

about him, except his pot of bees, which he took notice of.

I gave him no hints, help, or assistance, but left it entirely to himself, as I did the others, nor had he any thing in his hand to make any marks, (which I must repeat, because he makes all his computations by his memory) and after about an hour, he told me it would be little more than 25½ inches on a side, and that 26 inches would be too much, all which is very true and exact.

'I shall here,' continues the proposer of the above questions, 'subjoin an account he gave me of the quantity of ale, or strong beer, that he has drank on free cost since he was twelve years of age, and the gentleman's names where; and as the account was a little particular, I asked him *huc et illuc*, after I had committed it to paper, and he answered each demand as set down at the houses of the following noblemen and gentlemen:

Pints		Pints
D. of Kingston 2130	Rev. Mr. Pegge	10
Duke of Norfolk 266	Mr. Richardson	7
Duke of Leeds 212	Mr. Raynes	30
D. of Devonshire 68	Mr. Stevens	5
Lady Oxford 282	Mr. Far	1
G. Heathcote, Esq. 160	Mr. Greenwood	77
Sir G. Saville, Bt. 20	Mr. Shaw	2
T. Thornhaugh, Esq. 20	Mr. Barker	15
Sir L. Pilkington, Bt. 2	Mr. Sifton	12
J. Briffow, Esq. 62	Mr. Major	3
W. Villars, Esq. 8	Mr. Briggs	3
Sir H. Munlock, Bt. 2	Mr. Pilkington	2
— Burton, Esq. 4	Mr. J. Briggs	4
— White, Esq. 1	Mr. Beeftings	45
Dr. Burne 5	Gathering for his	
Mr. Hooks 251	dead cow	72
Mr. West 201	Rev. Mr. Hewet	2
Mr. Vefey 16	Col. Chadwick	3
Rev. Mr. Hartshorn 16	Mr. Fallhead	15
Mr. Flint 517	Mr. Wright	40
— Clarke, Esq. 20	At Elmeton ma-	
— Hallows, Esq. 12	nor	300
Sir J. Jenkinson,	Mr. Sherwin	15
Bart. 1	Mr. Corteret	16
Mr. Hancock 52	Mr. Lane	20
Mr. Hall 62	Mr. Whitehouse	3
Mr. E. Sharpe, of	Mr. R. Parkin	40
Elkeby 5	Mr. R. Green-	
Mr. T. Sharpe 16	wood	64
Rev. Mr. Beare 17	Mr. Th. Clarke	40
Mr. Willets 17	Mr. Builivant	7
Mr. Mayor, of	Mr. Padley	10
Chatterfield 2	At my own house	10

The whole amounting to 5116 pints, or *munds*, as he termed them, because he never used, according to his own account, above one *wind* to a pint, or two to a quart.

This extraordinary man would stride

over a piece of land, or a field, and tell the contents of it with as much exactness as if he had measured it by the chain. In this manner he measured the whole lordship of Elmeton, of some thousands of acres, belonging to Sir John Rhodes, and brought him the contents, not only in acres, roods and perches, but even in square inches. After this, he reduced them, for his own amusement, into square hair breadths, computing about forty-eight to each side of the inch, which produced such an incomprehensible number, as appeared altogether astonishing.

The only objects of Jedediah's curiosity, next to figures, were the king and royal family; and his desire to see them was so strong, that in the beginning of spring, 1754, he walked up to London for that purpose, but was obliged to return disappointed, as his majesty had removed to Kensington, just as he arrived in town. He was, however, introduced to the Royal Society, whom he called the *Club of the Sixty Court*. The gentlemen who were then present, asked him several questions in arithmetic, to prove his abilities, and dismissed him with a handsome gratuity.

During his residence in London, he was carried to see the tragedy of King Richard III. performed at Drury-lane play house, and it was expected that the novelty of every thing in this place, together with the splendour of the surrounding objects, would have fixed him in astonishment, or that his passions would in some degree have been roused by the action of the performers, even if he did not fully comprehend the dialogue; but in the play-house Jedediah's thoughts were employed in the same manner as at church. During the dances, his attention was engaged in reckoning the number of steps. After a fine piece of music, he declared, that the innumerable sounds produced by the instruments, perplexed him beyond measure; but he counted the words uttered by Mr. Garrick in the whole course of the entertainment; and affirmed, that in this he had perfectly succeeded.

The life of laborious poverty, which, for the most part, is equally uniform and obscure, can afford little variety either to gratify curiosity, or swell the page of biography. The events of one day may exhibit a very just picture of those of a whole series of years; and this appears to be the case in respect to Jedediah Buxton, in whom time changed nothing but his age, nor did the seasons vary his employment, except that in winter he used a flail, and in summer a fling hook.

Born to no fortune, and brought up to no particular profession, he supported himself