

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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#### HUBERT PICTON (Liverpool).

Last month we had something to say on the value of conjuring as a hobby, and we have now much pleasure

of Liverpool, and from infancy a devotee of conjuring and allied arts, in particular Paper-Folding, as a hobby. During a very pleasant interview which tock place at this office recently the subject of our sketch revealed to us the fact, that he is possessed of skill extraordinary Sleight of Hand, his manipulation of Cards and Billiard Balls being 'finished' in the extreme. His production, manipulation, and disappearance of Five Solid Balls is truly remarkable in fact, in this branch of the art we consider he has reached the acme or digital dexterity.

From skill displayed one might almost imagine Mr. Picton to be a Methusaleh in years (he does not mention his age) and to have practised from his childhood but unless this is a particular phase of his ability to deceive he has not seen more than 25 to 30 summers. In

addition to sleight of Hand he presents quite a number | of novel spectacular effects, although, as he informs us, he has not as yet taken wholly to conjuring as a profession. He also makes quite a number of new designs in Paper-Folding, something out of the beaten track, and was good enough to give us ocular demonstation of his researches

in this direction with the aid of a much torn and delapidated papier picked up, on the spur of the moment, in a corner of our Editor's "den." We had better papiers in stock, but—"This is good enough for me" which, of in introducing to our readers Mr. Hubert Picton, a native course, implied the old axiom "good workmen can use

any tools."

MR, HUBERT PICTON.

The "Key" card that enables the conjurer to produce a chosen card seemingly lost in the pack is an old dodge, but Mr. Picton showed us quite a novel application of the ruse—and requested that it be explained in these pages for the benefit of our readers-the explanation will be found in this issue. There is little doubt but that the amateur invents what the professional, mainly for want of time, is glad to employ. The professional rushes in with "What have you got that is new, I want a new act." The amateur comes in calmly with "I've got a good idea, what do you think of this." It's an oft mooted question "Is there anything new under the sun." Picton says, apart from entertaining others, there is much that is interesting and instructive in conjuring and, as Paganini said of the violin, as it can never

be learned there must be much that is new in the art. Being endowed with the requisite qualities we predict a brilliant future for the subject of our sketch; and a careful watch of the firmament should reveal, as the stars of the older magicians wane, a new star rising. The name of the new star-" Picton."

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[Facsimile, selected from Mr. Margery's Portfolio.]

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Mill Lane." Cheques crossed "London and County Bank, West Hampstead." Where the amount is small stamps (haltpenny preferred) may be sent; also for small amounts American stamps and dollar notes are accepted.

## Editorial.

The first part of the present volume, the last issue, was a double number, i.e., in accordance with our promise the usual eight pages had been increased to sixteen pages.

#### DOUBLE ITS ORIGINAL SIZE.

The last number was full of secrets of New Tricks and Illusions. the least interesting of the lot, probably, being the full stage secrets, with drawings, of the new Trunk Mystery, entitled

#### METEMPSYCHOSIS DOUBLE-EXTRAORDINARY.

This illusion, perfected and with additions by Mr. Ellis Stanyon, has been worked in a less effective form by prominent handcuff conjurers the world over, and none of the numerous secrets required for its production have yet, to our knowledge, been explained anywhere. The effect, in brief, is as follows:--Performer handcuffed, and wearing borrowed coat, is sealed up in a sack, which is then placed in the innermost of two trunks, both locked and corde; an exchange of places between himself and assistant outside is then effected without the aid of duplicity or traps. A full explanation will be found in our last, October, issue-first part of volume IV.

We feel sure it will be generally appreciated that the production of "MAGIC" with its present contents and typographical excellence (vide testimonials), necessitates the expenditure of much valuable time and money, and in the hopes of securing the necessary support from readers to enable us to run the paper

#### PERMANENTLY DOUBLE ITS ORIGINAL SIZE,

we are offering the first number of this volume, the last issue, to ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS ONLY.

Above are our reasons for doing this and we would further suggest that such a number as the last is honestly worth the price of the Annual Subscription of 5/6. See last page of this issue.

Apropos of our new heading. Truly "Magic" is all over the world, and in the words of an old pal, "All the World's a Stage," also, and in reference to the contents of our last issue, "All the World's Agog."

We are now making efforts to increase the number of Annual Subscribers. We are receiving many new subscriptions for our list, but by December the 1st next we want 1,000 new subscribers,

and we can only obtain these subscribers by the co-operation of the "Magic" family. Many of you write to me that you are pleased with "Magic"—one writes "I consider 'Magic' the only one "Evidently 'MAGIC' is the only conjurers'; another one "Evidently 'MAGIC' is the only conjurer's journal in the world that is edited with a free hand,"—and I thank you all for your kindly words. Now, I want you to tell your neighbour and suggest to him that he send his name for our annual subscription list. Friends! Will you do this? Do not think that everybody else will do this and that it will not be necessary for you to think about it, BUT PLEASE ACT, and in return for such help we promise to give you on the first of each month a 16 page "MAGIC," i.e., to run the paper

#### PERMANENTLY DOUBLE ITS ORIGINAL SIZE.

We want to continue to improve "Magic," but improvement

only comes with appreciation.

Volume III. contains a full explanation of the great Handcuff and Prison Cell Release Sensation, including naked release, in all some six or seven pages of small type, with illustrations of various regulation, also special irons and trick keys, and it is in fact the only practical and professional explanation yet in print. Unscrupulous authors, and others are continually advertising the secret, and content themselves with telling their victims to wear a pair of leaden pants, a sandpaper shirt, or to strike the iron while hot, I mean on the toe of the boot, or similar absurdities. It must be obvious to anyone that the lengthy lessons, six or seven pages of small type, with illustrations, as given in volume III. of Magic, could not very well be sold in MS. form, or even incorporated in a book of conjuring tricks.

As already stated, the first part of the present volume contains the secret of the Trunk, Sack, and Handcuff illusion the effect of which is given above, and other important and practical secrets of New Tricks and Illusions are to follow and which you may not hope to find in any other magical paper. Why? Well, if the reasons are not obvious, put on your smoking cap and think hard,

and remember what our readers say.

to conjurers."

"'MAGIC' is the only conjurers' journal in the world edited with a free hand."

Important features in the Handcuff business are showmanship and business capability. "MAGIC" teaches you these.

The greatest desire of man is to make money; his next desire is to make a name that will live long after he is dead. conjurers we have known have possessed these desires in a remarkable degree.

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Therefore "Magic" is the best medium to conjurers who

DESIRE TO MAKE MONEY.
Further, "MAGIC" is bound into attractive volumes—not thrown away. The first three volumes of "Magic," beautifully bound with specially designed title pages, in connection with Dr. Saram R. Ellison's collection, are willed to the Columbia University; ALL volumes of "Magic," (past and future) also rest in the Four University Libraries of this country for the reference of authors who will continue the work of Frost in his "Lives of the Conjurers." Already, Henry Ridgely Evans in his latest book, "Magic and its Professors," repeatedly acknowledges his indebtedness to " MAGIC.

Therefore, "Magic" is the best medium to conjurers who DESIRE TO MAKE A NAME.

A front page is best. A small photo and card is sufficient. The man who hesitates is lost; now is the time to decide for NEXT MONTH and get in advance of your competitors. The one who is first in the field is invariably dubbed "King."

## Original Lessons in Magic.

BY ELLIS STANYON.

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

#### THE VELVET COIN STAND,

This consists of a triangular piece of wood covered with black velvet, and long enough to hold some six or seven coins, more or less, at the desire of the performer. the bottom of the stand, that is on the side next the table, is permanently attached a duplicate set of four coins, while in the side of the triangle most remote from the audience, i.e. the back of the stand, is a shallow trough, also lined velvet, that may be covered as occasion may require by means of the hinged flap seen in Fig. 4.

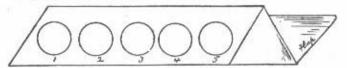


FIG. 4.

The stand is employed for causing the disappearance of the coins seemingly, to conjurers not in the know, by palming them one on top of the other on the back of the hand, to the audience by seeming to throw them into the Coin No. 1 is a hooked coin, and this is removed from the stand with the left hand (table on performer's right) placed on the fingers of the right hand and vanished by means of the reverse and continuous back and front palm (see "New Coin Tricks." 2nd series, pp 6 and 7). The coins remaining on the stand are without preparation of any kind. While picking up No. 2 from the stand with the left hand the right hand quickly disposes of the hooked coin by attaching it to the right hip. No. 2 is now actually vanished on to the back of the right hand. The left hand picks up No. 3 and places it on the fingers of the right hand which has remained outstretched with palm towards audience and with No. 2 palmed at the rear. In the act of placing No 3 on the fingers, No 2 is secretly allowed to drop from the back of the right hand into the fingers of the left hand, to be secretly deposited in the trough at the rear of the stand in the act of picking up No 4. No. 3 is disposed of in like manner. No. 4 is now resting secretly on the back of the right hand, and the performer appears to pick up No. 5, but this coin is in reality drawn into a kind of pocket or rather slit cut in the velvet front of the stand. The left hand supposed to be holding No. 5 is raised to the right and just as the coin is supposed to be laid on the fingers, No. 4 is reversed and the illusion, if the movement be properly timed, should be complete. former is now left to vanish and work the continuous palm with one coin only, but he will have the credit of manipulating a number of coins all at once.

Now, having shown the hand empty back and front by means of the reverse palm, No. 5 is seemingly caught from the air and forthwith thrown on the table. The right hand picks up the stand (first closing the flap at the rear) taking care to keep its under side out of sight of the audience, and the left hand covers it with a handkerchief. A 'catch' is now made in the air with the covered stand to which, at the same moment a third of a revolution is given to bring the bottom to the front. The handkerchief is removed and the four coins, presumably the balance of the vanished five, are displayed as caught on the stand.

The variety of effects that may be obtained in coin conjuring by the employment of this stand are much too numerous to give in detail, but the above should form an excellent illustration of its value in coin combinations.

Novel Discovery of a Chosen Card.—For this trick, which depends for its effect upon a new application of an old ruse, I am indebted to Mr. Hubert Picton of Liverpool, who is occupying the front page of this issue of "Magic." The effect is as follows: A card is freely chosen and returned to any part of the pack held fanwise for its reception. The pack is squared together with the chosen card in the actual position placed by the drawer—there is no "pass" made. The cards are now "cut" several times yet the performer is able to pick out the one chosen in an instant.

The explanation is simple:—The pack is first handed to be shuffled, and as it is returned to the performer he quietly takes a mental note of the only visible card *i.e.* that at the bottom. A card is now freely chosen and duly noted by drawer. Now in the act of opening the pack fauwise to receive the chosen card the fingers of the right hand, assisted by those of the left, draw the bottom card across to the right *i.e.* to the bottom of the upper half where the pack is eventually divided for the insertion of the chosen card, and now when the pack is closed the "key" card is resting on the top of the one chosen which may be readily discovered when dealing, or picked out from the pack at the pleasure of the performer.

The Bent Corner Discovery .- An excellent method of discovering a chosen card, actually shuffled into the pack by the drawer is that which I have designated "The bent corner." The pack is held fan-wise, as usual, for the reception of the chosen card, and, as soon as it is inserted, its bottom right hand corner is sharply bent between the tips of the second and third fingers of the right hand. The pack may now be squared up completely all round and handed to anyone to shuffle without the slightest fear of the bend in the corner being entirely obliterated. After the shuffle the performer takes the pack and, by allowing it to lie easy on its side, on the fingers of either hand and by examining the corners on the opposite side, readily discovers the chosen card. If the corner is not quickly discernable turn the pack over and examine it on its opposite edge.

On the passing of 12 cards up the Sleeve into pocket.—I have already explained this trick at length in my "Conjuring with Cards" q.v. I will now suggest a

few improvements.

Use the right hand trousers pocket, assuming that the cards are held in the left hand, and note that after having palmed in the first batch, usually six cards, the pocket may be turned inside out and thus proved empty—the hand also being seen empty. This may be done between the production of each card if desired, but I do not recommend this overdoing a good thing. The secret is as follows:—The pocket must be what is known as a side pocket and the cards when inserted are pushed, not to the bottom as usual, but to the extreme top corner most remote from the opening. With the cards in this position it will be found that the pocket may be turned inside out without any fear of exposing them.

Having produced five cards out of the usual twelve leave one only in pocket and proceed to count the cards remaining in the left hand proving that there are seven, in reality there are only six. To do this proceed as follows:-Pass the cards slowly and deliberately, one by one, from left hand to right hand counting aloud, and when passing the third card secretly draw back the one first passed over, behind the fan of cards formed by the two portions momentarily together. Continue to count the balance of the cards in the same deliberate manner making seven. This deceptive count must be done throughout with absolute regularity and then the illusion is perfect. Now hand the supposed seven cards to a lady to hold; cause one card to leave her hands and appear in your pocket (producing the card already there) and ask her to once more count the cards. Marvellous! You really ought to give yourself a medal if you get this effect nicely.

Marvellous Spirit Pictures.—A wooden frame about 24 in. by 18 in.; carrying plain canvas, is shown back and front, and afterwards placed on an easel. This done a lamp is placed behind the frame, immediately in front of the spirit cabinet, to satisfy the spectators that no one approaches from behind. The lights are now lowered a little and with a little music, a spirit picture is slowly precipitated in colours, on the canvas, creating a pretty and lasting effect.

Secret.—The picture is already painted on the screen of unbleached muslin in the following manner: "Sulphate of Iron" for blue; "Nitrate of Bismuth" for yellow; "Sulphate of Copper" for brown. Make fairly strong solutions of each in warm water. Now, with a brush for each colour paint a landscape, portrait or whatever you

wish, which when dry will be quite invisible.

When about to present the trick, slightly damp the

muslin and all is ready.

To cause the picture to appear your assistant in cabinet plays on the canvas with a scent spray containing a solution of Prussiate of Potass. The action of the Prussiate of Potass on the other chemicals brings up the colours and produces the picture which, perhaps, while lacking in artistic beauty, will still be most weird and striking.

I have treated the subject of Paper Tearing at far greater length than I had originally intended. Paper Tearing to my mind has always seemed so absurdly simple as scarcely to need a description. I am glad, however, to find that my readers think differently, as is exemplified by the great interest taken in these articles, which, it will be remembered, were commenced in our issue for September last.—(Ed.)

#### AN INSULT.

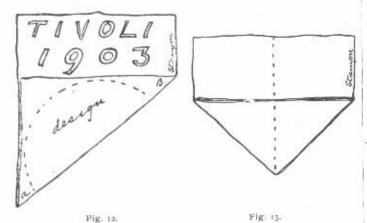
A youth to fortune and to fame unknown sends Dumas the manuscript of a new play, asking the great dramatist to become his collaborator. Dumas is for a moment petrified, then seizes his pen and replies: "How dare you, sir, propose to yoke together a horse and an ass?" The author, by return of post: "How dare you, sir, call me a horse?" Dumas, by next mail: "Send me your play, my young friend."

#### PAPER TEARING.

By MR. ELLIS STANYON.

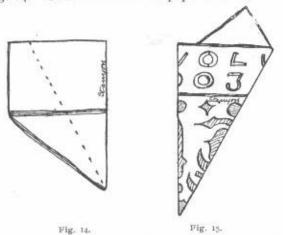
(Continued from last issue.)

In my last article I explained the red, white and blue, tricolour effect; also how to change a torn design to a shower of coloured confetti, a very pretty sleight of hand trick; and also the great triple tearing feat. We will now notice an entirely different method of folding the paper preparatory to tearing, which method of folding also enables the performer to vary the style of the Triple Tearing feat by producing the name of



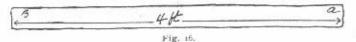
Hall also Date together, above the design as shown in Fig. 12. As already explained, the name and date are roughly cut or torn out before the paper is folded ready for tearing, but the folds conceal this preparation and the performer gets the credit for skill, scarcely employed.

the performer gets the credit for skill, scarcely employed. Take an oblong piece of paper, from of any daily paper will do for experiment, and having cut cut the name and date (see Fig. 12) fold up the right hand bottom corner until it meets the left hand side as shown in Fig. 12; then fold the corner marked "A" on to the point marked "B" and the paper will now appear as shown in Fig. 13. Now turn the paper over and fold it in half at the dotted lines, and it will now appear as seen in Fig. 14. Once more turn the paper over and fold it in



half, and you have it folded all ready for tearing as shown in Fig. 15 on which Fig. also is indicated a design. Before leaving the subject of paper tearing, and for the sake of making these articles as exhaustive of the subject as possible, I must introduce to my readers the

Erratic Paper Bands. This is a trick of a very subtle nature, and one suitable for a beginner, in as much as it may be shown at close quarters without fear of detection. It was a favourite with Mons. Trewey, the renowned



juggler, so should be worthy the attention of my readers.

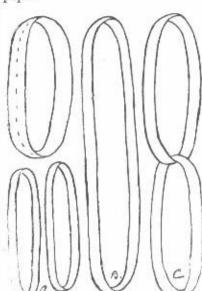
It is performed with three endless paper bands (rings). preferably made from newspaper as savouring the less of preparation, made as follows:—

Preparation: —Cut off a strip of paper 4 ft. long by 2 in. wide (See Fig. 16), then with this strip form an endless band by pasting end "A" on the under side of end "B."

With a second strip of paper fashion a second endless band, but this time, before pasting the ends together, give end "A" a half turn, then paste the under side of "A" on the under side of "B."

With a third strip of paper fashion still another endless band, this time giving end "A" a complete turn before pasting it on the *under* side of "B."

You are now ready to present the trick, which consists of cutting the bands right around in the direction of the dotted lines in Fig. 17., with a scissors, or it may be considered more effective to simply fold and tear the paper.



Results.—No. I band, when cut or torn as described, very naturally gives two plain bands of the same size, as the original. ("A" in the Fig.)

No. 2 when cut in an exactly similar manner, not quite so naturally gives one plain band twice the size of the original (See 'B' in the Fig.).

No. 3 when cut in the same way, to the surprise of all, gives two bands of the size of the original but interlaced, ("C" in the Fig.)

ary to state that, the twists in bands No. 2 and 3 are not at all likely to be noticed, and if noticed at all would in all probability be put down to accident; it is very possible to throw a twist on the plain unprepared band No. 1.

The papers may be cut or torn as described; I prefer to tear them myself, and to facilitate this I fold them several times; the result is, if anything even more bewildering.

#### TRICKS WITH EGGS.

By ELLIS STANYON.

Chap. 1. Equilibrium (Continued from p.77, Vol III).

Tumbling Egg on Wand .- In my last article on this subject I explained a combination trick wand for producing four or five different effects in simple juggling. This trick wand (Fig. 2.) may be used for producing still another effect as follows:—The wand, it will be remembered, is 20 inches long, 34 inches thick, and, amongst other peculiarites, contains a trough or groove, deep and wide enough to steady an egg, running throughout its entire length. The tricks already explained are performed with a wooden egg. We now take a blown egg, and having inserted a little quick silver, stop the holes in the shell with white wax, or a little gummed white paper will answer the purpose, and all is ready. This prepared egg is placed in the groove on the wand, the ends of the egg in the same direction as the ends of the wand, and with a slight, almost imperceptible, movement of the wand, is made to "tumble" from one end of the wand to the other in a most amusing manner. The effect is of course due to the quick silver, the lively nature of which is continually changing the centre of gravity of the egg. If the wand be painted black the groove cannot be detected.

Balancing unprepared Egg on Plate. The following effects are not by any means difficult, and I have frequently seen them performed by the best jugglers. The performer takes a china dinner plate in the right hand, and the egg in the left hand. He now throws the egg some 20 feet in the air, catching it, as it falls, on the china plate, without so much as cracking the shell. How is it done? Well! much the same way as you would catch a cricket ball hit from a bat with great force, without hurting the hands—in other words by "breaking the fall." As the egg falls the plate is raised to meet it, avoiding contact, and is then lowered not quite so fast as the egg falls, with the result that the egg eventually comes to rest on the plate in the manner

The egg is forthwith balanced on the edge of the plate, then broken and its contents turned out on the plate to show that it is real. The balance, apparently most difficult, is on the contrary absurdly simple. The thing is done hurriedly, the egg is brought down sharply on the edge of the plate, with the result that the shell is fractured, and it is by means of this fracture that the egg is maintained in equilibrium on the edge of the plate.

The Waltzing Egg.—An ordinary egg is kept spinning like a top on a Japanese tray. The tray is held in the right hand, bottom upwards, the left hand placing the egg on the tray gives it a spin to the right. By now causing the tray to describe concentric circles to the left, i.e., in the opposite direction to that in which the egg is spinning, the latter will be kept going indefinitely.

The egg must be hard boiled, and the larger, i.e., the heavier it is, the better it will spin. The tray must be smooth but not polished; the surface on which the egg is to spin should be finished with fine emery-cloth.

The better effect is obtained where the egg is first laid on its side in the centre of the tray and caused to get up and spin without the assistance of the left hand. To do this the right hand, in addition to imparting the concentric motion to the tray, causes it, at the same time, to oscillate slightly from side to side. The egg spins on its side with increasing rapidity, the extra movement eventually causing it to stand on one end. From this point the trick proceeds as above described.

N.B.—This latter effect, so far as I can learn, has not

hitherto appeared in print.

Egg to Balance and Travel on borrowed Cane.—An egg is selected from three brought forward on a plate by performer. The egg duly selected, performer borrows a walking stick or cane, and holding same by one end in front of his body, he places the egg in the centre of the cane, where it remains in equilibrium. Holding the cane with one end in each hand he waltzes from side to side, while the egg moves backwards and forwards on cane. In conclusion the egg is removed from cane, returned to plate with the other two eggs, and all three are handed for examination.

Solution-- The egg is a blown shell with a thread attached to centre of its side (not end), the opposite end of thread being fixed to a button on the waistcoat. Arranged thus it is brought forward on the plate behind the other two unprepared eggs, and its choice is forced by the form of ambiguous questioning already explained in these pages, and also at pages 19 and 20 of my "Conjuring for Amateurs." It is kept in position and caused to move on cane by means of the thread; in conclusion, and before removing the egg from the cane, the performer palms from vest in right hand an extra unprepared egg. He now removes the egg from the cane with the right hand, in which is the palmed egg. He now seems to pass the egg just removed from cane, into the left hand, which hand is also holding the cane; but in reality it is the genuine egg that is transferred to the left hand, while, almost at the same moment, that to which the thread is attached is "vested" by the right hand. The three eggs may now be examined as stated, and the cane returned to its owner.

Egg to Balance and Travel on Sword.—An ordinary unprepared egg, selected from a plateful, is balanced on sword and caused to travel from one end of the blade to the other, and back again. This is done with the help of a little metal crutch (steel like the blade) made to straddle the blade, and surmounted with a minute tray in which is a little ball of wax. After the egg is chosen and examined the little fêke is pressed on to its side (not end) and the rest follows as a matter of course.

L'œuf Submerge.—The feat described and illustrated below is an enlargement on that pretty little trick, illustrating the property of inertia, and performed with a

penny and a playing card, where a penny is placed on the centre of a playing card, which is, in turn, balanced on the fore-finger; a sharp fillip is given to the card which is sent flying across the room while the penny remains poised on the finger.

A more interesting . feat is that where a

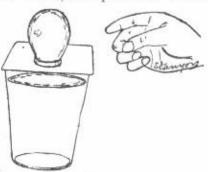


Fig. 3.

card is placed over a tumbler three parts filled with water. On the card is poised an egg kept in the perpendicular by the help of a finger ring (see Fig. 3). A sharp fillip is given to the card as in the instance above noted; the egg falls uninjured, cushioning on the water contained in the tumbler.

An enlarged version of this trick is as follows—Four glass tumblers half full of water, are placed on the table in the form of a square On the top of the tumblers so arranged is placed a small metal tray, as flat as possible. or a piece of wood about 13 by 81/2 inches, may be used in place of the tray. On the tray, exactly over a glass in each case, are now placed four rubber or wood rings, each intended to steady an egg in the position shown in Fig. 3. Note that if a tray be used, the rings must be as high as the edges of the tray, or the experiment may not be successful.

The four eggs in position, one end of the tray receives a sharp blow from the open palm of performer's hand, with the result that the tray and rings are shot clean away, while the four eggs fall into their respective If wooden eggs be employed there is no necessity to put water in the glasses; also if the wooden eggs be weighted the trick will be much simpler of execution.

To Balance an Egg on the point of a Straw .- For this purpose you will require a strong straw about twelve inches long, and the right article is found in the straws used for drinking lemon squash. In addition to the special straw you will also require a little accessory shaped as follows: A minute metal saucer shaped to receive the large end of the egg, is mounted on one end of a piece of stout wire about three-quarters of an inch in length. The thickness of the wire should be such that while it will pass readily into the straw, it will not admit of much, if any, oscillation. This little "T" shaped fêke, painted white, is palmed on to the end of the examined egg which, by its aid, may now be balanced on the end of the straw. An expert juggler will balance the straw, superposed by the egg, on his chin, nose or forehead.

#### HELPFUL HINTS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS: Communications answered in this column free; those requiring an answer by post must contain a stamped envelope and 25, 5d. Editorial Offices, 76 Solent Road, W. Hampstead, N.W.

B.D.—The egg and hat trick is worked as follows:—The N.P. plate is double i.e. it is a plate within a plate, the inner plate being open at the bottom and closed at the top. This inner portion is dropped into hat, open side up; the egg is now beaten up in the plate proper and poured into hat, or rather into the feked part of plate, the plate proper being finally lowered into the hat for the purpose of secretly bringing away the feke part.

An ordinary egg previously loaded into hat is usually brought

out on the plate. (We have these plates in stock, see our catalogue No. 1828).

Q. C .- Full particulars of our Subtle and Artistic System of Conjuring will be found in our last issue. The particulars there given are exhaustive, excepting only tuition terms which will be forwarded to any address on application. Will take this opportunity of saying however that there is not the slightest necessity to imitate the madmen who grow long finger nails and protect the same with finger-stalls. For what use such, to say the least inconvenient, appendages are in conjuring, subtle and artistic or otherwise, one might just as well imitate the devil and grow a tail.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES.

I have the pleasure this month of again placing on record the ame of a fresh student of Magic. I have never heard of the name of a fresh student of Magic. I have never heard of the gentleman before and now gain the knowledge through the local press, which announces that a Mr. P. Bosakooski gave a very good conjuring performance in the Pavilion Hall, Paarl, Cape Good conjuring performance in the Favinon Flatin, Facility Colony for two nights (5th and 7th Sept. I understand). He was assisted by his family. It further states "some of his tricks were truly marvellous, and fairly astonished his audience" from which I judge that this artiste has a great future before him.

Bert Cooper, the magician and shadowist, has left these parts, and is just at present located in East London, Cape Colony, at which centre, he intends to astonish the natives. On his journey up he visited Kuysna and Port Elizabeth.

Walter Brown, the clown conjuror and illusionist, is on the eve of moving his side show from Claremont to Capetown. He has I undersland taken a partner into the business, and they intend enlarging the show and bringing it up to date in every way. We

wish him all success.

Mons. De Villiers, the great illusionist and anti-spiritualistic conjuror, has concluded his engagement with Mr. Leavitt, and is now travelling through the country with his own show. He was at Hopetown when I last heard. He expects to be back in Cape-town about Christmas. He deserves every success for never has a better show in Magic travelled through this country. It is most thoroughly up to date, and presented in a most pleasing and inimitable style.

Prof. Malvern is kept busy with local dates. He has some "big"

shows in prospect in the near future.

Bosco Jr., Conjuror, has not lost his love for the art, for I noticed his name recently in a local daily, as having given a most satisfactory "turn" at a local gathering.

I have also received news of a conjuror by name, Signor Necardio, marvellous sleight of hand worker and conjuror, who was showing recently at West Bank, East London, Cape Colony, t De Caston's name has appeared in a couple of recent

programmes. The new Theatre of Varieties in Capetown, named the Tivoli, was opened recently with a vaudeville company from the Empire Palace, Johannesburg.

I am, as ever, busy working for the general advance and prosperity of the science and art of Magic in these parts; and no European conjurer can imagine what a discouraging work it is out here. Stillwell was right when he stated in his letter to magic that this country is as suitable for magic as skates would be to fish. However I keep on getting one here and one there interested, and give a few lessons, supply some little apparatus and, as you know, get now and then a subscriber to our monthly paper "Magic."

I would once again offer to all conjurors visiting this country, a hearty invitation to visit me. I am always glad to give them any assistance in my power, and have a chat over the history of magic and magicians in S. Africa. I would also ask conjurers resident in different parts of this country to write me and send me particulars of their programmes and shows, that I may embody the same in these notes from time to time,

T. HAVES, Magician.

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### Items of Interest.

Magician who Resisted Mosks .- Some forty years ago the late Samuel Sharpe, the eminent antiquary and geologist, brought from Egypt a granite statue which was deposited in the British Museum, where it remained unidentified until the other day. A well-known Egyptologist, Mr. H. W. Mengedoht, has just identified the figure as that of the son of Rameses II., a prince who is thought to have been the magician who withstood Moses, and who flourished about 1330 B.C.

W. T., a new subscriber, writes .- "I may say that my subscribing for your paper is mainly the result of your degred persistence in circularizing one so."

COLORED FIRES.-Blue Flame.-(1) Ore pigment, 2 parts; charcoal, 3 parts; potassium chlorate, 5 parts; sulphur, 13 parts; potassium nitrate, 77 parts. (2) Su'phur, 15 parts; potassium sulphate, 15 parts; ammonio-cupric sulphate, 15 parts; potassium

white Flame.—(1) Potassium nitrate, 30 parts; sulphur 10 parts; antimony sulphide (black), 5 parts; flour, 3 parts; powdered camphor, 2 parts. (2) Charcoal, 1 part; sulphur, 11 parts; potassinm sulphide, 38 parts. (3) Stearine, 1 part; barium carbonate, 1 part; milk sugar, 4 parts; potassium nitrate, 4 parts; potassium chlorate, 12 parts. As a general rule, a corresponding quantity of shellac may be taken instead of the sulphur for inside

Smokeless Vari-coloured Fire. First take (this is essential) barytes or strontium, bring to a glowing heat in a suitable dish, remove from the fire, and now add the shellac. The latter (unpowdered) will melt at once, and can then be intimately mixed with the barytes or strontium by means of a spatula, After cooling, pulverize. One may also add about 21/2 per cent of powdered magnesium to increase the effect. Take for instance 4 parts of barytes or strontium and 1 part of shellac.

Green.—Melt shellac, 5 parts; barium nitrate, 1 to 1.2 parts; pound after cooling and add 2 to 5 per cent of barium chlorate

The latter enhances the coloring.

Red.—Shellac 5 parts; strontium nitrate, I to 1.2 parts. Preparation as above. In damp weather add I to 4 per cent of potassium chlorate to the red flame; the latter causes a little more smoke. The flames give little smoke, and can be burned in the room. The smoke is not molesting. They burn well and very light. The composition should be shaped into a longish pill. The Spatula.

To Mr. Stanyon.-I have received the Photo Block and am very pleased with it. It is the best block that I have had and I shall certainly recommend you to any who want a good block. I have shown it to several and they say it is first class.

You are welcome to make what use you like of this. Yours

truly .- Prof. Herwinn.

"The Sphinx" Editor, A. M. Wilson M.D., Kansas City, U.S.A. announces that the Christmas edition of "The Sphinx" will be printed in colours, while the price and advertizing rates remain the same. It is, without colours, a very attractive journal; its typography and general contents, especially the sleight of hand element, being of a superior nature. Mr. Wilson's "Book Notes" are interesting and important.

Nos. 11 and 12 of the now Famous Serial Works are in active preparation and titles will be announced shortly, probably in our next issue. The fact that Nos. 11 and 12 are to appear is sufficient surely to convince even the most sceptical, of the value of the contents of this series. It will probably be impossible to obtain a complete set of the serials a month from date of this issue of MAGIC.

A subscriber to Magic would like to know how many other subscribers there are who, like himself, honestly believe that the last issue of "Magic" is the finest specimen of a purely conjuring periodical that has ever been published in any part of the World; and further, whether the last issue, in itself, is not worth consider-ably more than some two-and-ninepenny books, and for that matter, some books that cost a half or even a whole guinea.



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254. Fire King Sundries.—Brass Tongs 2/9; Brass Ladle for sponge trick, blazing liquor, &c., 4/-; Brass Ladle for blazing oil trick (with hook), 4/6; Trick Ladle for boiling oil, 3/6; Trick Cup for drinking boiling liquid, 4/6; Tux Nux, the great fire preparation, per box 1/2; Prepared Oakum, per package 1/2; Brass Torches, 3/3 and 5/-; N. P. Torches, 4/6 and 6/-; Prepared Sponges per dozen (not less) 1/2; Flash Paper, red, green or yellow per large foolscap sheet, 7d.; Acid Bulbs for fire flashes per dozen in glass bottle, 2/3; Japanned block tin Caskets with handles for fire outfits, 7/6; do. do. with extra quality lock and two keys, 10/6; Nickle-plated Table Lamps, rich and ornamental, 4/6; Book on Fire-eating and handling, 3/-; Luminous Paint, per package 2/3; Asbestos for table tops, per yard, 6/-Asbestos Paint, per package 2/3; Fire King Tables, 27/6 and 35/-Glass Tubes for gas, &c., 12 by ¼ inches, each 1/2; Larger Glass Tube fitted gas tip, 1/7; L. shaped Glass Tubes, 12 by ½ inch, 1/7; Larger I, shaped Glass Tubes fitted gas tip, 2/7; Nickel-plated Tubes, 12 by ½ inch, 2/2; Nickel-plated L. Tubes (mitred), with gas tip, 3/9; Brass 3 way Gas Jet, 6/3; N.P. Brass 3-way Gas Jet, 7/9; Fire Balls ready for use, per dozen in box, 1/2; Special Gas Tips (small bores) each post free 3d, or per dozen 2/3; Potassium, Sodium, Phosphorus and Chemicals, for all magic tricks, in stock at lowest prices; Bimbo Tehi Fire Secret, to set a lady's handkerchief on fire by breathing on it, 2/-; Prepared Papers to light in candle and eat while ablaze, packet of 12 sheets, 1/2; Glass Spirit Lamps, 1/6 and 2/6; Productive Fire Bowls, 6/9 and 10/6, nickel plated, 8/9 and 13/6. Lamps, 1/6 and 2/6; Productive Fire Bowls, 6/9 and 10/6, nickel plated, 8/9 and 13/6.

See our special list of Fire Tricks, and particulars of our special

Fire King Outfit in metal casket at 35/-

Mr. Harold Nimble, Society Entertainer of Manchester, writes, "I have duly received the Fire King Casket and I am very pleased with it. I am about to work the Fire Business, modified, in the drawing room. Thanks for Casket, it is very neat, portable, convenient and perfect. I have not the slightest objection to your publishing my letter."—Yours faithfully HAROLD NIMBLE.

- 255. Black Art Sundries. Portable Cabinets, complete with black drapery, from £7; Tables 21/- and 30/-: Vases, large enough for rabbit, 21/-; Wand, white with N.P. ends, 3/6; Hoop to pass over objects suspended in air, 2/9; Bell, 3/9; Front Illuminating Lømps with powerful reflectors, each 4/9 and 6/-; Large 5¼ inch Balls to vanish when dropped into vase, pail, &c., 5/-; Picture Frame, for production of live lady, bust only, live bust to change to union jack flag, frame examined any time, frames and apparatus, 42/-; Silk Flag, 10/6; Sabre for decapitation, 12/6; Accessories for decapitation act, complete, but not including sabre, 10/-; Apparatus for producing rabbit in vase, 5/6; including sabre, 10/-; Apparatus for producing rabbit in vase, 5/6; Apparatus to pass rabbit, &c., from one vase to another, 5/6; To Apparatus to pass rabbit, &c., from one vase to another, 5/6; To produce one rabbit and multiply it to two rabbits 7/6; Apparatus to vanish the two rabbits when thrown in air, 5/6; Wings for living head floating in air, in decapitation act 21/-; Ghost complete with clanking jaws, head to leave body and float, also to vanish in air, 42/-; Trick, skeleton, arms, legs and head become dismembered and float about, all return to body and skeleton instantly disappears, 60/-; other effects costumes, lighting arrangements, &c., &c., to order, on receipt of instructions.
- 256. Latest Handkerchief Trick .- A green and a yellow silk handkerchief are produced, tied together by the corners and rolled up into a ball which is then placed in a glass tumbler held by one of the audience. A red handkerchief is now vanished and is eventually found tied between the green and yellow handkerchiefs in the glass.

Entirely new principle involved. Absolutely no exchange of andkerchiefs. The green and yellow handkerchiefs, which you handkerchiefs. start with, are tied together, placed in glass and not exchanged. Only two used, one green and one yellow. We also give you a new method for vanishing the red handkerchief. It will be found useful for any handkerchief trick.

Complete with new model vanisher and our finest quality pure silk handkerchiefs 16 in. square, each with a border in a colour forming most beautiful contrast. Post free, price 11/6

- 257. Bordered Silk Handkerchiefs.—Latest effective novel-ty for conjurers. Made in our finest quality pure silk to go in small compass. Any colour, with a border in a colour to form a beautiful contrast. Size, 16 inches square, well and strongly made. Each, price 2/7.
- 258. Conjuring Wands.—Full size, 15 inches long. Professional appearance, ebonized wood, nickel-plated tips. Guaranteed Price, 2/9. to please.
- Do. do. do. real ebony, with ivory and rhinosceros horn tips
- Do. do. do. real ebony with solid ivory and silver mounts. Price, 7/9.
- 259. Dove Bottles. Real glass bottles from which wine is poured. The glass bottle is then broken and a live dove, with borrowed rings tied round its neck, flies out. Performed with a real glass bottle and easy to work. Our own improvements.
- N.B.—These bottles are only to be obtained from us; beware of spurious imitations. Each, price, 1/6.

Carefully packed, post free, 2/6.

or, per half-doz, carefully packed, carriage to be paid on receipt, 7/6

- 260. New Divining Wand.—This wand contains a small convex reflector, which is hidden or revealed for use by a secret mechanism so ingeniously concealed that the wand may be handed for examination. For reading cards and other uses in conjuring this wand will be found indispensable. In appearance an ordinary conjuring wand and may be used as such. Price 13/6
- Wire Spiral Coin Vanish .- A skeleton wire spiral through which a knife is passed in all directions to show absence of trickery, is placed over borrowed coin and covered with a hand-kerchief. On removing handkerchief coin has disappeared and is found elsewhere, in conclusion coin is mysteriously returned to spiral. Our own novelty.
- 262. Vanishing Glass Gas Chimney.—A solid glass tube  $8 \times 2$  inches suddenly vanishes from the hands with a rapidity that puts lightning in the shade. Startling professional effect, No apparatus required. Complete instruction. Price 1/6
- Wonderful Hypnotic Cards.—Any pack of cards used. Can be done anywhere at any time. By placing hand, palm downwards, on a number of cards, they cling to palm of hand and will not fall off until desired. Cards are not prepared in any
- 264. New Billiard Ball and Handkerchief Trick. own novelty.) Performer takes a billiard ball, examined all sides, in the right hand; and a handkerchief, also examined, in the left The ball and handkerchief now change places, while hands are wide apart, passing from hand to hand in the most wonderful manner. N.B. There is only one ball employed, no duplicate.

  Quite easy to work, no "pulls" or similar mechanism. A practical
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## SPECIAL NOTICE.

All Metal Work supplied by us is made in our own workshops (no foreign paper-guage stuff). We employ only our own workmen, who are clever on the lathe.

All shaped parts of our apparatus, as Cups, Lids, Vanishers, Half Shells for Balls, Shaped Tubes, &c., &c., are spun on the lathe in one piece—not rough soldered together and bad work hidden with black paint, as are the usual factored articles.

ALL our joints are BRAIZED together in furnace, which leaves them invisible and as strong, or stronger, than solid parts. Nothing soft soldered to break when dropped.

We do not expect you to give us an order on the strength of the above statements, and rather than you should do so, we prefer to wait until you get what we say corroborated from a source not biased in our favour, i.e., we will not ask you to believe that apparatus of our own construction is superior to what you can obtain elsewhere at the same price—your experience will prove that it is superior, and then you will send us your orders.

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