G

I

EVARISTE GALOIS
Bourg-la-Reine, Paris - Paris
25 Oct. 1811 - 31 May 1832

his is the only student who has answered me poorly; he knows absolutely nothing. I was told that this student has an extraordinary capacity for mathematics. This astonishes me greatly; for, after his examination, I believed him to have but little intelligence.
Galois' literature examiner (Dec. 29, 1829).

http://www-groups.dcs.st-and.ac.uk/~history/HistTopics/Life_of_Evariste_Galois.html

II

MARIN   GETALDIC
Dubrovnik, Croatia   -   Dubrovnik, Croatia
1528   -   1626

Of all the spots on our walk to the church of St James (Sveti Jakov), Bete's Cave certainly represents the greatest curiosity. The Cave is situated under the old house of the Getaldic family, which bears the following inscription, in Latin: "Stay far away, you cares, vanities, jealousies and strife / Peace and quiet reign in this cave and garden". However, the house, and even more the cave, were greatly feared by the citizens of 17th century Dubrovnik. The Venetian Paolo Sarpi gave the following appraisal of the cave's owner, the great Ragusan mathematician and physicist Marin Getaldic (1568-1626), called Bete: "He is a devil in mathematics and an angel at heart".

http://tjev.tel.fer.hr/dubrovnik/docs/past/person/getaldic.html

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H

JOHANN GUSTAV HERMES

1846 - 1912

A too-persistent research student drove his supervisor to say "Go away and work out the construction for a regular polygon of 65537 [= $2^{(2^{(2^2)})}$ +1] sides". The student returned 20 years later with a construction (deposited in the Archives at Goetingen).

Littlewood, p. 60

Note-Ed.: The student was J. G. Hermes. Cf.:
1894 . Johann Gustav Hermes (1846-1912) completes his 12-year effort to calculate the 65537th root of unity using square roots.

http://mathsource.wri.com/quintic/timeline.html

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