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PRACTICAL PAPER TRICKS
BY
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THE BEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE
FOR PARLOR, DRAWING ROOM, CLUB OR STAGE.
AN EXACT EXPLANATION OF THE SUCCESSFUL
METHODS USED BY PROFESSIONAL PERFORMERS.

NOTE.

Long experience has taught me that every student wants INFORMATION--as much as he can get, and in as briefly and plainly written a manner as possible. These instructions contain INFORMATION, NOT ordinary printed matter, and are purposely published in the form they are--concise but understandable. Some tricks are hard to describe, but if the directions contained herein are read more than once and followed with the articles in hand, you should experience no trouble. You are getting the real, true methods, and your own practice and experiments will make you expert in presenting the magical deceptions contained herein, which is my sincere wish. Practice before a mirror to obtain the quickest and best results.

CIGARETTE PAPER TEARING.

EFFECT: From a book of cigarette paper a leaf is taken and handed to the entertainer who makes an identification mark on it with a pencil. Tearing the paper into small pieces, it is shortly restored to its former state.

PREPARATION: Bend a pin in half and insert the point downward in inside pocket of your coat, near the opening, so that half the pin point will protrude upward. Make a certain mark on a cigarette paper and crumple it into a little ball. Place this ball of paper on the protruding end of the pin. A pencil is also placed in this pocket.

PERFORMING: From a book of papers have a person take a paper; and you reach into the inside pocket, get the pencil and make a mark like the one on the paper that is on the pin inside your coat. Hold the paper at fingertips of right hand, replace the pencil in inside pocket with left, and as you withdraw this hand obtain the duplicate ball of paper off pin, holding it at the root and between the second and third fingers. Now tear the paper selected by the person, and as you slowly move the hands up and down, crumple it into a ball and substitute the whole paper, "finger palming" the ball of torn pieces in left hand where the whole ball was. The ball of torn pieces may be dropped in the outside, upper left coat pocket as you hold the untorn paper up to be blown upon. Open ball and pass it for examination.

METHOD TWO. The effect of this cigarette paper trick is the same as that just described, but the place of concealing the duplicate is different. The duplicate is rolled into a very small ball and stuck on the nail of right thumb with a small piece of wax. The hands can now be shown empty. Tearing a sheet into small pieces, roll them into a ball and then bring the fingers and thumbs together. Now substitute the whole piece on the nail of right hand thumb for the torn pieces. Unfold the whole sheet and show hands empty. **METHOD THREE.** Another place of concealment for the duplicate and the torn pieces is under the thumb nail.

METHOD FOUR. Same effect as above, but the wadded whole sheet is held between the thumb and first finger (see Fig. 4). With practice, the hand can be shown on both sides, fingers wide apart, without the paper ball being seen. Another sheet is torn into bits, pressed into a tight wad and substituted for the concealed sheet. Hide the wad of torn pieces in mouth as you pretend to wet finger in order to open wadded whole sheet or between thumb and first finger where duplicate was.

THE TORN SQUARE OF PAPER TRICK.

REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION: Two sheets of tissue paper, each four inches square, and a little paste glue. A small daub of the glue is placed on the center of the one sheet and the two sheets glued together at their very centers. When dry, one sheet is crumpled into a neat compact ball.

PERFORMING: The sheet is exhibited in right hand, being held at its center between first and second fingers on one side and thumb, which covers the folded ball (see Fig. 1) on the other. You can transfer it from one hand to the other, but be careful to hide crumpled ball under either thumb. Having shown the square on both sides, you tear it perpendicularly into three strips, as pictured in dotted lines, Fig. 2, keeping the center strip, with folded ball, nearest you.

NOW, tear these three strips (as per dotted lined of fig. 3) into three parts, thus securing nine small squares, folded ball being nearest your body. Crumple them up in the square attached to "folded ball," open out the duplicate folded ball, hiding the torn pieces, which now take the form of a folded ball, under your thumb (while gently waving the hands up and down) and exhibit the duplicate square of tissue.

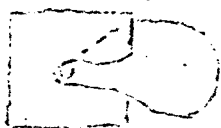


FIG 1



FIG. 2.



FIG. 3.

MAKING STRIPS OF PAPER.

Take a sheet of scarlet tissue paper and neatly fold it zigzag fashion in pleats about two inches long. Press these pleats flat and now cut off strips a half inch wide, then rolling each strip tightly and pasting down the outer end with saliva. This will give you a stock of prepared strips, each about 20 inches long, as used in the trick.

THE LATEST TORN PAPER TRICK.

PREPARATION: A metal or celluloid flesh-colored thumb tip, that fits neatly over your thumb and which may be bought at any magic store, is fitted over your right thumb. This thumb tip must contain a small roll of tissue paper mentioned in "Making Strips of Paper."

Performing: Enter with a similar strip as that in thumb tip, but which has not been pleated. Show the hands to be unmistakably empty and proceed to tear the strip of tissue paper into halves, which you place neatly together, then tearing them into quarters and so on until you have a number of strips some two to three inches long. Give these pieces a firm twist at the bottom so that they hold together, grasping them between thumb and first finger of the left hand. Next secretly transfer the thumb tip to these same fingers of left hand and allow the roll to drop out. As you move your hands gently up and down, unfold this strip and fan it out behind the other, torn strips. Secretly seize the torn and work them into the thumb tip, the fanned-out pleats of the other strip taking their place and appearing as the same. Replace thumb tip on the right thumb and take the strips (which the company believe to be the torn pieces) and place them in the right hand letting one end protrude between thumb and first finger. Pull it out very slowly and the paper is seen to be restored and may be examined.

THE CHINESE PAPER TRICK.

REQUIREMENTS: Two strips of tissue paper as used in the trick just explained, one of which is folded "accordion plait," made into a compact roll as described in "Making Paper Strips" and concealed between first finger and thumb of right hand (at the back) as shown in Fig. 4, and sticks out at the back of hand.



PERFORMING: Show inside of hands empty and exhibit duplicate strip. Tear it into small pieces and hold them fan shaped with the finger tips of left hand. Under cover of a gentle waving of the hands, substitute the rolled up length concealed between thumb and first finger. Squeeze

and twist the torn pieces into a compact lump and place it where the whole strip was. Now with the first finger and thumb of right hand pull out one end of the whole strip which is in left hand, showing the paper to be again whole. The torn pieces between thumb and first finger may be casually dropped into right side pocket of coat as you hand the complete length to be examined with left hand.

THE JAPANESE PAPER TEARING AND CONFETTI TRICK.

REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION: Place a quantity of red, white and blue confetti in a small sheet of white tissue paper, and bring the ends of the tissue paper together, twisting them tightly and forming a ball. The twisted end of the ball is inserted in the fold of a lady's fan and placed on a table. On this table also place a glass of water, a crumpled pocket handkerchief and three strips of tissue paper, each about seven inches long and being respectively red, white and blue.

Make a long, three-colored strip of tissue by pasting the ends of three other red, white and blue strips together end to end. When dry, fold this strip as explained in "Making Strips of Paper," and insert it in thumb tip mentioned in "The Latest Torn Paper Trick." Place thumb tip on your right thumb and you are prepared to do the trick.

PERFORMING: Casually show your hands empty, pick up the three tissue paper strips, one at a time, and then hold them together. Tear them into scraps and substitute them for the long strip in thumb tip in the manner explained in "The latest Torn Paper trick." The torn strips now appear to have been restored and shaped in a long strip, which you also tear into small bits. As you take up the glass of water with right hand, allow the thumb tip to drop into the folds of crumpled pocket handkerchief on table, and with left hand let the torn paper fall into the water. Transferring the glass from right to left hand, pick up the fan at the top, at the same time getting hold of confetti ball. Take the wet bits of paper out of the glass with the handle of the fan, returning glass to table. Transfer the fan and ball of confetti to left hand, the right hand seizing the wet paper on the handkerchief, pressing out the water and forming a little ball. Pretend to place this small ball in left hand, really keeping it in right. Take the fan by the handle in right, hiding the wet ball, and fan left hand. Left hand breaks the confetti ball and the confetti is permitted to fall gradually to the floor. White tissue paper cover is rolled into a small ball and dropped to the floor with confetti.

THE JAPANESE PAPER NAPKIN TRICK.
SPECIALLY ARRANGED FOR PARLOR AND DRAWING ROOM.

EFFECT: Holding the corner of a paper napkin in left hand so that about 2 inches protrude over the hand, the magician pulls it through his half closed right hand like a rope. He now crumples the hanging napkin (from the bottom up) into a ball, with the exception of the corner protruding over left hand which always remains in view, takes up a fan, fans left hand, tears off the visible corner and suddenly exhibits both hands empty, the napkin having disappeared.

PREPARATION: Place a lady's fan in right, outside coat pocket, and just before commencing the trick wet thumb of left hand.

PRESENTING: Show hands to be unprepared, take up the napkin with right hand and transfer to left, allowing the corner to protrude above left hand and pressing wet thumb against it. Now, with right hand crumple the napkin into a ball, meanwhile pulling downward and separating the major portion of the napkin from the visible corner--this is easy and noiseless because the paper is wet. Next secretly palm the paper napkin in right hand as you roll it into a ball, reach into coat pocket ~~for fan, and as you do so leave the balled napkin there. Produce the~~ fan, fan left hand, take the corner of napkin from left hand and show hands empty.

THE TORN AND RESTORED PAPER NAPKIN.

PREPARATION: The napkins used are of soft tissue paper, and may be bought most anywhere for a few cents. Two napkins are needed for this trick. Crumple one up tightly into a small ball and lay it on a chair or table. Place the other napkin over paper ball, so that when you pick it up at one corner, you can secretly obtain the ball in same hand. Place a pencil in right, outside coat pocket. This pencil you are to use as a magic wand.

PERFORMING: Take up the napkin from the table, at the same time palming the ball which was under it. Slowly tear the visible napkin into pieces and with the fingertips of both hands squeeze them tightly into a ball that will look like the ball concealed in palm of right hand. Secretly push the ball concealed in right hand to the fingertips and press both balls together. They now look like one ball of torn pieces. Hold this ball in right hand. Next actually transfer the CRUMPLED WHOLE NAPKIN to left hand, but keep the ball of torn pieces in right hand palm. Now take the pencil out of coat pocket, leaving

ball of torn pieces in that pocket, and strike the crumpled ball in left hand with the end of pencil. Replace pencil in pocket and open the ball, showing restored napkin.

A PUZZLING SURPRISE.

In which you pretend to tell the audience how you did the above "Torn and Restored Napkin Trick," only to mystify them all the more when the trick is finished.

REQUIREMENTS: Two additional napkins, one crumpled into a ball and the other open, both being placed on table or chair as in last.

HOW: Squeeze the napkin you showed at the end of last trick into a ball and hold it in the palm of left hand by means of the thumb so the audience can see it plainly all during the trick. Ask them to watch it as that is how you succeeded with the trick before. Take up the napkin on table with right hand, and, of course, the one underneath which was pressed into a ball before you commenced the trick. Secretly palm the ball in right hand. Concealing right hand palm from the audience and allowing left hand palm to be seen, tear the napkin just picked up into bits. Press the pieces together into a ball, bring palmed ball in right hand to fingertips against the ball of torn pieces, squeeze both balls together with fingertips and show them as one ball. Next, transfer the crumpled whole napkin to fingertips of left hand, secretly retaining ball of torn pieces in right hand palm. Inform the audience that now is the time the exchange of balls in left hand is made, and you reverse the position of the balls in left hand, moving the one at the fingertips to the palm and the one in the palm to the fingertips in such a manner that they can see. The company thinks one is a ball of torn pieces and the other the whole napkin ball. In reality both are WHOLE NAPKIN BALLS, the ball of torn pieces is concealed in your right hand. Now take the pencil from coat pocket with right hand, at the same time leaving the torn pieces ball in pocket, and gently tap the ball held at fingertips of left hand as you call attention to the fact that you did it that way before. Replace pencil in coat pocket and open the whole napkin at fingertips. Now, blowing on the ball in the palm of left hand--the ball they think consists of torn pieces--you spring the surprise by slowly opening up the ball and showing it to be entire.

THE FLOATING BALL OF PAPER.

This may well follow the experiment just described. Crumpling a napkin in the hands, the performer shapes it into a ball and places it in a hat. By passing his hand over the hat the ball rises from it and floats upon command.

PREPARATION: To one end of a length of fine, black, silk thread about two feet long, attach a piece of wax, and to the opposite end tie a small button. The wax is pressed firmly against the lowest vest button, and the button on the opposite end of the thread is placed in lower, right side vest pocket.

PERFORMING: As the napkin is being passed for inspection, secretly get the button from vest pocket. The napkin is crumpled into a ball with the button inside and this ball is placed in a hat which is taken in left hand. Pass the right hand over the hat with the thread between first and second fingers. By moving the right hand or the hat upward or downward the ball rises out of or descends into the hat. At the conclusion ball is tossed aside and with it the thread and button.

THE TISSUE PAPER "MOON". MYSTERY.

EFFECT: Showing two small squares of tissue paper, one red and the other blue, the performer tears out their centers and then crumples all into a ball. Tapping the ball with his wand or a pencil, the ball is opened up, disclosing the squares to be restored, but the red square has a blue center and the blue sheet a red center. He now tears these squares into bits, squeezes them into a ball, touches the ball with the end of the pencil and opening it up, the red and blue squares are found entirely restored.

REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION: Two plain, small squares of blue and two plain small squares of red tissue paper. A red and a blue are laid on a table, and the other red and blue squares are pressed into a ball and placed in left trousers pocket. Also, two fake squares are prepared as follows: Tear the centers out of a red and a blue square and neatly paste a blue center in the red and a red center in the blue square. When dry, roll these loosely around the end of a pencil, tucking the remaining ends under the squares so they will remain on the pencil, but may be easily slipped off. Thus prepared, the pencil is placed in right outside coat pocket.

PRESENTATION: Take the red and blue squares from table, one in each hand, and show that they are unprepared. Now bring them together and tear out the centers so that they bear as close a resemblance as possible to the faked squares. Exhibit these torn pieces separately and crumple them into the shape of a ball, which you hold at the fingertips of left hand.

Take the pencil out of coat pocket by grasping the end around which the faked squares are wrapped, keeping them hidden from view, tap the ball in left hand with the pencil and place pencil under left arm. Now, when you remove right hand from pencil, secretly slip the faked squares off and hold in the slightly bent fingers. Next squeeze the ball in left hand with both hands, and while so doing substitute the faked squares for the TORN CENTER squares ball. FAKED squares are now at fingertips of left hand and ball of TORN CENTER squares in curved fingers of right.

Take pencil from under arm pit, tap the faked squares in fingertips of left hand and return the pencil to coat pocket, at the same time dropping TORN CENTERS squares ball in same pocket. Upon opening the ball in left hand, the squares will be found restored, but with wrong centers. Upon discovering (?) this strange happening, you express surprise and state that "this is the first time such a thing ever occurred," at the same time casually place left hand in trousers pocket, obtaining DUPLICATE SQUARES ball and "palming" it.

Now tear up the faked squares, crumple them into a ball and taking the pencil from coat pocket again, go through the same movements you did before. Place pencil in coat pocket, allowing faked squares to drop secretly therein also, open up ball in left hand and hold up the restored red and blue squares.

THE RIBBON FACTORY.

REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION: A plate, a quantity of paper shavings and two or more tightly rolled reels of different colored paper ribbon which may be bought at any magic store for a few cents or made by yourself. The paper reels should be about 1 1/4 inch in diameter. They and the paper shavings are beforehand placed on the plate, the reels being hidden by the paper shavings.

PERFORMING: Pick up a handful of shavings, place in mouth and chew into a wad. Take up another handful and place in mouth. In the act of placing them in the mouth, the chewed wad is extracted and allowed to drop behind the plate of shavings. While pretending to put

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another handful of shavings in the mouth, secretly palm and introduce a paper roll instead. Now grasp the end in the center of roll and pull out until nearly finished; then quietly replace with a new roll.

THE \$5.00 BILL TRICK.

EFFECT: A marked, borrowed bank-note is torn in pieces, brought to its original state and returned to the owner.

PREPARATION: Fold up a crisp bank-note and secret it in the crease of your coat sleeve at right elbow.

PERFORMING: Borrow a bill from one of the audience, being careful that it is not worn, and hold it in the fingers of left hand, at the same time allowing the company to see there is nothing concealed in either hand. Now pull up your left and then your right sleeve. It is while pulling up right sleeve at the bend of right arm that you grasp the hidden bill between the second and third fingers of left hand. Hold the borrowed bill in the fingers of both hands, take the left-side top corner with first finger and thumb of left hand and suddenly and sharply ~~pull it downward toward your body, pretending to tear it.~~ The bent corner is now held by third and fourth fingers of right hand and the duplicate in left hand is allowed to be seen. Rumples the two notes together and pull them apart several times, as though tearing the borrowed bill to pieces, but do not allow the company to see them clearly. The mere glimpses they get and the continual bubbling sound made against one another leads to the belief the borrowed bill is being torn to pieces, but a crumpled note must be seen in each hand every time the hands are parted.

Finally the crumpled bills (which appear to be torn to pieces) are held in both hands for the audience to see. Secretly palming the duplicate in left hand, the borrowed note may be returned to its owner with right hand as the duplicate is deposited in left trousers or coat pocket.

22 **NOTE:** After disposing of the duplicate bill the same motions of tearing could be gone over with the borrowed note only, crumpling and rustling it. The company having previously seen a bill, get the impression they see them now. The movements in this instance must be more rapid. Eventually open up rolled note and return.

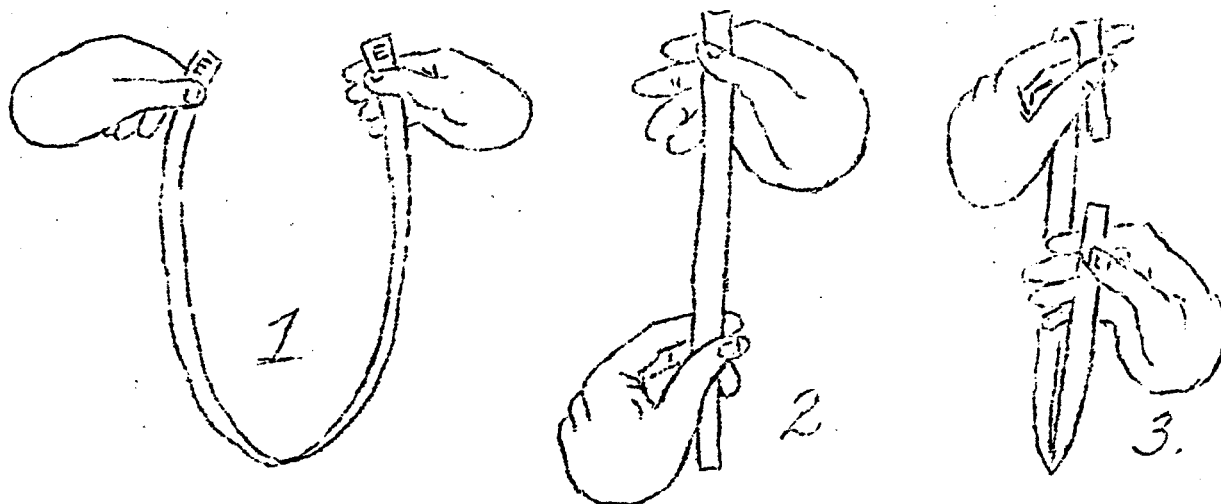
THE FAKIR'S BANDS OF PAPER.
(The Afghan Bands in the Old and New Form)

EFFECT: Three rings of paper ribbon are shown for examination. The performer hands one to a spectator and tells him to cut it down the middle with a pair of scissors, the natural result being that two separate rings are obtained. Taking the scissors, the performer cuts around one of the other rings and it forms a single band twice the previous size. The third ring being cut as were the others, takes the shape of two bands, but linked together.

REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION: Three strips of paper two yards in length and one inch wide. Bring the ends of one of the strips together and paste together. The second is given a twist before pasting the ends together, and the third is given two twists. This is all there is to the trick. When the first ring is cut (along its length) in two, you will have two rings; the second (one twist) results in one long ring, and the third (two twists) two rings of the same circumference, but linked together.

~~Some performers prefer to show three strips, and in the presence of the audience make the rings by pinning their ends together before cutting. There are a few methods of doing this, but those given below are the best.~~

HOW: The ends of the first strip are held between the fingers and thumbs of the hands as in Fig. 1, joined to one another WITHOUT twisting and pinned together. Two pins are necessary for each band. The second strip is held in like manner, but the right hand gives it a twist (from your body) as it moves to left hand and places the side marked E on the E side of left hand end. Left hand is kept still.



The third strip is held as in Fig. 2. By simply raising the left hand above the right and placing the ends of the strips together as pictured in Fig. 3 you secretly obtain a double (two) twist. Most all explanations of this pretty trick claim that rings of paper should be a yard in circumference and that strips cut from a newspaper will serve the purpose. Newspaper will serve the purpose as far as the paper is concerned, but take the practical advice of the writer and make the strips at least two yards long, otherwise the twists in the rings will be observed regardless of how cleverly you join them together.

With the foregoing known to the student, he should be in position to make up combinations of the various tricks given and arrange several in such a manner as to follow one another in sequence to form a ten to twenty minute act. Let me hear of your success.

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