complete his operation, therefore, he multiplied 456 by 3, which produced 1368, and having added this number to 171,000, he found the product of 456 multiplied by 378, to be 172,368.

By this it appears that Jedediah's method of arithmetic was entirely his own, and that he was so little acquainted with the common rules, as to multiply 456 first by 5, and the product by 20, to find what sum it would produce multiplied by 100; whereas had he added two cyphers to the figures, he would have obtained the product all at once.

A person who had heard of his astonishing performances, meeting with him accidentally, in order to try his calculating powers, proposed to him the following question : In a body whose three sides are 23,145,789 yards, 5,642,732 yards, and 54,965 yards, how many cubical eighths of an inch ? After once naming the several figures distinctly one after the other, in order to assure himself of the several dimensions, and fix them in his mind, this self-taught calculator immediately fell to work amidst more than an hundred of his fellow-labourers, and the proposer of the question leaving him for about five hours, during which he calculated the answer with his pen, returned, and found Jedediah ready with his answer, which was proved to be exactly right.

Another person proposed to him the following : Admit a field to be 423 yards long, and 383 wide, what is the area ? After the figures were read to him distinctly, he gave the true product 162,009 yards in the space of two minutes, for the proposer observed by his watch how long each operation took him. The same person asked him, how many acres the said field measured ? and in eleven minutes he replied, 33 acres, 1 rood, 35 perches, 20 yards and a quarter. He was then asked, how many barley corns would reach eight miles. In a minute and a half he answered, 1,520,640 barley corns. He was likewise asked, supposing the distance between York and London to be 204 miles, how many times will a coach wheel turn round in that space, allowing the circumference of the wheel to be six yards ? In thirteen minutes he answered, 59,840 times. The next proposition was, it a tub or bin be 346 inches long, 256 inches wide, and 94 inches deep, how many gallons liquid measure will it hold, and what quantity of corn ? His answer was, 3,454,464 solid inches, or 1,768,685,568 half quarters of solid inches, making 12,249,872 gallons liquid measure, or 12,249 gallons 3 quarts and 34½ inches; or 191 quarters 3 bushels 3 quarterns and a half quartern, remain-

der 34½ inches. He was then asked, suppose a canal is to be dug 426 feet long, 263 wide, and two feet and a half deep, how many cubical yards of earth must be removed ? After pausing a quarter of an hour, he answered, 10,373 yards 24 feet.

He told the person who proposed these questions to him, that from May the 17th, 1725, to June the 16th following, he was, according to his own expression, *drunk* with reckoning by his memory, after which he slept soundly for seven hours : but he added, that he would never again attempt so much, for fear of falling into the same disagreeable situation.—What he meant by being drunk, undoubtedly was, that his senses were so much stupified, as to render him incapable of business; and that this should be the case, will not appear at all wonderful, when we consider the question that engaged his attention, which was in 202,680,000,360 miles, and each mile reckoned to be cubical, how many barley corns, vetches, peas, wheat, oats, rye, beans, lintels, and hairs, each an inch long, would fill that space, reckoning 48 hairs in breadth to an inch on the flat, as he found them to be ?

Though these instances, which seem to be well authenticated, are sufficient proofs of Jedediah's astonishing strength of mind, for the further satisfaction of our curious readers, we shall subjoin the following. Being asked, how long after the firing of one of the canons at Retford, the report might be heard at Haughton-Park, the distance being five miles, and supposing sound to move at the rate of 1142 feet in one second of time ; he replied, after about a quarter of an hour, in 23 seconds 7 thirds, and that 46 remained. He was then asked, admit 3584 brocoli plants are set in rows, four feet asunder, and the plants seven feet apart, in a rectangular plot of ground, how much land will these plants occupy ? In near half an hour, he said 2 acres 1 rood 8 perches and a half. The next question, however, exercised all his faculties, and he declared it was the hardest he had ever met with, which evidently shews that he had never applied his thoughts to the cube root. This question was, what dimensions must be given a joiner to make a cubical bin that should hold just a quarter of malt, Winchester measure ?—'Notwithstanding the difficulty of this question,' says the proposer, 'Jedediah was very desirous to answer it before it was too late in the evening, and after some time, he said to himself, *there were nooks in it, but he would sift them about.* He never regarded our talking, but sat as one heedless of every thing about