

## The Transparent Man.

Although the principle used in this illusion is as old as time, the manner in which it is served up makes it something entirely new and sensational. On the stage is seen a weird cupboard made entirely of glass. It is in the shape of an old fashioned French wardrobe minus the shelves, and has glass substituted for wood. Any gentleman is asked to come up from the audience and to examine everything. He is then asked to step inside the glass cabinet (the inner plates of glass opening as shown in the illustration), whereupon the doors are closed upon him and he is able to see everybody and everything perfectly clearly. And now for the surprise. A brilliant light is turned on behind the cupboard and the man in the cabinet has disappeared. HE can see everybody but NO ONE in the audience can see him. The light shines right through him, and when the performer walks behind the glass cabinet the audience can see him and yet the man from the audience has disappeared completely. The effect is absolutely unique. The lights are turned off and the man reappears and goes back to his seat wondering what has happened.

The same effect can be obtained with a model cabinet large enough to cause a matchbox and other small articles to disappear.

You must have five sheets of glass (not necessarily plate glass) which must be arranged as in the illustration. The angles are exactly 60 degrees.

To make the plates of glass stand in position you require a wooden base 5 × 3 feet and slots arranged at the proper angles. The outer plates must be made to slide backwards and forwards in order that the reflection may be accurately fixed. It is absolutely essential that the reflection works from every angle. A white screen must be hung behind the cabinet so that strong lights can be thrown on to it and not directly through the glass. It must be understood that a strong even light must be obtained behind the cabinet and so a reflection from a white sheet is by far the most successful.

It can be seen from the illustration that when the light is on, the reflection completely hides the man from every angle in the audience. The model which we have has the effect of becoming devoid of any object inside, and anything stood *behind the cabinet* can be seen plainly.

This idea is absolutely novel and ought to give the reader food for thought. We will not pretend to have made the full size illusion. Our model measures nine by six inches and when worked appears to be a miracle, in fact, in the small size it makes an ideal drawing room mystery.

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