Elementary Algebra: Embracing the First Principles of the Science. New York. 1848

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CHARLES DAVIES

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ELEMENTARY

ALGEBRA:

EMBRACING

THE FIRST PRINCIPLES

OF

THE SCIENCE.

BY CHARLES DAVIES, LL.D

AUTHOR OF

ARITHMETIC, ELEMENTARY GEOMETRY, ELEMENTS OF SURVEYING, ELEMENTS OF DESCRIPTIVE AND ANALYTICAL GEOMETRY, ELEMENTS OF DIFFERENTIAL AND INTEGRAL CALCULUS, AND A TREATISE ON SHADES, SHADOWS, AND PERSPECTIVE.

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PREFACE.

ALTHOUGH Algebra naturally follows Arithmetic in a course of scientific studies, yet the change from numbers to a system of reasoning entirely conducted by letters and signs is rather abrupt and not unfrequently discourages the pupil.

In this work it has been the intention to form a connecting link between Arithmetic and Algebra, to unite and blend, as far as possible, the reasoning on numbers with the more abstruse method of analysis.

The Algebra of M. Bourdon has been closely followed. Indeed, it has been a part of the plan, to furnish an introduction to that admirable treatise, which is justly considered, both in Europe and this country, as the best work on the subject of which it treats, that has yet appeared.

This work, however, even in its abridged form, is too voluminous for schools, and the reasoning is too elaborate and metaphysical for beginners.

It has been thought that a work which should so far modify the system of M. Bourdon as to bring it within the scope of our common schools, by giving to it a more practical and tangible form, could not fail to be useful. Such is the object of the ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA.

Having within the past year carefully revised the Algebra of M. Bourdon, and made therein many important changes and alterations, both by the addition of new rules and in the abridgment and simplification of those before given, it became necessary to make corresponding changes in the introductory work. The alterations before made, in the form of an Introduction, the Treatise on Logarithms, and the Supplement containing practical examples, with solutions given in the Key, have all been retained; and the work is now presented to the public in a form which it is hoped will not require alteration.

WEST POINT, *January*, 1845.

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DAVIES' TABLE BOOK.

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DAVIES' DESCRIPTIVE GEOMETRY,—With its application to SPHERICAL PROJECTIONS.

DAVIES' SHADOWS AND LINEAR PERSPECTIVE.

DAVIES' DIFFERENTIAL AND INTEGRAL CALCULUS.

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