

was the first to introduce it; and that it was a favorite amusement of his. The chief point of this celebrated trick is to count so as to end with the following numbers, viz. 3, 10, 17, or 24. For example, we will suppose it your privilege to commence the count: you would commence with 3, and your adversary would add 6, which would make 9; it would then be your policy to add 1, and make 10; then, no matter what number he adds, he cannot prevent you counting 17, which number gives you the command of the trick. We will suppose he add 6, and make 16; then, you add 1, and make 17, then he to add 6, and make 23, you add 1, and make 24, then he cannot possibly add any number to count 31; as the highest number he can add is 6, which would only count 30, so that you can easily add the remaining 1, or ace, and make 31. There are, however, many variations to the trick.

#### **Like with Like, or How to Keep a Hotel.**

Pick out all the aces and picture cards, and then place any ordinary card upon the table. "This card," you say, "we will call a tavern." You commence your story as follows:

"On a dark night there come four peasants to this tavern, and ask for a night's lodging. As none of the landlord's rooms are occupied, and as he has four of them, he shows each of the peasants to one of the rooms, and goes quietly to bed." (Here you place the four knaves around the card which represents the tavern, and proceed.)

"Not long afterwards four police officers knock at the door, and request also a night's lodging. As the landlord has now no chamber that is unoccupied, he puts an officer in with each of the peasants." (Here you place the four aces upon the four knaves.)

"Presently four fine gentlemen come along, and these want a night's lodging. Our host is now in great embarrassment, but there is nothing left for him to do, but to put a gentleman in each of the four occupied chambers." (Here you lay a king upon each ace.)

"Thus far matters went tolerably well, although not meeting

with general approbation; but now come four fine ladies, who also must have a night's lodging. The landlord is now beside himself with perplexity; indeed he fairly loses his senses, for the stupid fellow actually quarters a lady in each of the already occupied chambers." (Here you place the queens upon the four other cards.)

"The ladies are highly indignant. 'Could he not put like and like together?' they ask. That is what he ought to do, but police officers and peasants, gentlemen and ladies—the fellow is out of his wits!"

"Well," cried the landlord, at last, "if you are agreed, I will lodge you like with like." All readily consent, and soon all the peasants are lodged in one chamber, all the officers in another, all the gentlemen in a third, and all the ladies in a fourth."

While you are saying this, you lay the four heaps one upon another and let the company cut them as often as they choose. But notwithstanding all their cutting, if you now tell them off in order from the bottom of the pack, and place them about the tavern, all the knaves will lie in one heap, all the aces in another, and so on.

#### **The Queens Digging for Diamonds.**

This is very similar to the last amusement, *Like with Like*, and is performed after the following manner:

Select from a pack the aces, kings, queens, and knaves, together with four common cards of each suit. Lay down the four queens in a row, and say, "Here are four queens going to dig for diamonds. (Lay a common diamond over each queen.) They each took a spade with them (place a common spade on each diamond), and dug until they were nearly tired. Their four kings, thinking that they might be attacked by robbers, sent four soldiers to keep guard. (Lay an ace on each spade.) Evening came, and the queens had not returned, so the kings, fearing that they might come to harm, became uneasy and set off themselves. (Place a king on each ace.) They were only just in time, for as they came along,