AD EA, QUAE VIR CLARISSIMUS J. B. MENSE MAIO NUPERO IN HIS ACTIS PUBLICAVIT, RESPONSIO.

G.G.L.

... He has proposed to me in addition another problem to be solved, concerning which I shall say next, where previously rendering a change, I shall have set published the foundation of the solution given by himself concerning the particular problem proposed in the said Journal.

Thus therefore the former: two gamesters play with one die with this condition, that whoever will have cast first the assigned number of points with it, must win. A in the first place makes one toss, & B one; next A two casts, consequently & B two; henceforth A three & B three &c. Or: A makes one cast, next B two, henceforth A three, afterwards B four, &c. until when one or the other of them must win. The ratio of the lots is sought. I exhibit the thing thus.

Let 5: 6 = n there will be 1: 6 = 1 - n.

1

&c &c. The lot of A himself, $1 + n^2 + n^3 + n^6 + n^8 + n^{12} + n^{13} + n^{14} + n^{15}$ &c.; mult. by $\overline{1 - n}$. whence with the act itself completed by multiplication, it will produce $1 - n^1 + n^2 - n^4 + n^6 + n^{12} - n^{16}$ &c. But the lot of B himself, $n+n^4+n^5+n^9+n^{10}+n^{11}+n^{16}+n^{17}+n^{18}+n^{19}$ &c; mult. by $\overline{1-n}$ whence with the act itself completed by multiplication, it will produce $n^1-n^2+n^4-n^6+n^9-n^{12}+n^{16}~\&{\rm c}.$ In the latter case: $1 \quad n \quad n^2 \quad n^3 \quad n^4 \quad n^5 \quad n^6 \quad n^7 \quad n^8 \quad n^9 \quad n^{10}$ &c A B B A A A B B B B &c. А

The lot of A himself, $1 + n^3 + n^4 + n^5 + n^{10} + n^{11} + n^{12} + n^{13} + n^{14}$ &c.; mult. by $\overline{1 - n}$.

or with the multiplication done, $1 - n^1 + n^3 - n^6 + n^{10} - n^{15}$ &c.

¹A Response to them, which the most famous man J. B. published in the recent month of May in this Acta. Date: Acta Eruditorum, Vol. 9 (1690), pp. 358-360.

Translated by Richard J. Pulskamp, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Xavier University, Cincinnati OH. August 16, 2009.

G.G.L.

But the lot of B himself

$$n + n^2 + n^6 + n^7 + n^8 + n^9 + n^{15} + n^{17} + n^{18} + n^{19} + n^{20}$$
 &c mult. by $\overline{1 - n}$

or with the multiplication done, $n^1-n^3+n^6-n^{10}+n^{15}-n^{21}\;\&\mathrm{c}.$

And in each case A+B= 1, with the position unity to be the total law in the price of play. And the same Method succeeds in other similar cases, even if there are many gamesters & dice, and this easy solution in exact numbers is had as much as one will. But the problem is pleasing, because when a single one appears completely, it leads to series not yet sufficiently examined thus far.