

# THE THAUMATROPE.

THIS is a very pretty philosophical toy; its name is derived from two Greek words, one of which signifies *wonder*, and the other *to turn*. It is founded upon the well-known principle in optics, that an impression made on the retina of the eye lasts for a short time after the object which produced it has been withdrawn. When you have made one you will understand it better than by any written description.

**THE BOY AND THE DONKEY.**—Take a common card or piece of cardboard, say five inches by three; on one side of it sketch a donkey running, and paint it black with Indian ink,

with a lighter wash for the ground (fig. 2); and in like manner draw and paint a boy in a sitting position, on the reverse side of the card, as shown in the cut (fig. 2). Fasten two pieces of thread, one on each side, at opposite points in the centre of the card; take these between the fore-finger and thumb in each hand, twirl them round, which will make the card quickly revolve, and the boy will appear to be riding upon the donkey, as in fig. 1.

A rat in a trap, a bird in a cage, a cricketer and bat, and numerous other subjects may be produced upon the same principle.

FIG.3.



FIG.2.

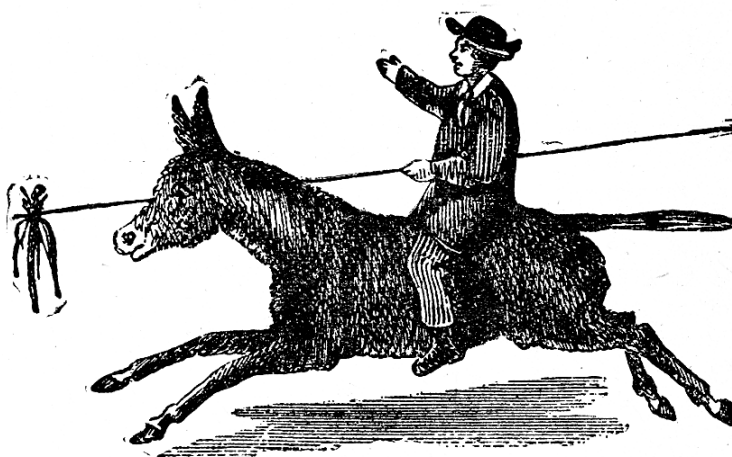
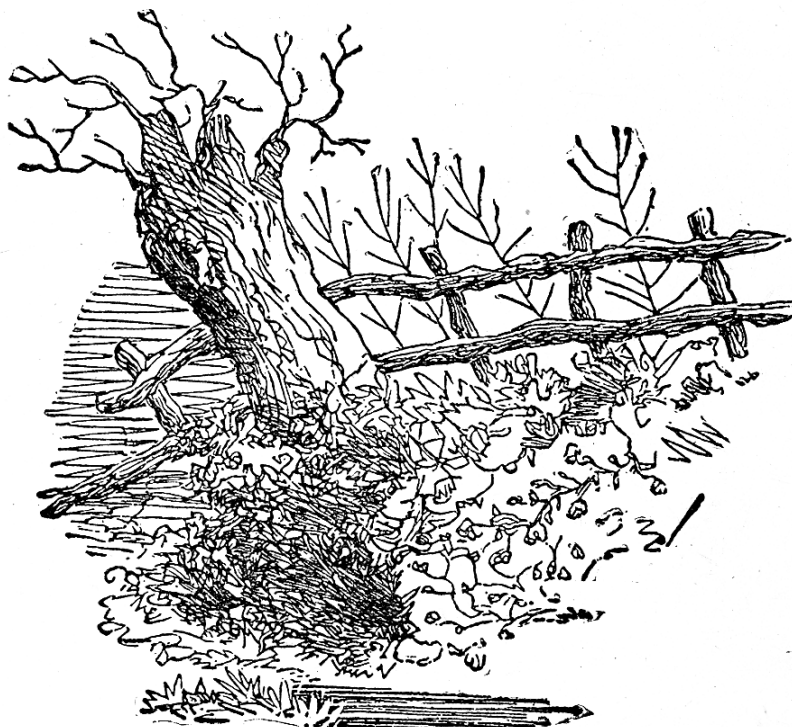


FIG.1.