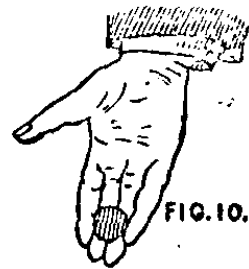


coin in the hand than palming, although the following palm is useful here.

THE FINGER PALM.

Strictly speaking this is not a palm, but it is very deceptive and easily acquired. The coin is laid flat on the second and third fingers of right hand, in the act of seeming to transfer it to the left hand. The first and little finger are raised, and the coin is nipped between them, as in Fig. 10; the usual business is gone through and the coin produced with the right. It is a useful sleight, as I will endeavour to show later on.



N.B.—These passes are also suitable for balls, or any similar small object.

A DECEPTIVE COIN PASS.

Secretly palm a half-crown in the right hand. Now borrow two half-crowns, requesting a spectator to hand them to you one at a time. Take the first coin and *actually* transfer it to the left hand. Now ask for the second coin, which you take with the right hand and appear to throw it in the left, which presumably contains two coins. As a matter of fact the second coin is palmed in the right hand; as it is palmed it strikes the coin already in the right palm; the click is supposed to be caused by it striking the coin in the left hand, which is at once closed, as the fact that the left hand contains but one coin must not be

revealed yet. After a little "business," open the left hand and show the single coin. Now, with the same hand, make an upward movement, seeming to throw the coin into the air, but really palming it; then with the right hand produce the two coins from behind the knee.

THE MELTING COIN.

PREPARATION.—You require some tin foil (such as sweets and cigarettes are wrapped in); cut from this a disc just a fraction larger than a half-crown. Now press the foil disc well over the half-crown and rub it with your fingers, and the foil will receive an exact impression of the coin. Peel it very carefully from the coin and do not crush it; now push open a matchbox about half way and carefully place the faked coin in the open end of the *case*, and stand this box of matches beside an unlighted candle on the table. Now take the real half-crown and mark it by scratching thereon a cross; next take a lemon and cut a slit in it and insert the marked half-crown. Place the lemon on a plate, together with a fruit-knife, and you are ready.

PERFORMANCE.—Borrow a half-crown, requesting the owner to mark it; place it on the table. Now pick up the matchbox, and, taking out a match, strike it and light the candle; then close the box, and the *foil* "coin" will be pushed out, and into your hand. Take care not to crush it. Now pick up the real coin with the other hand and seem to transfer it to the hand in which the