A CONJURER AT HOME.

TRICKS OF LEGERDEMAIN. A writer in Belgravia describes a visit to the "magician" Hermann, at his private feeldence near London, and the tricks there played for the entertain-

ment of the guests.

The dinner passed off handsomely;
the viands were of the best in the season; the wine was of the choicest; conversation was brisk, if not brilliant; and good humor threw a radiance over thewhole party. It was, in fact, a merry meeting; and there was just the number seated round the table to concentrate the talk and prevent the party from breaking up into knots.

Herr Hermann, who was seated at the head of the table, had Skeptic placed at his right hand. This collocation, which was supposed to be accidental at the time, was designed by the conjurer. He had seen and noticed the incredulity of his guest, and was determined to make a convert of him, or at all events to show off his powers at his expense.

digitateurs and their various feats of ledigitateurs and their various feats of legerdemain. Herr Hermann — who, having passed many years in America, and being no stranger in England, spoke English with much fluency—said, "I am well aware that all you savans have an idea how the best of our tricks are accomplished." "I should think so!" from Skeptic. "But I fancy I could puzzle even you." "Oh, indeed!" again from Skeptic. "Av. sir and even you." from Skeptic. "Ay, sir, and even you," turning to Skeptic. "By all means try it." I shall; and after dinner I will show you a few tricks, and will defy any one of you to have the remotest notion how they are done." "Bravo!" from all the company, except Skeptic, who laughed and helped himself to wine, and congratulated himself on being so much cleverer than the conju-The tricks played by Hermann are thus described:

TRICKS WITH CARDS.

Presently Herr Hermann rings the bell, and tells the man-servant, who answers it, to fetch some cards. The man retired, and came back with two packs of cards, in secared cases, and placed them on the table. "Take one of these packs," said our host, addressing himself to Skeptic; "open the cover and see if all the cards are right." "No preparation?" demanded Skeptic. "No, I assure you. What I am about to show you now I could do with any cards."
"Of course," ejaculated Skeptic sneeringly, and began to tear the cover ingly, and began to tear the cover from the pack. Skeptic looked at the cards, and we all looked at the conjurer. When Skeptic pronounced the cards all correct, Herr Hermann took them in his hands, and flinging them down on the table with their faces uppermost, said, "There are eight of you. When Heave the room and the door is shut on me, let each person draw a card from the pack, return it and shaffle the cards." He left the room, bidding us recall him when we were ready. Each man took a card and put it back. Then we all had a shuffle at the pack, excepting Skeptic, who thought he knew all about the trick, and the conjurer was brought back in due time. back in due time.

He took the cards in his hands, "There are eight of you," he said. "Each one has drawn a card and replaced it; and has drawn a card and replaced it; and the eight cards, if you have well shuffled them, should be dispersed through the pack. No eye could see hato this room when the door was shut. Even knowing the cards—were that possible—would leave the seeming impossibility of bringing the eight cards together, you will all acknowledge that. Behold what art can do!" He gave the cards a sort of flourish, and placing the pack on his left palm, drew from the top the eight cards which we had drawn. He then turned to Skeptic, and with a goodnatured smile, inquired whether he had any idea how that trick was done. Our "nil-admirari" friend laughed and said nothing; but shortly afterward he was nothing; but shortly afterward he was heard to observe, "Curious, ain't it?" This trick gave rise to a good deal of disputation; but there were no two opinions about it; it was allowed by all to be the most complete and inexplicable feat of legerdemain ever witnessed.

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Trick No. 2 was even more astonishing and incomprehensible. "You know," said-Herr Hermann, addressing the whole party, after some discussion had gone on about the sleight-of-hand performances, "I work by wit and not by witcheraft." "For wit read trick," interposed Skeptic. "But what," coninterposed Skeptic. "But what," continued the conjuror, not heading the interruption," supposing I were to interprete your thoughts—to know what was passing through your minds?" "That, indeed, would be a trick above natural magic," I exclained. Skeptic filled his glass and winked at his neighbor, as who should say, "I know all about it." "We shall see," said Herr Hermann. "Now, each of you two gentlemen," he went on, speaking to his two right hand guests, "think of a card; I do not ask you to touch one;" and taking up the pack, he threw the cards front upwards on the table. The choice was quickly made. Mr. Hermann recovered the cards, shuffled them, and was quickly made. Mr. Hermann recovered the cards, shuffled them, and spread them out as before. "The card," he said, "one of you thought of is them."

A Treatise on Deaform.

Which fits into the ear, is not perceptible, and removes ringing noises in the head, enabling deaf persons to hear distinctly at church and public assemblies.

A Treatise on Deaform. he said, "one of you thought of is there; the card the other thought of is absent." The gentlemen searched. One of the The gentlemen searched. One of the cards selected was not to be seen—the other was found. "So far so good," exclaimed Herr Hermann; "but the trick is only half done." The conjuror took the cards again, shuffled them as before, and exposed them on the table. "Now,"

CONSULTATION ROOMS, 198 BLEEKER STREET, he cried, the illusion is reversed. The missing card reappears, and the card thought of that was present is not to be found. Search!" And such was the case. The eards had come and gone at the bidding of the magician, who seemed to exercise a mental rather than a physical influence over them. Wonder was expressed in every countenance, and Skeptic, annoyed because he was foiled, drank off an additional bumper to qualify him for elucication. A moment's consideration of this

trick must satisfy everybody of its extreme cleverness and incomprehensitreme cleverness and incomprehensibility. The only possible solution that offers itself is in the supposition that the conjuror, by some process of his own, was enabled to follow the eyes of the gentlemen in their direction to the cards spread on the table, and to mark those they made choice of. Knowing the cards of course an expert practitioner would find no difficulty in manipulating them as he pleased; and getting rid of a card and returning it to the pack, contrived with whatever rapidity, is no extraordinary feat of legerdemain. (To be continued.)

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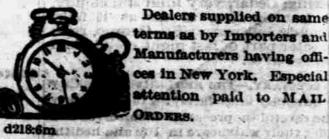
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