

HEADS FOR FIGURES.

FEATS OF MENTAL ARITHMETIC THAT
PUZZLED THE SCIENTISTS.

Two Untaught Phenomena. Ignorant on All Other Subjects. Who Could Solve Offhand Difficult Problems in Mathematics.

Jedediah Buxton, an English farm laborer, was an untaught mathematical genius. Although his grandfather was a vicar in which he was born, yet Jedediah, either from natural incapacity or from preoccupation with his arithmetical pursuits, never acquired the rudiments of learning, either could not or would not so much as learn to write, and was content to work as a farm laborer to the end of his days. But at a very early age he appears to have had an intuitive perception of the relative proportions of numbers, and his method he devoted the whole of his attention. His method was so much his own that he seems to have been quite unacquainted with the common rules. On one occasion, having been required to multiply 456 by 578 and having done it as quickly as one of his examiners could do it in the ordinary way, he was asked to work the sum audibly, in order that his method might be discovered. It then appeared, curiously enough, that he went to work in a very roundabout way.

First he multiplied the 456 by 5, which produced 2,280; this he again multiplied by 20 and found the product to be 45,600. Of course, he might much more readily have achieved this result by simply adding two noughts to the multiplicand. This he evidently did not know. However, he next went on to multiply the number he had now arrived at by 3, which gave him the sum of the multiplicand multiplied by 300, and it then remained for him to multiply it by the remaining 78. This he effected by the awkward process of multiplying by 15 the 2,280, which was the product obtained by his first multiplication of 456 by 5. The product thus obtained he then added to the 136,800, which was the sum of 456 multiplied by 300. This produced 171,000 as the sum of 456 multiplied by 378. It remained for him to multiply it by the original number again by 3 and add the sum of it to 171,000. And by this certainly rather cumbersome process he found the product of 456 multiplied by 578 to be 263,168.

Jedediah had no more general knowledge than any average peasant boy of 10 years of age and showed no memory for anything but figures. He was sometimes asked when he returned from church if he could repeat the text or any part of the sermon, but he could never remember a single sentence. In 1754, when he was 47 years of age, Jedediah walked to London to see the king. He was entertained and exhibited to the Royal Society, but he left London without a regret and returned cheerfully to his farm work.

Another untaught arithmetical genius, Zach Coburn, whose abnormal development raises an interesting problem, was the son of an American peasant. He was brought to London by his father in 1812, when 8 years old, when he was examined and his peculiar powers were tested by Francis Baily and other skillful mathematicians. It was found that, although he was so ignorant of the ordinary rules of arithmetic that he could not perform a simple sum in multiplication or division, yet he could mentally multiply any number less than 10 into itself successively nine times and give the results faster than the person appointed to record them could take them down. He multiplied 8 into itself 15 times, or, to use technical terms, raised it to the sixteenth power, and the result, consisting of 15 digits, was found to be right in every figure. This was astonishing enough, but he was able to do things even more wonderful. When asked what number multiplied by itself gave 68,326,125, or, to put it technically, what was the cube root of that array of figures, he replied with equal facility and promptness that it was 405. The mathematical experts who were examining the boy found that it was impossible to find the cube root of these nine figures, in the shortest and most convenient way, in less than three or four minutes.

But what most surprised the mathematicians was that he could almost at ready answer questions for which they had not been able to provide any systematic procedure themselves. For instance, he was asked to name two numbers which, multiplied together, would give the number 247,483, and he immediately named 941 and 263, which are said to be the only two numbers which will do so. And when asked to name a number which would divide 26,083 exactly he unhesitatingly replied that no number would do so. If any of our mathematically minded readers will address themselves to this problem, they will find that it will give them at least a quarter of an hour's stiff calculation before they can assure themselves that 26,083 is what is called a prime number, or a number only divisible by itself and unity, a solution which this child was in some mysterious way able to see immediately the question was proposed to him.

Coburn, like Buxton, seems to have had a method of his own, but he constantly declared that he did not know how the answers came into his mind. "God put these things into my head," he said on being pressed for an explanation, "and I cannot put them into yours." Jedediah lived to the age of 65 with no more general knowledge or stock of ideas than a child of 10, and he kept his extraordinary calculating faculty to the end. But Zerah, the general culture of his mind improved, found his special power to fade away. Francis Baily was of opinion that Zerah Coburn's feats indicated the existence of certain properties of numbers which mathematicians had not yet discovered. But it is perhaps equally possible that they indicated capacities of the human mind which had hitherto been undreamed of—London Globe.

Hard Test.
Mrs. Medders—The paper says that most of the Roobians is ignorant people.
Mr. Medders—Well, now, I sh'd think they'd have to be pretty smart to understand their own language.

A boy baby a month old can expect but 42 years of life. When he is 5 years older, his chances of living have increased to 41 years 6 months.

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Mrs. Annie Bunker, 609 Catherine Street, Syracuse, N. Y., writes: "Your medicines have done wonders for me. For years my health was very poor; I had four miscarriages, but since taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and Golden Medical Discovery I have much better health, and now I have a fine healthy baby. I have recommended your medicines to several of my friends and they have been benefited by them."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure dizziness and sick headache.

DISTRICT DOINGS

TUPPERVILLE.

Farmers are busy haying. The strawberry social held in Zion was a success. Proceeds, \$18.
Miss Maggie Johnston and Miss Lewis spent the first in Chatham.
Mr. James Langstaff, of 14th concession, is not getting any better.
C. Best, of Biddle House, drove to Wallaceburg Saturday night in a trifle over 15 minutes.
Mrs. Amos Carus spent a week at her home, Croton.
Our new minister arrived Friday evening and preached in the afternoon. Rev. Mr. Armstrong is a young man and a fine speaker.
Mr. John Burns presented his daughter Allie with a fine Blanchford organ.
Mr. J. Lewis has returned from St. Thomas.

S. S. NO. 12, DOVER.

Quarter ending June 28th, 1901. Based upon promotion papers and class register.
Class IV.—Rosa Adams, Sam Bylett, Inez Doolittle, Millie Beaubien, Geo. Thomas.
Senior III.—Alice Harris, Annie Clackett, Barrill Harris, Mabel Chappel, David Thomas, James Rylett.
Junior III. (A)—Mamie Bishop, Clara Wright, Louis Pelletier, Maggie Rivers, Maud Clackett.
Junior III. (B)—Alice McKenzie, Belle McKenzie, Harry Bishop, Frank Beaubien.
Senior II.—Clarence Ruhnke, Pearl Mays, Fred Clackett, Willie Chappel, Jimmie Cantley, Maggie Murray, Edith Beaubien, Charles Rylett, Bert Hind.
Part II.—Iva Ruhnke, John Beaubien, Richard Clackett, Orville Hind.

WABASH.

Mr. Nelson, sr., taught the Bible class Sunday morning.
The Sunday school excursion to the Eau will be July 9th.
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Poag and daughter, of Chatham, are visiting relatives here.
Mrs. Frank Corliss, of Omaha, Nebraska, is visiting friends and relatives here.
Wm. Ross, sr., has purchased a windmill and has it erected on his farm occupied by Jim Kelley.
Mr. and Mrs. Gill Sholecraft have got settled in their new home.

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WHY EGGS WENT UP.

The Man From the Country Explains All About It.

As the woman in the suburbs objected upon economical principles to paying more for eggs than she had paid a week before, she held a joint debate on the subject with the man from the country who supplies her.

"There was just the suggestion of an edge on her tone as she respectfully asked him why eggs should be cheaper the latter part of April than the early part of May."

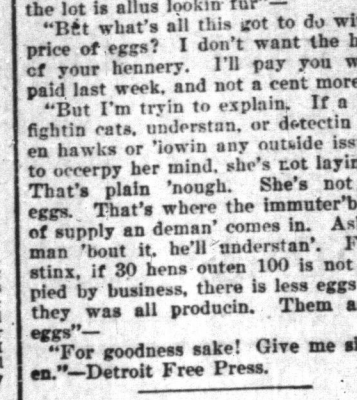
"Hens is hens," he replied, and it sounded as if he was talking by rote. "You can't tell nothin' 'bout them; nothin' 'tall. I hain't sayin' anything fur or aginst the female sex, explain which I will say that I'm livin' with my third wife an' I wouldn't make no afterdawn now that any one of 'em was alike. Far's I been able to calculate, every woman's a var'ity jist in herself. An' hens, as fur as I been able fur to figure, is all members of the same sex, but different. Now, I got a hen what don't seem to have no object fur to fight the cat. All the layin she does is a layin fur him, an' when he gets in sight there's the doggondest row ever you see. There's another hen in the lot is allus lookin' fur."

"But what's all this got to do with the price of eggs? I don't want the history of your henhouse. I'll pay you what I paid last week, and not a cent more."

"But I'm tryin' to explain. If a hen is fightin' cats, understand, or detectin' chickens or hawks or lowin' any outside issue fur to occupy her mind, she's not layin' eggs. That's plain 'nough. She's not layin' eggs. That's where the immutible law of supply an' demand comes in. Ask your own hen, if 30 hens outen 100 is not occurrin' by business, there is less eggs 'an if they was all producin'. Them as eats eggs—"

"For goodness sake! Give me six dozen."—Detroit Free Press.

A Bad Conscience.



Author on the first night of his new play—Is there much of an audience? Manager—The house is crowded. Author (turning pale)—Don't you think I'd better go before the curtain now rather than wait till after the first act?

Dentists Must Be Careful.



"A man in my profession," remarked the dentist, "must be careful in selecting his assistants."

"I shouldn't think they had much to do with it," said the listener.

"Well, they have," continued the dentist. "I remember I had one once who had been working in a photographer's gallery, and the first patient he had to handle was the most nervous old chap in the town. I never thought about what he was going to do and simply told him to arrange the patient in the chair. He did it, and then he said as he stepped away, 'Now look pleasant.' And the old fellow rushed out and never came back."

—Pearson's Weekly.

A Suitable Present.

"Mamma," said a Brooklyn girl, "what would be an appropriate birthday present to give Albert?"

"How long has he been coming to see you?" asked mamma.

"About four years."

"Then I think you had better give him the sack."—Leslie's Weekly.

Too Rich For Him.

Jinks (meeting Winks in light lunch cafe)—Hello! What are you doing here? Winks—Getting my lunch, of course. Jinks—But I thought you were keeping a swell restaurant down town. Winks—So I am, but I wouldn't keep it long if I ate there. It's too expensive. Philadelphia Press.

Only One Place Possible.

Jack—I made two calls this afternoon, and I must have left my umbrella at the last place I called.

Tom—How do you know but what you left it at the first place?

Jack—Because that's where I got it.—Stray Stories.

Thanks For Interest.

Fallice—Jack, have you that \$10 I lent you the other day?

Flyntie—Not all of it, old chap, but what I have will do me a day or two longer. Jolly kind and thoughtful of you to inquire, though.—Tit-Bits.

Wanted Specifications.

The Farmer (wearing long boots)—Hey, sonny, d'ye want tew shine 'em for a dime? The Bootblack (looking them over)—How far up?—Brooklyn Life.

Tact.

Cobbie—There goes Glover, one of my best friends. Never knew him to say one word against me.

Stone—Yes. He's a fellow of rare restraint.—Detroit Free Press.

A Retort Discourteous.

"Ah, Billings, lend me a postage stamp, and give me one that will stick." "You can make it stick, old man. You have stuck me often enough."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

In New York.

She—I love to see the pretty little lambs gambol on the green.
He (warningly)—Speak lower; Justice Jerome may overhear you.—Baltimore World.

Not the Same Thing at All.

Jack—Don't you think that woman, as a rule, prefers a man who is her master? Ethel—Not at all. She prefers one who thinks he is.—Stray Stories.

Kidneys and Bladder

Don't neglect these most important organs of the body, as you will regret it. Have you pain in the back, a dull feeling in the region of the kidneys? At times your water comes freely, a large quantity, light in color, with no peculiar sensations, while at other times you do not make it so freely, it is dark in color, you make a small quantity, and a sort of burning sensation? If such is the case give your condition immediate attention and a sort of burning sensation? If such is the case give your condition immediate attention and a sort of burning sensation? If such is the case give your condition immediate attention and a sort of burning sensation?

BLOOD POISON

If you have this awful disease you are in danger until completely cured; the various symptoms you notice should be a warning to take immediate treatment. Don't put it off until too late, as it continually gets worse. If you have sore throat, patches on tongue or mouth, swollen glands, hair falling out, blotches on body, itching skin or other signs of this awful disease call on us. We give you a written guarantee to cure you by our LATEST METHOD TREATMENT without Mercury or Potassium, and you

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You need pay nothing until you are convinced that a thorough and complete cure has been established. It makes no difference who has failed to cure you, call and see us, as we will give you a thorough examination free of charge and may be the means of saving you years of suffering.

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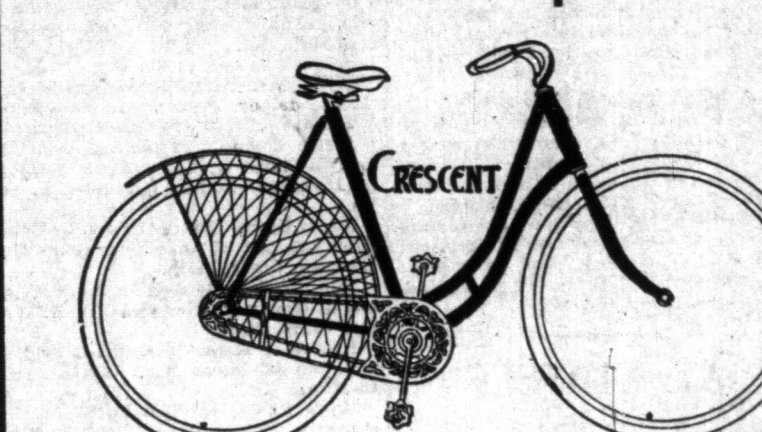
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The growth of this institution during the last two years has been wonderful. The attendance has been doubled on account of the thorough course of training which we give. One of our young men is now drawing a salary of \$1,800 a year; another \$2,000; others from \$400 to \$800. Within the last month two of our students have gone direct from the College to positions paying \$200 a year. WE QUALIFY OUR STUDENTS TO FILL THE BEST POSITIONS.

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Mortgage Sale of Valuable Farm Property.

Under and by virtue of the powers of sale contained in a certain mortgage which will be produced at the time of the sale, there will be offered for sale by public auction at the Garner House, in the City of Chatham, in the County of Kent, on Saturday, the Twentieth day of July, A. D. 1901, at the hour of twelve o'clock in the forenoon, by A. B. McCole, auctioneer, the following valuable farm property:

All and singular that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situated, lying and being in the Township of Howard, in the County of Kent, and Province of Ontario, containing by a measurement sixty-two acres more or less, and being composed of the east half of the east half of lot number one in the First concession of said township, fronting on the River Thames, better known and described as follows:

Commencing on the northwest angle of said lot; thence westerly along the river Thames eight chains more or less or one-quarter the width of said lot; thence westerly along the River Thames southerly and parallel with the side lines of said lot to the allowance for road in rear of said lot; thence easterly along said allowance for road to the easterly limit of said lot, and thence northerly along the said last named limit to the place of beginning.

The above well-known premises were formerly owned by Michael Arnold and upon it are situated a two-story frame house, good stable, two hay barns, granary, corn crib, root and milk cellars, etc.

Terms—Ten per cent of purchase money at time of sale; balance within thirty days thereafter, or if purchaser desires a mortgage may remain on the premises for two-thirds of amount of purchase price on easy terms.

For further particulars apply to SCANE, HOUSTON, STONE & SCANE, Solicitors for Mortgagees.

A. B. McCole, auctioneer, Dates at Chatham, June 24th, 1901. Sd 29-6-13, 41w

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

IN THE MATTER of the Estate of Eliza Young, late of the Township of Raleigh, in the County of Kent, widow, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Sec. 38, Chap. 128, R. S. O. 1897, that all persons having claims against the estate of the said Eliza Young, deceased, who died on or about the 12th day of January, A. D. 1900, are required to send by post prepaid or deliver to the undersigned Solicitor for Executors of the Estate of said deceased, or to the said Executor, on or before the 21st day of July, A. D. 1901, their Christian names or surnames and addresses, with full particulars, in writing, of their claims and a statement of their accounts (if any) held by them, duly verified by statutory declaration.

AND TAKE NOTICE that after the said 21st day of July, A. D. 1901, the said Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have notice, and the said Executors will not be liable for said assets or any part thereof, to any person or persons of whose claim notice shall not have been received by them or their Solicitor at the time of such distribution.

WILLIAM S. BELLAMY, JAMES BELLAMY, Executors.

J. B. RANKIN, Chatham, Solicitor for the Executors. Dated at Chatham, this 21st day of June, A. D. 1901. 125w

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