PROBLÈME PROPOSÉ PAR M. BERNOULLI

MATHEMATICIAN OF THE CITY OF BASEL

A & B play with a die, on the condition that the one who casts first will have won. A plays one time, then B one time; after A plays twice in sequence, then B twice; then A three times in sequence, & B also three times.

Or else, A plays one time, then B two times in sequence, then A three times in sequence, then B four times, &c. until one of them wins.

What is the ratio of their lots?

1

Date: Journal des Sçavans 1685 (26.VIII), p. 314.

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