

Harry Houdini

WIZARD'S BOOK ⁴ 6

—OF—
DIALOGUES

AND HELPS TO MAGICIANS,

FROM THE PEN OF A NOTED WORLD RENOWNED

European Fakir,

GENERALLY KNOWN AS THE TALKING WIZARD.



Revised from the Original Manuscript, together with foot notes,

By Prof. W. J. JUDD,

MANUFACTURER OF MAGICAL APPARATUS.

(Never Before Published.)

NEW YORK:

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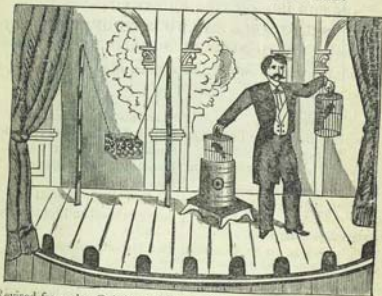
	1 Magician's Cards, the.....	3
x	248 Wonderful Nail, the.....	5
	268 Magician's Opening and Closing Address.....	6
x	2 Magnetic Fish, the.....	9
	6 Wonderful Imp Bottle, the.....	9
	321 Egyptian Imp Bottle, the.....	10
	28 Magic Mouse, the.....	12
x	3 Spiral Puzzle.....	10 (silver plated) 20
	4 Camera Lucida, the.....	10
	5 Three Mystic Balls, the.....	15 and 20
x	10 Phantom Finger, the.....	15
x	228 Great Fire Eater, the.....	20
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	20 Magic Furnace, the.....	25
	23 Two Cent Flash Trick.....	25
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x	29 Lively Monkey, the.....	9
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Harry Houdini
April 1927

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❖❖PREFACE.❖❖

Though plain and explicit directions with short dialogues embodied in most of them are given with each illusion purchased from our Manufactory and Repository, yet for ages past in the magic world, has grown an increasing desire for something more comprehensive in the way of special Dialogues for Magical Performances.

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We have now the pleasure of handing to each of our customers, a copy of Part I, of this, we trust, valuable work, and for six months from the date of issue, shall be the exclusive property of our patrons, all who have purchased five dollars worth of our magic goods since January, 1883, will be entitled to a copy free of charge, which will be sent after receipt of their written application enclosing stamp for return postage.

October, 1884.

W. J. J.

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OPENING SPEECH CONTENTS

DIALOGUES.	PAGE.
Preface, - - - - -	3
Opening Speech, - - - - -	7
Short Opening Address, - - - - -	8
Obedient Ball, <i>Illustrated</i> , - - - - -	8
Watch Mortar, - - - - -	9
Inexhaustible Hat, <i>Illustrated</i> , - - - - -	11
Bonus Genus, <i>Illustrated</i> , - - - - -	14
Tape Cutting Illusion, - - - - -	14
Egg Bag, <i>Illustrated</i> , - - - - -	16
Ink and Water Illusion, <i>Illustrated</i> , - - - - -	18
Walking Cards, - - - - -	21
Bell and Bushel, - - - - -	22
A Glass of Water, - - - - -	23
Multiplying Coins, - - - - -	24
Cake in Hat, - - - - -	25
Mysterious Parasol, <i>Illustrated</i> , - - - - -	27
Voizin's Caddy and Enchanted Vase, <i>Illustrated</i> , - - - - -	31
Vase of Bran, <i>Illustrated</i> , - - - - -	34
A Card Speech, - - - - -	35
Notice List of Novel Illusions, with Special Illustrations.	
Magic Windmill, - - - - -	36
Self Beheading, - - - - -	37
Mysterious Parasol, - - - - -	37
Magical Blackboard, - - - - -	38
Great Slate Trick, - - - - -	39
Judd's Improved Floral Illusion, - - - - -	40
Great Hindoo Basket Illusion, - - - - -	42
A Word for Ourselves, - - - - -	42
Price List of Magical Books, - - - - -	43

* OPENING SPEECH.



Ladies and Gentlemen.*

In calling your attention to a deceptive Entertainment, Legerdemain, more generally known as Conjuring, a few introductory remarks may not be out of place. The superstition that existed in the early ages, when Wizards and Magicians were supposed to exist, time has not worn out, the Mystery that hangs over all professors of Magic is still in part retained, many there who class them amongst supernatural beings and their seeming impossibilities are converted into positive realities and their power supposed supreme, now were I in this the 19th Century to stand before you professing to be a Wizard or a Magician or in fact to be that which I am not endowed with Supernatural power, it would be looked on as a gross insult on your good sense, for in truth the only peculiarity of my profession is to deceive, yours to detect. † If my hands are quicker than your eyes, I shall have the pleasure of deceiving you, but on the contrary if your eyes are quicker than my hands the reverse will be the effect † *leave out*

* Make a polite bow, wand in right hand. On table have ready the apparatus for your first illusion.

*Let people think you do not use
sleight-of-hand. when you do.*

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SHORT OPENING ADDRESS.

(For Side Shows and Varieties.)

Ladies and Gentlemen.

As you are all acquainted with the nature of the Illusions that I have the pleasure of inviting your attention to, that of Magic, otherwise known as Conjuring, I will not take up time by making any unnecessary remarks, but will at once proceed with the Experiments. The first on the Programme, Crystal Casket.

OBEDIENT BALL.



Will a gentleman favor me with the loan of his hat.—Thank you.—Nice hat this—water-proof I presume—fire-proof—don't know, Hello, what have we here, a ball, solid of rather gigantic dimensions, one of old Parrs life pills, this size No. 1, so called from the fact that one is considered a sufficient dose for a mod-

See Other opening Speeches the Professor will find in our Wizard's Wonderful Cabinets, Nos. 1 and 3, price, 25 and 40 cents each.

erate person, through the ball is an opening, notice passing through the centre, a piece of blind cord common blue blind cord, this I pass through ball, thus, now my purpose in this illusion is to practically prove to you that I have the power of giving animation to the inanimate or in common parlance to command and be obeyed, either by man, brute or solidity, the cord I fix to the ground by my foot, the ball notice passes freely up and down the cord by a power I have attached—Electricity or what not—I will firmly fix the ball on top of cord—thus notice, my illusion is simply by word of command I will cause the ball to descend down the cord, 1, 3, 6, 12 or any number of inches at the command of an auditor, now, sir;—how many inches shall the ball descend,—say ten,—you are obeyed—again—twelve—obeyed on the instant—half way down—gradually now to the bottom again I pass it to the top—and it shall descend quickly.

Ed. After you have finished the trick, call a gentleman up, let him thread the ball, and place the cord under his foot; it will descend rapidly, striking his foot somewhat sharply. It causes a laugh.

WATCH MORTAR.

That* watches were made to go, there is no denying that fact; still there are various ways by which this power may be accomplished. First, legitimately, by its own complicated machinery of spiral chain and wheel; secondly, by a visit to the city of New York on Independence Day, when it will go in a manner most mysterious, the effect being a great crowd, a sudden pressure, with the exclamation, "My watch is gone!" That is rather an unpleasant way. I will practically illustrate a much quicker way of going; I will do it in this manner: Will you favor me, for security, by inclosing your watch in this

* Borrow a watch.

Price Sixpence Net.

bag? Thank you. A small can, empty—into the interior *I place the watch; notice, to make security doubly secure, I shall place this case or cover. I will now proceed with the trick—but stay, as there is somewhat of danger in the performance of this illusion, it is necessary we should have a proper understanding, in case of an accident occurring, by your naming the value you set upon this watch. Twenty-five dollars. I am somewhat diffident in performing this trick on account of the value of the watch. †I think that I had better return it to you. But no, I will play the experiment, and trust to your generosity in case of accident. The watch I take from the can—I—but stay, I must have recourse to fire-arms, my pistol. The watch



I place in the muzzle—that will not do; I must introduce my patent expanding muzzle—it is formed on the principles of self-expansion, and calculated to receive a charge from a pistol-shot up to a cannon-ball—an invention of no mean import, you will one and all acknowledge. Into the interior I place the watch, that will do. This I shall fire into—will you favor me, sir, by opening your mouth a little way? Oh, dear! calls that a little! puts me in mind when I was South, looking down one of the coal mines. I was about firing the watch down your throat, but on second thoughts I will not do so, fearful that I should not be enabled to get it back again. But stay. Why are bakers

* Place the borrowed watch in the upper compartment.

† Remove slide containing the borrowed watch as you take off the cover, and set the same on the servant of your table, so that your assistant can help in the illusion.

our best friends? Which of these two loaves *shall I use, right or left? Left; the other I place on one side. Now, it is my intention of firing the watch from the blunderbuss. One, two, three—fire! Observe the watch to be really here in the center of the loaf. I take out the watch, I trust, uninjured. I think that you will acknowledge it never went so fast before.

THE INEXHAUSTIBLE HAT.



Will some gentleman favor me with the loan of his Hat †—thank you—a very nice article this,—waterproof I presume (put hollow cannon ball in the hat) a very nice shape— and no doubt very becoming to its owner, somewhat too large for you—you think not—I supposed it to be so from the fact of there being something under the lining, (have in the hollow ball a pair of babies socks tied together with a peice of string about three or

* Your assistant has placed the watch in one of the loaves, or, in preference, we recommend the use of one of our mechanical watch targets, see pp. 16.
† If possible, let the borrowed hat be what conjurors term a stove-pipe hat.

Price Sixpence Net.

four inches apart throw one of the socks over the edge of the Hat)—thats odd, well it would have been if we had not found the other, (throw it out) a cap well that cuts a childish appearance—and here on the other side a pinafore—allo,—one, two, three, four balls—boys and girls come out to play,—well I am surprised a gentleman of your respectable appearance should enter a public room with an article like this in his hat (show the drawers) and I think you might have made a shift to have done without this, (show the shift) quite a fancy bazaar; (throw out the rest of the balls) well I never—had I been in a country village I should have looked at the door for the beadle, (bring out the rest of child's clothes) and here in one corner I did not notice just now I find one more ball* (bring the large hollow cannon ball out), having cleared the hat of its contents I return



it, (ring in the hat the reticules) but stay, what have we here, ^a

* In place of cannon ball a mechanical cabbage can be used.

Ladies' Reticule—surprising that I did not see this before—its very pretty, so neat—and here another—astounding—any more, yes—here just one more—one, two, three, four, five, six perfect reticules, concealed in a gentleman's hat, wonderful, (slip into the hat, the goblets) your hat sir—but stay—a goblet, another,



and here another one more, and here and there another, here another, should you at any time be in want of of TIN you will know where to apply x x x (place life size mechanical baby in the hat) having emptied the hat, I return it with many thanks, but here this cannot be—babies head, (turn key in centre of head) wonders never cease a full grown living baby, I produce from yonder gentlemen's hat (wait till the applause partially subsides then look straight into the interior of the hat and say) at the bottom of the hat I see an hoop skirt, a round of beef and a bakers' loaf them I reserve till the next performance. Thank you for the use of your hat Sir.

See Hat Tricks, Judd's Catalogue, pages 10, 16, 48 and 63,

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TAPE CUTTING ILLUSION.

The other day I was startled at hearing an outcry in the kitchen, the Landlady was upbraiding her husband for leaving a new clothes line out of doors all night, see, said she calling him to the window what some malicious vagabond boys have done.—The clothes line certainly did cut a very extraordinary appearance, it being knotted from end to end—she appealed to me saying is it not shamefully wicked, I told her I would see what effect a little Magic would have.—I produced my wand placed an handkerchief over the line passed it rapidly along * to the other end, when behold it appeared as before free from blemish.—The extraordinary effect be assured made me quite a favorite with the old Lady.

BONUS GENIUS.

Yes, the old doll trick—I hear you exclaim, well I freely own it is old but still ever new what amused our Grandfathers, I think will amuse us, and never be looked upon scornfully for the sake of old lang syne—Ladies and Gentlemen, this little gentleman is six inches high, and nineteen years of age, he would

* Pass knot to right hand end and off the tape.

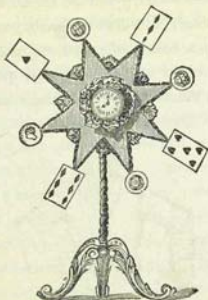
have been twenty but was unfortunately laid up twelve months very ill with the toothache and in a very recent conversation, he confidentially told me that he was actually the son of his father but whether he was born or won at a raffle he does not exactly know and moreover that when he left his home to seek his fortune, the young women of the village, grieved so much at his departure that the scene was sufficient to draw tears from the eye of an needle,—I don't vouch for the truth of it, it is my intention to cause him to disappear and reappear at the word of command. This time it is my intention to send him to Constantinople—but previous to his starting for that distant place as the weather is unseasonable, we will provide him with a little extra clothing—this handkerchief—no, that would hardly be sufficiently warm enough—ah, this* will do better—now, sir, are you ready for your journey—what,—want a little money to help you on the road,—about how much—a five dollar gold piece,—will any person lend him one,—no one—then I must find one†—xxxx no,—well I will just pretend to give him one, and he being a wooden figure, will know no better,—are you ready,—go,—he is now gone—I think you saw him go,—no, well see if there is any thing in his cloak‡—well he certainly is gone, for he is not here or here, I will now make him reappear once more this time from this gentlemen's pocket; presto come, he is once again returned, with most important information from the seat of war, but according to his principle of business, he must first impart it to his relatives, down to his 46 cousins, and as they live at some considerable distance. The company here

* Produce cloak and place the wooden gentleman inside.
† Place body of doll in your pocket as you feel for money.
‡ Turn cloak inside out.

Price Sixpence Net.

assembled will receive the information officially in about six weeks time, I will now send him away once more thereby proving that he is not concealed up the sleeve of the coat, as some persons imagine he is—pass, go,—he is now again gone, for see he is not here* nor here, but has now gone somewhere else.

MECHANICAL WATCH TARGET



EGG BAG.

Once upon a time there dwelt in a forest in Hampshire, one of the Midland Counties in England, a certain old lady, Mother Shipton, she left behind her many relics, none more extraordinary than this old bag, from it she was in the habit of producing various articles to suit her wishes,—bakers' loaves, plum

* The cloak is here turned a second time.
Caution: To our knowledge, for some time past, novelty dealers have been cheating the public by charging 25 cents for a penny soldier doll made up into a base imitation of the above famous illusion. Those sold by Fred. Judd at 50 cts. and 75 cents are carved from the solid block, cut expressly for this apparatus, to ensure for your performance, proper made apparatus. Remember to always send your orders to our establishment.

cakes, rounds of beef and other articles of a similar nature. From the interior I produce an egg—a savory relish to the breakfast table—another—another—a bag of this description is certainly a very valuable addition to the household, hang it up behind the kitchen door, if you happen to return home at night late, nothing in the house, bring down the bag and produce from it an egg,*—another,—you go on an excursion to Long Branch, Coney Island, or Rockaway Beach, you need not encumber yourself with a basket of provisions as large as yourself. Place this bag, folded up, in your vest pocket; when you feel hungry, take the bag, give it a shake, and produce from



the interior some eggs; thus—one, two; boil them hard, make sandwiches of them. But perhaps you say, all well, Mr. Con-

* Place eggs on tray, your multiplying plate will serve its use.

Price Sixpence Net.

juror, what you are now doing; but can you show us the inside of the bag? Certainly. I turn the bag inside out, visible to your notice; now back again, produce an egg, still another and another. I will not make this illusion too tedious; I could produce eggs sufficient to stock all the shops in this town; but what I have will suffice to show you the wonders of this miraculous bag. These I place aside* and will introduce my next experiment.

INK.

To filter, or in simple words to purify, that first great boon of life, water, has engaged the attention of scientific men for centuries past; but up to the present time unsuccessfully—at least,

* Carry bag off the stage, with last egg remaining in corner of bag.
Ed. To insure success with above illusion, secure for yourself an accurately made bag. Those sold by Prof. Judd are made from the original pattern handed to us by the Talking Wizard, referred to in the title page of this work. (Since writing the above we have been informed that novelty dealers have been representing the Moulabux egg bag to be the same as used for above illusion, which assertion is equal to fraudulent, as Moulabux's bag is intended for the producing and vanishing of one single egg.)

as far as regards a large supply. What science has failed in attaining, the mimic has accomplished. I introduce a goblet* containing a fluid as dark as night—in fact, ink; notice, common ink. In passing through the streets of London, the traveller is forcibly struck with the following novel announcement, exhibited in the windows of the different stationers' stores, as "Love-letter Ink Sold Here." Now, this said love-letter ink is a certain remedy against breach of promise of marriage, inasmuch that it fades away, and leaves the paper perfectly blank in a very short time after it has been written upon. Of course, many of you have read, and may be some of you were present at the great case of breach of promise of marriage, tried last term in the Court of Queen's Bench, London. Now, this was a case that attracted much attention, from the fact that there were nearly 200 letters written from the gentleman to the lady, professing, in the most endearing terms, his ardent attachment; these to be read in court, to support the lady's case. The day of trial arrived, and it was generally considered an act of madness on the part of the gentleman to allow the case to go into court. Witnesses examined the letters produced, and a goodly pile ordered to be read. The jury looked aghast—the poor clerk put on his spectacles, and opened the first letter; it was a blank, a second blank, a third and fourth, up to the 200, all blank. Judge, jury, witnesses, and last, but not least, the lady looked astounded. The gentleman lover only smiled. He gained the day, for want of evidence. I could have solved the mystery, but did not. The whole of the letters were written with this said "love-letter ink." The

* This goblet is prepared with black lining.

fluid at present on the table is a specimen.* But of its powers I will give proof. Now, if I were in a position to filter, or, in plain words, if I can extract the various ingredients that form the ink, and leave the water perfectly colorless, it would be a wonderment. It is done simply by passing over the glass a handkerchief. Observe, no effect. There is one very important point in this experiment; that is, by expressing the exact time you require the writing to remain legible: because, supposing some of you gentlemen were in possession of this famed ink, and in supposition you had written a most loving epistle to your lady love, it would be most disagreeable, if on her again referring to it to find a blank. This difficulty is got over by simply expressing the time your love fit will last, as five minutes, hours, days, years, or life. Something in this manner the



goblet I again cover.† The change instantaneous.

For observe, that which a moment before was a liquid black, is now of a crystal clearness.

* To show that it is ink, use a prepared card, or one of our magic ink ladies.

† Remove prepared piece with the covering.

WALKING CARDS.



Seeing the tricks with cards have proved interesting, I shall again introduce them. Will some person favor me by selecting a card? One other, to more effectively illustrate this trick. I shall introduce an antique piece of apparatus—unique in appearance, though startling in its effects. It was said to have been invented by the Chinese, and they did and do declare that an American professor could never find out the secret of its construction. After much trouble and some little expense, I have much pleasure in introducing it to your notice. The two cards selected—may I beg of their return? Perhaps you will return it yourself, and shuffle the pack? Will you also do the same? Two cards having been selected indiscriminately from the pack, afterwards returned, and the pack shuffled by their respective drawers, I place the cards in the empty compartment at the top of the column—observe. I would call your particular attention to the apparatus in this particular, that it is unconnected, by string or otherwise, with any part of the table, it being entirely mechanical. My trick is that I will cause the two selected cards to walk by command from the pack;—but stay, I will place it* somewhat nearer, that you may all have an opportunity of watching its operations. Rise! The nine of spades. Was that the card you selected? Ten of diamonds yours—the

* As you remove it to place it nearer, touch the lever which sets the mechanism working.

Price Sixpence Net.

two chosen cards; the nine of spades and the ten of diamonds having risen by command from the pack, and recognised by their respective owners.

I shall extend the trick. I introduce a small mahogany box, empty, for inspection. Into the drawer I place the two cards, the nine of spades and the ten of diamonds, leaving it in this gentleman's possession. A second box, similar to the first, the drawer empty, I close, placing it on the table. The first part of the trick was an illustration of walking cards; the present, flying cards. It is my intention of causing the two cards to leave the box at present in this gentleman's possession—of course, unperceived by you, unless you watch very closely—and pass into the empty box on the table. Taking my wand in my right hand, I extract one card, thus—there it is suspended at the end of the stick—and pass it over the left into the other box; the second I take in like manner, leaving box No. 1 empty; for observe, here I have the cards, ten of diamonds and nine of spades, and if you open the box you will find it empty. Am I correct? Yes; they fly by night through troops of spirits.

BELL AND BUSHEL.

Yes; I have here not a bad imitation of a bell, but unlike most bells, there is no clapper. I have also a small cup, filled with a quantity of linseed. The seed I place into the bell, leaving the cup empty. The trick—or call it what you will—is simply a mechanical illusion; that I will cause the seed to leave, returning from whence I took it to this cup. Observe, the seed is here, and also that the cup is empty. Pass! The effect is accomplished, for here is the empty bell, and here the linseed.

A GLASS* OF WATER



of crystal clearness on table placed. The assistance of a young gentleman is required. Please be seated. Over the glass I place the handkerchief.† My illusion is this : to dexterously take from off the table the glass containing the water, without spilling the least portion—thus: Now, sir, will you favor me by holding betwixt fingers and thumb the glass? Now, gone!‡ Some mistake; you have very nicely secreted it about your person. Favor me by bending your back, somewhat lower, still lower. The handkerchief over your back I place, and very carefully—extract—from beneath§ your coat the glass of water which you so nicely secreted. Thus, again, try and securely hold the goblet. Now, again disappeared! There is

* Pour water into the glass from the spout of a small jug.

† Here you take hold of the fague in the handkerchief and remove unperceived the glass of water: place inside the triangle or on servant of table.

‡ Shake out the handkerchief as the gent is about to try to take it from beneath.

§ Glass appears to be rising from center of gent's back.

not the least doubt that you are playing a practical joke with me, or I with you ; but joking apart, I will practically show you how this illusion is performed. Notice, first, the beauty of the illustration on the handkerchief the central picture illustrates* in the center carefully secreted. I have. Notice the glass containing the water; you might imagine that there is no reality in this, you having been deceived in your previous attempts to hold the goblet ; therefore, in addition to holding the glass outside the handkerchief, place the other hand beneath, clutch the glass, and at once produce the glass of water.

MULTIPLYING COINS.

Will some person favor me with the loan of twenty golden dollars? No one. I must needs put up with a less valued article—silver coins† generally known as half dollars. Yes—one—two—three—but stay. Will two boys step forward and assist me in this trick? Now, see if I am counting the numbers correctly‡—15. Yes, 15. These I shall place—but no; perhaps you will favor me by retaining them securely in your left hand, my mystic wand in your right. I have here still a few more coins—1, 2, 3, 4, 5. You, sir, favor me by holding them—but stay. The great poet Shakespeare, in his famed play of Othello, makes mention of a certain charmed handkerchief, most astounding to its possessor, a gift with powers excelling that which Othello set so much store upon. 'Tis true; there's magic in the web of it. Into the center I shall place the five

* Describe picture on handkerchief as you are taking duplicate glass from pocket.

† Take them from your pants pocket, or other convenient place.

‡ Request the boy to audibly count the coins on your magic multiplying plate.

coins*—observe! Hold these—that will do. Now, supposing I were a rich banker, and you my two clerks—this gentleman my travelling clerk, and this one I retain at home to take charge of my treasures. Now, in supposing you were on a long journey, and in imagination that the fifteen silver pieces were twenty dollar gold coins, which would you rather do—lose the whole of them, or have the five at present in this gentleman's possession added to them? Have his five added to them—not so bad a wish; but let me convince you that the five coins are really here. There. My trick is that I shall pass the coins, at present here,† into your hand, making your fifteen—twenty.‡ You felt them go?§ Did you feel them enter your hand? Well, count them, and see if your fifteen has not increased to twenty.|| They have.

CAKE IN HAT.

Sitting at my breakfast table, a few mornings since, my attention was directed to a piece of an old newspaper lying on the table, in which some article had been wrapped. On reading the contents, one portion particularly attracted my attention. It stated—but stay, I will read it to you. Yes,¶ here it is: "At the Cooper Institute, New York, Thursday last, Prof. Armstrong delivered a lecture on the phenomena of heat." Here it goes on to state that the sun's rays, etc.; but this is what puzzles me: "The professor stated that the heat retained in a

* The performer, of course, substitutes the coins fixed in the corner of the handkerchief.

† Take hold of one corner of the handkerchief.

‡ Request boy to allow the coins to drop on the floor.

§ Shake out the handkerchief and show both sides of it.

|| Hold the magic plate for the twenty coins to be audibly counted thereon.

¶ Take a piece of newspaper from your pocket.

Price Sixpence Net.

person's hat, after it had been on the head six or eight hours, would be sufficient to boil eggs or bake a cake." Now, the question that I want to solve is this: that if I take a gentleman's hat off his head, placing therein a saucepan, or in the hat itself, some sugar, water, flour, and eggs, would there be a sufficiency of heat to boil the eggs or bake the cake? Or does it mean that if the heat could be concentrated or formed into a flame, it would be sufficient for that purpose? Have you any objection to my trying the experiment with your hat? None. I have here some flour, sugar, also an egg*. Into the interior of the hat I place the ingredients, visibly, breaking the egg. I forgot to ask you how long you had your hat on your head before you came into the room. I wonder if the mixture is at all hot. No; it is as cold as when I put it in; perhaps it depends a great deal on the temperament of the person, whether they are hot-headed or not. Well, it appears that I am disappointed in the experiment; but as I promised to bake the cake, I must keep my word. Have you any objection to my lighting a fire in your hat, sir? None. Some materials, paper, match—some more. I think we shall manage it this time. Dear me! the hat is on fire. I will therefore take this cover and smother out the flames. I have at last succeeded, for see the cake most beautifully done, and here the hat uninjured.

* Use one egg only, on account of gas in eggs forcing up the fire extinguisher.

† Lay hat on table in such a position that you can thrust in one dozen magic reticules, as attention is drawn to the cutting up and distribution of the cake.



MYSTERIOUS PARASOL.



Parasol being placed in case.

I will now,* with your permission, introduce my mysterious parasol. It differs not, as far as outward appearances go, from ordinary articles of this description—at all events, it is a most valuable appendage to any lady on a hot summer's day.† Mysterious, did I say? Alas! to me, from long experience, most unlucky—in fact, during the time that it has been in my possession something invariably goes wrong during its performance; but you will naturally say, why do I retain it? Time out of numbers I've tried to rid myself of it; I have left it in hotels, railroad cars, coaches and cabs—in fact, I have given it away; but still, by some unaccountable means, it always returns again to me. For the present, I shall place it on the table.‡ By the bye, I had forgotten the lady's handkerchief.§ In the olden time, before mechanical apparatus were used by conjurers to aid them in their experiments, a pack of cards, a few coins and a pocket handkerchief were all the apparatus needed to set up a professor in the occult science. The trickery with handkerchiefs required a certain degree of dexterity that enabled the performer to exchange the borrowed handkerchief

* Having just borrowed a lady's handkerchief, you change it for a duplicate handkerchief, which you take up with the parasol.

† Open parasol, and close it again.

‡ Each parasol is inclosed in a green or red bag. To change parasol for its duplicate, order meta! changing parasol case from our establishment, or you may use sleight of hand by changing for its duplicate whilst wrapping parasol in a large sheet of paper.

§ Take up the handkerchief which is lying before you on the table,

Price Sixpence Net.

for one on which he might be enabled to practice his trickery. This was accomplished in various ways. Now, when I perform a trick of this description, I merely say, "One, two, three!" and torn,* as I expected. Nothing but mishaps as long as that mischievous parasol remains in sight. Lady, I am extremely sorry for the mishap; the only recompense I can offer you for it is by presenting you the cause of the accident, the parasol. You won't accept of it? What to do with it, I know not. The handkerchief—I must compensate you for it; but perhaps you place a greater value upon it than I shall be enabled to offer you. I see one smiling face†—will you kindly favor me by finishing the trick for me; for I feel perfectly convinced by past experience that I shall be prevented. You will notice, I have here an empty brass globe;‡ into the interior I place the shreds



* Tear the handkerchief into two pieces. After a pause, continue tearing until you have eight pieces in all.

† Call a little lady up on the stage to assist you.

‡ See illustration. In this brass globe you have previously placed the covering that originally belonged to the trick parasol.

of the handkerchief; observe, for their better security, covering them. Favor me by taking the apparatus in your left hand—my mystic wand in your right. My magic power is now in your keeping; use it well. Touch the globe with the wand; say, "One, two, three! Sim zilla, dim bom boz zilla, do zilla, sling a wall a walla, bombayer quis zilla, parawall bang!" Ah, you can't say that; we'll try and do without it. One, two, three! as you were. Now open the lid and restore the lady her handkerchief. You are playing some trick with me—why, what have you there? The top of the parasol. That cannot be, for the top of the parasol must be here.* What, shreds



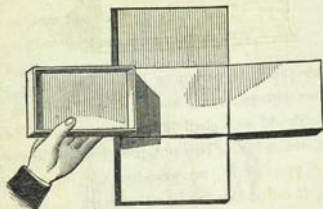
Parasol discovered in shreds, to the dismay of its owner.

here: Ah, now if you will walk down Broad street to-morrow morning with this over your head, I can assure you that you will have all the young gentlemen of the city running after you. I will remove shreds from ribs of the parasol, the eight pieces of the torn handkerchief. Will any lady or gentleman arise at 5 to-morrow and sew them together for the lady, the owner of

* Remove red case that conceals the duplicate or trick parasol; open it which fully shows skeleton, having the eight pieces of torn handkerchief tied on to its steel ribs.

Price Sixpence Net.

the handkerchief? No one. I must have recourse to fire-arms, my pistol. The shreds I place in the muzzle—that won't do; I must introduce my patent funnel, formed on the principle of self-expansion, and calculated to receive a charge from a pistol shot up to a good sized cannon ball—an invention of no mean import. Into the interior I place the shreds of the lady's handkerchief, placing it on my table while I introduce for free inspection a perfectly empty drawer—notice, no false bottoms

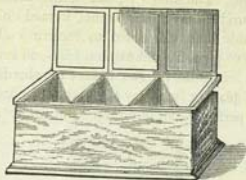


or concealed springs, the remaining part so made that it rapidly falls* apart and fixes itself together, thereby proving itself free from trickery. I close the drawer, which favor me by holding above your head. One, two, three—fire! Open the drawer. What have you there? The lady's handkerchief.



* See illustration. Whilst attention of the company has been drawn to the tearing of the handkerchief, your assistant conceals the borrowed handkerchief in the secret recess of this magic wonderful drawer box.

VOIZIN'S CADDY AND ENCHANTED VASE.



Can things inanimate pertain to life? They can. All Nature is instinct with existence, and this I will prove to a demonstration. To do so I shall introduce a rather old-fashioned affair—a tea caddy. This antique piece of furniture was formerly the property of my grandmother; upon it she set much store; it differs not, as far as outward appearances go, to ordinary caddies. It contains three compartments: No. 1 empty, No. 2 empty, and No. 3 likewise empty; but there is an old saying, and a very true one, that seeing is believing. I will therefore introduce it to you, proving thereby that it is entirely empty and free from trickery. In No. 1, if I recollect rightly, she kept Souchong, a favorite tea of hers; in No. 2,* a little green, and in No. 3 a tea called Gunpowder, now known as Hyson—this for particular occasions. I should have remarked that in the middle compartment she would often place her money; but, though she kept it there, I never could find any. Having proved the caddy to be entirely empty, I will for the present place it on the table,

* As you are talking, and before you open No. 2, the center compartment, you shift the mechanical part of the caddy, thereby converting it ready for reception of beans from vase.

Price Sixpence Net.

and introduce a vase, or can, containing a quantity of beans—common field beans; these I shall place in the centre compartment of the unoccupied caddy, for where there is nothing in, nothing can come out.—Sir, will you assist me in this trick, as you sit? Favor me by counting the beans as they pass from the vase to the caddy. There—how many are there? You don't know, they passed so quickly—well, some other time. Into the place formerly occupied by the beans I place the lady's* handkerchief. Notice, bear in mind, that I don't place it in at the top and take it out at the bottom; observe, it is really here. For the greater security, I cover it thus, placing it there. Now, it is my intention to pass, and when I say pass I mean this: that I will cause the handkerchief to leave its present position in the vase and take the place of the beans in the caddy, and the beans from the caddy to the vase. Now, I should give you to understand, this is a species of electric telegraph, working under an illusion—in fact, it is a practical illustration of a bill now pending in Congress, in which there is a supposed idea that parcels can be conveyed by the aid of electricity. Supposing this little stick† to be the bridge of communication, or the electric wires, you will, if you watch very closely, observe the beans leave the caddy, one by one, and pass into the vase. I think you, one and all, saw them go. Well, if you did not, it is not my fault, for they certainly are gone—for here, where I visibly placed the beans, I find the handkerchief, and here, where the handkerchief was, we find the

* This the borrowed handkerchief. Duplicate handkerchief secreted in your caddy. Borrow the handkerchief, after you have emptied the beans into the caddy, or, if preferable, at the commencement of the illusion.

† Conjuror's wand.

beans. Many persons have an idea that there are false bottoms, springs, and so forth, attached to this apparatus, but such is not the case, I can assure you. I have a method of passing them backwards and forwards, and they really go mechanically—in fact, any person could do the same if they only knew how. I think I performed that trick rather too quickly; that you did not comprehend how it was done. Now, conditionally that you do not tell any other person, I will perform it over again this time somewhat slower. Watch me narrowly, for be assured I will deceive you if I can. The beans I return to the vase*, placing it there; the handkerchief to caddy—stay, perhaps if I were to place it in front of the table, you would have a better opportunity of watching my operations. From the center compartment I extract the handkerchief,† visible to your notice, and place it in the vase; the beans also by invisible electricity, resume their original position in the caddy‡, and in this apparatus the handkerchief§, proving thereby that I have the power of giving all things the gift of the fern seed—they walk invisibly.



* You can show the beans by turning them out into the covers of the vase and back again.

† Performer makes a motion with his hand, a few inches above the center compartment.

‡ Raise a few beans by aid of your two fingers and thumb.

§ Return handkerchief to lady.

Price Sixpence Net.

THE WONDERFUL VASE OF BRAN.



The Japanese, the most celebrated conjurors in the world, in their magical experiments, always consider that to perform a seeming impossibility must be to do some act or action directly opposed to the laws of reason or nature. I think the experiment I am about presenting will approach somewhat to the marvellous. I introduce my patent egg-hatching incubator—an ordinary empty drinking glass; this I fill with a quantity of bran*, common bran, an article most simple in itself, but when brought in connection with other bodies, most potent in its operation; in fact, science tells us that bran is fire. When I say fire, I mean this, that if we take a quantity of bran, and place it in a confined place, it will ignite, or form itself into a flame. Of course, no effect ensues, because the atmosphere surrounds it; but by simply covering† the apparatus—thus—a

* Have to hand a card box, eight inches deep and about twelve inches long, which one-third fill with bran; fill the tin shape with candles, beans or rice, which conceal among the bran; fill your drinking glass from this box. An ably written instruction by Mr. Hartz is sent with each Bran Trick; sold by the editor.

† Place metal cover over the bran, and wave your wand a few times around the glass before you remove the cover.

moment suffices—the confined heat acts immediately, consuming the bran, and leaving in its place a most agreeable exchange—colored candies. These are conjuror's candies; I will distribute out as far as they go amongst you all.

A CARD SPEECH



If there be a subject on which the public needs to be enlightened, it is that of the mystery which encircles a pack of cards. The origin of their invention, in the fifteenth century, was to please a foolish king, Charles the Sixth of England. Years have rolled away, but they are still found to afford amusement to some of the brightest men of the age, and by the ingenuity of mankind that amusement has been almost as diversified as

A good bran apparatus, as described above, costs \$1.35 and upwards, according to size. Inferior bran tricks have shown themselves. A bran illusion can be got up without special apparatus, by gluing some loose bran on a linen shape, and drawing the same off the glass under cover of a handkerchief.

Price Sixpence Net.

the hands through which they have passed. Authors of talent have in their writings held them up as a beacon to guard the inexperienced against the knaves who seek them for their prey, but it is the conjuror who is the best practical illustrator of their designs, by exposing the tricks most commonly resorted to for entrapping the unwary. I will therefore practically illustrate my remarks by introducing to your notice* my Electrical pack.

* If skillful in handling cards, continue your lecture by exposing some artful gambling dodge; then introduce a mechanical illusion, as the electrical pack, card sword, etc.

End of Part I.

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You take this in your hand, and putting the main shaft in your mouth, prove to your friend that a powder-mill can be blown up with safety. So your friend says, "Oh, that's nothing wonderful!" and taking it, blows in the same way, when an explosion of dust and ashes follow, that cause his whiskers, face, and the adjacent parts, to appear as though a charcoal-pan had been upset thereabouts. A capital joke, and harmless, but very amusing.

SELF BEHEADING.



The performer walks on to the stage with a large knife in one hand, a flag, napkin, or a handkerchief in the other, and cuts off his own head before the very eyes of all present. His assistant then takes the head and places it on a box on center of table, without removing it from sight for a single instant. The head visibly rolls its eyes, talks, and finally demands to be restored to the trunk from whence it came. Price on application.

THE MYSTERIOUS PARASOL.



The parasol is removed from its case, shown to the audience,

Price Sixpence Net.

and replaced. A borrowed handkerchief is then torn into shreds and placed in a changing apparatus (brass globe), which can be held by one of the audience; on opening it the shreds will have vanished, changed apparently to silken covering of the parasol, and on removing the parasol from its case, it will be found in pieces, and on each rib a shred of the handker-



chief. The handkerchief is afterwards restored uninjured from suitable magical apparatus. Price on application. See Dialogue, page 27.



THE MAGICAL BLACK-BOARD.

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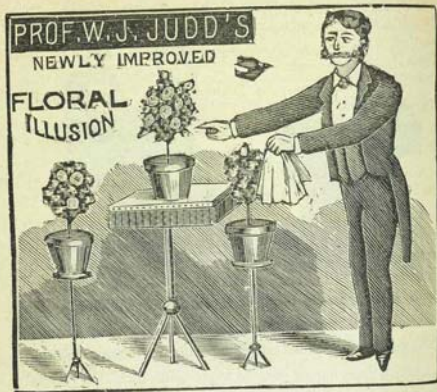
An ordinary slate is brought forward and exhibited to the audience. Each side of the slate is then thoroughly cleaned, and the performer requests one of the company to ask a question of the spirits; then, having selected a question which is of general interest to the rest of the company, he writes it on the slate, and places the slate flat on the table, the writing being below. In a few seconds the slate is raised, and, to the amazement of all, the question has entirely disappeared, and in its place the answer is discovered, legibly written, and signed by some departed spirit. The slate is handed to the company to prove there can be no deception. The slate being of the ordinary kind, and in view of the company the whole time, the effect produced is very weird.

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Part II. of this work will go to press as soon as every copy of this edition has been disposed of.

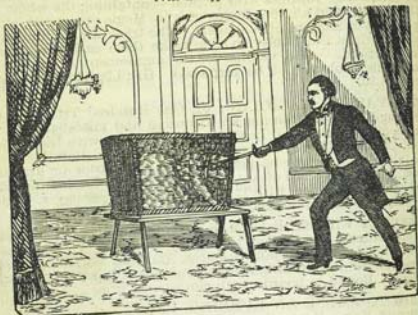
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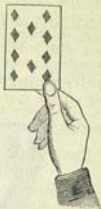
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