself into the air by placing his pigtail over a pulley suspended from a rope.

The magician finally produces a large bowl of water and two ducks from large cloth: The whole show is smartly worked throughout and that it is appreciated by the audience, is shown by the applicate that greets Chung Ling Soo at its close.

Kahn and Kahn are at the Aquarium, Scarboro' with their usual show, and are mystifying the patrons of that popular place by their second sight act. E. ANDERTON.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES.

"Clive the Coniuror," (Clive O'Hara of Melbourne), set out into the district towns of New South Wales and Queensland with a variety show. He expects to run about six months. The World's Entertainers, No. 2, are at present at Melbourne. They include "Salerno," the juggler who is at the top of the bill, and "Adèle," a lady shadowgraphist. Salerno went great in Sydney, and was compared not infavourably with Paul Cinquevalli, who is a great favourite there. The World's Entertainers, No. 3, recently passed through New Zealand. They include Professor Powell, the American Conjurer, who is doing the Gold-fish Trick, the Crystal Ladder, Coin and Hat Illusion, the Tambourine Trick, the Chinese Linking Rings, (which took on better than anything else), the Box Trick. Rickard's travelling show recently passed through here, headed by Cinquevalli. It was the latter's first visit to No. 3, and he is regarded everywhere as simply "Out of sight." "Cobby and Way," ventriloquists were with the show.

Cecil Howard, a young Australian, recently gave a private entertainment in Conjuring, and is regarded as a performer of great promise. He shortly sets out on a tour of the Colonies,

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