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*Olinde Rodrigues' contribution to Catalan numbers.*

Benjamin Olinde Rodrigues was born into an Iberian Jewish family in 1795 residing in France. Most mathematicians who heard of Rodrigues connect him with Rodrigues rotations, which were based in his PhD thesis, and a later paper that he wrote in 1840. Few mathematicians know that he also wrote three 'notes' on combinatorics. He specifically wrote two notes on Catalan numbers, and one on an elementary derivation, without using the Taylor series, of the expansion of binomial series. This presentation will focus on Rodrigues' 1838 contribution to Catalan numbers. This presentation will put this fascinating man's life in context with the two notes that he wrote about Catalan numbers. A brief history about what lead to the problem that Rodrigues tackled will be included. This will be followed by what Rodrigues pointed out and showed in his notes. This will include a summary of his first observation followed by a summary of a shorter proof' he later wrote of his original observation. (Received August 21, 2019)