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From the Gentleman's Magazine, for August, 1751.

Mr. URBAN,
NOW send you, according to your Desire, a further Account of *Jedediah Buxton*, whom I found to be a very illiterate Man; I examined him with Regard to his Manner of Life, and I was told he laboured hard for his Livelihood, having a Wife and Daughter at *Elmton*, six Miles East of *Chesterfield* in *Derbyshire*; I perceive he has a good Notion of the Square, Oblong, Triangle, and Circle. The first Question I proposed was as follows: Admit a Field 423 Yards long and 383 wide, What was the area? After I had read the Figures to him distinctly, he gave me the true Product, *viz.* 162009 Yards, in two Minutes, for I observed by my Watch how long every Operation took him. I then asked him how many Acres the aforesaid Field measured? In 11 Minutes he told me 33 Acres, 1 Rood, 35 Perches, 20 Yards, and a Quarter just. I then proposed to him, how many Barley Corns would reach 8 Miles? In a Minute and half he answered 1520640 Barley Corns. He is the slowest in finding the area of a Circle, but yet he finds it very near the Truth, though he don't use the Mathematical Rules. Allowing the Distance between *York* and *London* to be 204 Miles, I asked him how many Times a Coach-wheel turned round in that Distance, allowing the Wheel's Circumference to be six Yards? In 13 Minutes he answered 59840 Times. The next Proposition was, a Tub or Bin 346 Inches long, 256 Inches wide, 94 Inches deep, how many Gallons Liquid Measure and what Corn will it hold? Answer, 3,454,464 solid Inches, or, 1,768,685,568 Half Quarters of solid Inches, making 12,249,872 Gallons Liquid Measure, or 12249 Gallons, 3 Quarts, 34 Inches and a half; or it will hold 191 Quarters, 3 Bushels, 3 Quarters, a half Quarter, 34 Inches and a half remainder.

Again, suppose a Canal was to be dug 426 Feet long, 203 wide, and 2 Feet and a half deep, how many Cubical Yards of Earth to be removed? After pausing a Quarter of an Hour he answered, 10373 Yards 24 Feet. He will talk with you freely whilst he is doing his Questions, it being no Molestation or Hindrance to him, but enough to confound a Penman. His Memory is so great, that he can leave off and reassume the Operation again, at a Week, Month, or at several Months End; he calls his Figures all by their proper Names, and is very ready at naming them either backwards or forwards. From May 17. to H. A. M. 1725, he told me he was drunk (to make use of his Expression) with reckoning by his Memory till June 16 following, and then slept soundly seven Hours, but will never attempt so much reckoning again, for fear of falling into the same Dilemma. I suppose what he means by his being drunk, was his being so much stupified with Thought, as rendered him incapable of Business; when it may well be said *Neque pes, neque mens satis suum officium facit.*

But, to proceed further with this uncommon Man, I was led by Curiosity to know what Question it was that caused his Drunkenness; to which he replied, in answering the following Question. In 202,680,000,360 Miles, and each Mile reckoned to be Cubical, how many Barley Corns, Vetches, Peas, Wheat, Oats, Rye, Beans, Lin-tels, and how many 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 so. I shall here subjoin his Table of Measures, which he founded on Experiment.

200 Barley Corns
300 Wheat Corns
512 Rye Corns
180 Oats
40 Peas
25 Beans
80 Vetches
100 Lin-tels
2304 Hairs 1 Inch long

From which he calculated the following Result:
14 Thousand, 93 Millions, 420 Thousand, 936 Quarters, 1 Bushel, 1 Peck, 1 Quarter, 3 Pints, and 5 and a Quarter solid Inches of one Sort of Grain, are contain'd in one solid Mile; or 5 Thousand, 451 Millions, 776 Thousand Yards in a Cubical Mile, being 254 Millions of Millions, 358 Thousand, 61 Millions, and 56 Thousand Inches in a Cubical Mile; and if every Hair be an Inch long, and 2304 Hairs a Cubical Inch, then 586 Thousand, 40 Millions of Millions, 972 Thousand, 673 Millions, and 24 Thousand, will fill the Space of a Cubical Mile: But if a Hair be no longer than it is broad, he then found that there would be 28 Tribes, 129 Thousand, 666 Millions of Millions, 688 Thousand, 307 Millions, and 152 Thousand Hairs, to fill the Space of a Cubical Mile.

As we are come to that Notation where he introduces the Word Tribe, it will be proper to set down that Prolix Number, arising from 140 Nails doubled at a Farming a Nail, which he reads thus:

- 725 Tribes of Tribes,
- 958 Thous. of Mill. of Mill. of Tribes,
- 238 Millions of Millions of Tribes,
- 096 Thousand Millions of Tribes,
- 074 Millions of Tribes,
- 907 Thousand Tribes,
- 868 Tribes,
- 531 Thousand Millions of Millions,
- 656 Millions of Millions,
- 993 Thousand Millions,
- 638 Millions,
- 851 Thousands,
- 106 Pounds, 2 Shillings, and 8 Pence.

For the Truth of which I leave those Gentlemen that have Leisure and Curiosity to try it.

I shall only mention one Thing more with Regard to this Man's Memory, and it shall be in squaring the above Number. Now you see he is to multiply 39 Figures by 39 Figures, and all by the Strength of his Memory, without having Recourse to human Assistance, or Pen, Ink, and Paper. What a prodigious Task must this be to be operated by the Head only, which he certainly performed, and after two Months and a half, he brings the following Answer, omitting the odd 24. 8d. which he reads thus:
527 Tribes of Tribes of Cramps
015 Thous. Mill. of Mill. Trib. of Cramps
363 Millions of Millions Tribes of Cramps
459 Thousand Millions Tribes of Cramps
557 Millions of Tribes of Cramps
385 Thousand Tribes of Cramps
673 Tribes of Cramps
733 Thousand Millions of Millions of Cramps
542 Millions of Millions of Cramps
638 Thousand Millions of Cramps
591 Millions of Cramps
721 Thousand Cramps
213 Cramps
298 Tribes of Tribes
966 Thousand Million of Millions of Tribes
079 Millions of Millions of Tribes
192 Thousand Millions of Tribes
524 Millions of Tribes
994 Thousand Tribes
381 Tribes
389 Thousand Millions of Millions.
499 Millions of Millions.
251 Thousand of Millions
637 Millions
423 Thousand
236 Pounds.

I was vastly surprized at the Quickness as well as the Extensiveness of this poor Man's Memory, and I do assure you, Sir, that he does all that I have above recited by the Head without Pen, Ink, or Paper; for I am now thoroughly convinced that he is no Impostor, or makes use of any Arts or Insinuations to deceive, as I first imagined when I heard of him: Oh the Depth of human Penetration!

I don't find, in History, any Man's Memory to be compared with this *Jedediah Buxton's*. *Seneca*, indeed, gives us an Account of his own Memory, as a Miracle in those Times, which I chuse to send you in his own Words: *Hanc [memoriam] aliquando in me fieri, ut non tantum ad usum sufficeret, sed in miraculum usque procederet, non nego. Nam et 2000 nominum recitata, quo ordine erant dicta, reddebam: Et ab his qui ad audiendum preceptorem nostrum conveniunt, singulis versus a singulis datus, cum plures quam 200 efficerentur, ab ultimo incipiens usque ad primum recitabam.* This is the only Instance I can find as a Competitor to this our Author. I appeal to any Person however well conversant in Figures, whether to multiply by 20 or 30 Figures by the Head, or divide by the same, which is equal to him, be not an arduous Task, and whether this poor Man be not *Rara avis in terris, nigroque similima cygno.*

Yours, &c.
T. HOLLIDAY.
Haughton Park.

NAPLES, September 7.
THE Algerine Corsairs having lately appeared again in great Numbers upon the Coast of this Kingdom, and taken one of our Merchantmen and a Genoese Pink. Orders are given for all the armed Vessels in this Port to put to Sea immediately on a Cruise against them.

Rome, Sept. 7. The Pope has been in a very bad State of Health these several Days past, and now his Legs are swelled to such a Degree, that he is forced to keep his Bed. We are much alarmed at it, for such is our Affection for this Pontiff, that we dare say every Body prays for his Recovery, except a few who may be ambitious to succeed him.

Madrid, Sept. 7. The Court has Advice, by Express, that a Barbary Galliot was taken the 17th of last Month off Ik za by a X-beck belonging to that Port, after a very obstinate Engagement, in which several Moors were kill'd, and the rest made Slaves.

Hamburgh, Sept. 18. The last Letters from Stockholm advise, that M. Wickman, who was brought over from Finland some Months ago, and committed to Prison for holding treasonable Correspondences, was publicly beheaded the 11th Instant; and the Day before his Execution six Persons convicted of defigging to set Fire to the City of Stockholm, were sent to the Gallies at Marstrand.

Copenhagen, Sept. 25. We have received the bad News of the Damage which the late Tempests have occasioned on the Coasts of the Duchy of Holstein and the County of Delmenhorst. The Dykes have been broken in several Places, the whole Country was overflowed, and many People perished, together with a great Number of Cattle. We also hear that several Ships were wreck'd on the Coast.

Paris, Sept. 24. His Majesty, as a Mark of his Complacency in the Joy which his People have expressed at the late happy Event, has remitted four Millions upon the Land Tax.

Pursuant to the King's gracious Intentions signified to all the Corporations of the Kingdom, for a more beneficial Expendure of the Money design'd for Rejoicings on the Birth of the Duke of Burgundy, the Magistracy of Paris have resolv'd to portion 600 Girls with 600 Livres each, with a Wedding Suit to the Bridegroom, and the necessary Charges of the Marriage delay'd. The Girls intitled to this Privilege are to be the Daughters of poor