

MARVELS AT FIGURES

LIGHTNING CALCULATORS WHO WERE GIFTED BY NATURE.

Two Boys Whose Peculiar Talents Attracted General Attention—Some of the Difficult Tests Through Which They Passed Successfully.

George Parker Bidder was born in 1801 at Morton Hampstead, in Devonshire, where his father carried on a small business as a stonemason. At the early age of four he showed a most extraordinary ability for calculation, which with slight assistance from an older brother assumed quite phenomenal proportions. His peculiar talents soon attracted general attention, and his father found it a much more profitable employment to carry his son about the country and exhibit him as the "calculating phenomenon" than following his trade. In this way young Bidder visited many parts of England, astonishing the different people who came to question him by the wonderful rapidity with which he was able to answer, without external aid of any description, the most difficult questions. Of these the following are a few of the most extraordinary examples:

At a leap spring two feet and three inches in every hop, how many hops must it take to go around the world, the circumference being 25,020 miles, and how long would it be performing the journey, allowing it to take sixty hops every minute without intermission? Answer, 58,713,900 hops and 1 year, 314 days, 13 hours and 20 minutes.

The following question was solved by him in forty seconds: Suppose the ball at the top of St. Paul's cathedral to be six feet in diameter, what did the gilding cost at 3 1/2 pence per square inch? Answer, £27,408, 14.

The following in one minute and twenty seconds: Suppose a city to be illuminated with 10,000 lamps, each lamp to consume one pint of oil every four hours in succession, how many gallons would it take to keep it in forty years? Answer, 189,480,000 gallons.

Another curious question was: Suppose the earth to consist of 917,000,000 inhabitants and suppose these die in thirty years, and four months, how many have returned to dust since the time of Adam's coming to earth 2,552 years? Multiple the answer by 10.

Another one of his calculations was: Suppose the earth to be 7,927 miles in diameter and the circumference of the earth 24,880 miles, how many times would it take to go round the earth in one day?

quries, subsequently undertook his education. He was attached to the ordnance survey for a short time and afterward was associated with Stephenson, the great engineer.

Some years after he entered parliament, and numerous stories are extant of his wonderful skill in detecting a flaw in some elaborate sets of calculations, whereby he was often enabled to upset an opponent's case, or at other times he would establish his own case by arguments based upon mathematical data, possibly only at the moment placed before him. It is said that on one occasion an opposing counsel asked that he might not be allowed to remain in the committee room on the ground that "nature had endowed him with qualities that did not place his opponents on a fair footing."

After taking a leading part in many important engineering works he died at Dartmouth Sept. 20, 1878.

Another of these extraordinary children, between whom and Bidder honors were almost equally divided, was Zerah Colburn, born at Cabot, Vt., Sept. 1, 1804. Signs of his wonderful power appeared at a very tender age. The discovery was accidentally made by his father, who was much surprised one day to hear him repeating the product of several numbers, although at the time he had received no other instruction than such as could be obtained at a small country school whose curriculum did not include writing or ciphering. He thereupon proposed a variety of arithmetical questions to his son, all of which the child answered with remarkable facility and correctness. At the age of eight the boy was able to solve most difficult questions by the mere operation of his mind. Many persons of the first eminence for their knowledge in mathematics made a point of seeing and conversing with him, and they proposed to him a great variety of questions to test his marvelous powers. Among them were the following:

Give the square root of 999,999. After hesitating a little he replied 999,999, 000,001 and observed that he produced this result by multiplying the square of 37,037 by the square of 27. He was then asked to multiply the answer twice by 49 and once by 25, a task which he accomplished successfully, though the answer consists of seven-

teen figures.

name the cube root of 413,993,348, 677. To this he gave the correct answer in five seconds. How many times would a coach wheel twelve feet in circumference turn around in 256 miles, and how many minutes in forty-eight years? To the first he replied in two seconds 112,640, and to the second, before the question could be written down, 25,229,800. What are the factors of 247,183? To this he replied 941 and 263, which are the only factors.—London Globe.

Oddly Expressed.

In one of his letters William Brookfield tells how as school inspector he had to give an examination on physical science. "What was I to do? I knew nothing about hydrogen or oxygen or any other gas! So I set them a paper which I called 'applied science.' One of my questions was, 'What would you do to cure a cold in the head?' A young lady answered, 'I should put my feet into hot water all you were in a profuse perspiration.'"

AUTOMATIC SERVICE.

Fine Milling Property Saved From Action of Flames.

But for the magnificent fire extinguishing equipment in the Columbia Box & Lumber Company's new mill last Friday afternoon the new mill would have been a heap of ashes.

Some parts of the edger on the upper floor were being rehabilitated and a piece of waste caught from the molten metal and dropped down to the floor below where the grease and oil on the floor caught and in an instant the blaze ran up a post and got into the dust collector where the air just fanned the flames which spread through the building and shot up through the roof.

The fireman, J. C. Piper and E. M. Seed, saw the fire at its inception. The former seized a chemical fire extinguisher but someone had taken out the bottle of sulphuric acid and it failed to work. It has since developed that the bottles are missing from the others as well though they were only recently charged. The fire pump was promptly started and though the sprinkling apparatus was not fully installed as yet, nevertheless it did the business. The sprinkler heads melt at 106 degrees and quickly a number of them were going. Then the hose was brought into action and the fire quickly quenched.

The only loss sustained was a big leather belt which was burned and some wooden pulleys charred.—South Bend Journal.

Tumors Conquered Without Operations

Unqualified Success of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound in Cases of Mrs. Fox and Miss Adams.



One of the greatest triumphs of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is the conquering of woman's dread enemy, Tumor.

So-called "wandering pains" may come from its early stages, or the presence of danger may be made manifest by excessive monthly periods accompanied by unusual pain extending from the abdomen through the groin and thighs.

If you have mysterious pains, if there are indications of inflammation, ulceration or displacement, don't wait for time to confirm your fears and go through the horrors of a hospital operation; secure Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound at once and begin its use and write Mrs. Pinkham of Lynn, Mass., for advice.

Read these strong letters from grateful women who have been cured: Dear Mrs. Pinkham:— (First Letter.) "In looking over your book I see that your medicine cures Tumors. I have been to a doctor and he tells me I have a tumor. I will be more than grateful if you can help me, as I do so dread an operation."—Fannie D. Fox, Bradford, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Pinkham:— (Second Letter.) "I take the liberty to congratulate you on the success I have had with your wonderful medicine."

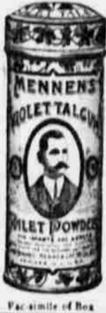
"Eighteen months ago my periods stopped. Shortly after I felt so badly I submitted to a thorough examination by a physician, and was told that I had a tumor and would have to undergo an operation."

"I soon after read one of your advertisements and decided to give Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound a trial. After taking five bottles as directed, the tumor is entirely gone. I have again been examined by the physician and he says: 'I have no signs of a tumor now. It has also brought my periods around once more; and I am entirely well. I shall never be without a bottle of Lydia Pinkham's Vegetable Compound in the house.'—Fannie D. Fox, Bradford, Pa.

Another Case of Tumor Cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Dear Mrs. Pinkham:— "About three years ago I had intense pain in my stomach, with cramps and raging headaches. The doctor prescribed for me, but finding that I did not get any better he examined me and, to my surprise, declared I had a tumor. "I felt sure that it meant my death warrant, and was very disheartened. I spent hundreds of dollars in doctoring, but the tumor kept growing, till the doctor said that nothing but an operation would save me. Fortunately I corresponded with my aunt in one of the New England States, who advised me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound before submitting to an operation, and I at once started taking a regular treatment, finding to my great relief that my general health began to improve, and after three months I noticed that the tumor had reduced in size. I kept on taking the Compound, and in ten months it had entirely disappeared without an operation, and using no medicine but Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and words fail to express how grateful I am for the good it has done me."—Miss Luella Adams, Colman Hotel, Seattle, Wash.

Such unquestionable testimony proves the value of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and should give confidence and hope to every sick woman. Mrs. Pinkham invites all ailing women to write to her at Lynn, Mass., for advice. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound; a Woman's Remedy for Women's Ills.

A Word of Warning



Don't buy substitutes for MENNEN'S BORATED TALCUM POWDER. "Just as good" is only a deceit by which a dealer tries to make money out of the superiority and success of MENNEN'S POWDER. There's nothing just as good as MENNEN'S and users of substitutes and imitations risk skin, complexion and comfort in doing so.



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