

THE ONTARIO WORKMAN.

the watch that he gave it to me without counting the money. Everything shall be ready for you to-night.

That evening the watchmaker brought two chronometers to Torrini, who after careful comparison was unable to detect any difference between them. The magician left, feeling confident of making a decided hit with his trick, the preparations for which were already completed, and unknown to his master but the

The next day he went to the papal palace, and on being shown by this holiness, came from the steps, through Torrini had appeared before crowned heads, he had never been in the presence of such an august assembly. In the foreground sat Pius VII. himself, in a large armchair, on whose hair near him were seated the cardinals, while behind them were the Prelates and the dignitaries of the church. The nervousness that the performer naturally experienced in the presence of such exalted personages was allayed by the benevolent expression on the face of the Pope. Reassured by his kindly glance, Torrini commenced to stand off and on.

"Holy father," he said, bowing respectfully,

"I am about to show you some experience of which the name of 'white magic' has been most unjustly given. This title was invented by the charlatans to impress the multitude."

"But it only signifies a collection of clever delusions ingeniously contrived to amuse the imagination."

Torrini then begged him to come round the table and "blow" a more favorable point of observation, and he was moved, slipped the secret watch into his pocket. The cardinal's chronometer had now been reduced to a small ingot. Holding it up before the spectators, the magician said:

"I will now restore this crude mass to its original shape, and the transformation shall

take place during its passage to the pocket of a person who cannot be suspected of complicity."

An instant later the Pope, with an expression of joyful incredulity, that is, pronouncing a good deal, "What should you do? If I trusted you to select my pocket?" said, "I trust you to select my pocket!" and, taking all this, especially about those that live a hundred years or more.

The orders of僧俗的 shall be obeyed," said Torrini, who, on receiving an assent, signal from the Pope, took the ingot in his fingers, showed it to the company, and uttered the word presto! when it disappeared.

Pius VII. put his hand into his pocket. He magnificently, doing so, when he showed signs of confusion, and drawing his hand out, brought with it the watch, which he quickly passed to the cardinal, as if afraid of burning his fingers.

There was great astonishment among the dignitaries of the church when this instance, on examining the watch, declared it was the very one made for him by Breguet, and which they had seen crushed to pieces by the conjurer. The mystery was increased when

Torrini declared that he had fulfilled his promise, and had only tested the superiority

of the chronometer.

The next day the Pope sent him a rich diamond snuff box, with thanks for the pleasure

of his performance had afforded. His name was now at its height. Attracted by the news of his wonderful exhibition, crowds flocked to see the magician who had accomplished such marvels. They did not, however, have the gratification of witnessing the famous trick of the broken watch, for the expense of undertaking an experiment which could never again be repeated under such favorable auspices, would be sustained only by the circumstances which originally brought the Pope, and the conjurer together.

All eyes were now turned on the cardinal,

who, as well known, prided his chronometer on account of its unusual size; the large

case, as he said, allowed the works to act more freely. He hesitated to part with his

treasure till Pius VII. said to him:

"Cardinal, I fancy your watch will suit

exactly; oblige me by handing it to Signor Torrini."

Torrini, with a smile, avowed his

desire to SCIENTIFICALLY inform

him of his intentions.

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MER PROCESS.

His Eminence supplied, though not without

numerous precautions, when the watch was handed to him, Torrini assumed to be absorbed in admiration of the works and beautiful

chasing, to which he drew the attention of the

Pope and the cardinals. He then asked the

owner some question, which elicited the high-

est estimation in which the cardinal held his

chronometer, which had been made to his

order by the celebrated Breguet. The enthu-

siasm of Torrini amused the Pope, and he

looked on attentively as Torrini, after saying

that he could prove the solidity and excellent

qualities of the watch suddenly, let it fall to

the ground. Everybody was amazed at the

boldness of the act, and the cardinal, unable

to restrain his indignation, vehemently ex-

claimed: "You are playing a sorry jest, sir!"

"But, monseigneur," calmly replied the

magician, "there is no cause for alarm. I

only wish to prove to those gentlemen the

perfection of your watch, and you may rest

assured that it will not be injured by the

trial to which I shall subject it." It was

With these words he stamped on the case,

crushed it into a shapeless mass. This

still further excited the ire of the cardinal,

but the Pope, who took a more sensible view

of the matter, turned to him and said: "Come,

cardinal, have you your confidence in our

sorcerers? For my part, I am grieved to find

at it being convinced that there has been

some clever substitution."

Torrini, who was delighted with the success

of his trick, assured his holiness that there

had been no substitution, and appealed to the

cardinal for the identification of his watch.

The latter, after examining the shapeless frag-

ments, and finding them engraved inside

the case, acknowledged that it was his beloved

chronometer, and added in a stern voice:

"I do not see how I can escape, sir;

you should have tried your dangerous exper-

iments on some object that could be replaced,

instead of a unique watch like mine."

The magician, after declaring that this cir-

cumstance gave him additional satisfaction, to

enhance the credit of his performance,

meds bid of my favor tool

asked the cardinal's permission to proceed. But the latter said that as he had not been consulted in the destruction of the watch, he did not much care what became of the fragments, which left off in private, and in secret. Having established the identity of the cardinal's chronometer, Torrini's next object was to pass into the Pope's pocket the one he had bought with the proceeds of his trick. The preparations for which were already completed, and unknown to his master but the

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