

**MATHEMATICAL QUESTIONS
WITH THEIR SOLUTIONS,
FROM THE "EDUCATIONAL
TIMES"; VOL. XLII**

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W. J. C. MILLER

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QUESTIONS AND SOLUTIONS,

FROM THE "EDUCATIONAL TIMES,"

WITH MANY ADDITIONAL

PAPERS AND SOLUTIONS

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AND

AN APPENDIX.

EDITED BY

W. J. C. MILLER, B.A.,

REGISTRAR

OF THE

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CASEY, JOHN, LL.D., F.R.S.; Prof. of Higher Mathematics in the Catholic Univ. of Ireland.
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CAYLEY, A., F.R.S.; Sclerian Professor of Mathematics in the University of Cambridge. Member of the Institute of France, &c.
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EVERETT, J. D., D.C.L.; Professor of Natural Philosophy in Queen's College, Belfast.
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GALE, KATE K.; Worcester Park, Surrey.
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GALLWEY, Rev. I., M.A.; Kirkstead Rectory, Norwich.
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GRIFFITH, W.; Superintendent of Public Schools, New London, Ohio, United States.
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GRIFFITHS, J., M.A.; Fellow of Jesus Coll., Oxon.
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HART, H.; R.M. Academy, Woolwich.
HAUGHTON, Rev. Dr., F.R.S.; Trin. Coll., Dubl.
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HOPKINSON, J. D. S., B.A.; Kensington.
HUDSON, C. T., LL.D.; Manila Hall, Chislow.
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JOHNSON, Prof., M.A.; Annapolis, Maryland.
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 MCCAY, W. S., M.A.; Fellow and Tutor of Trinity College, Dublin.
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 MCCOLL, H., B.A.; 73, Rue St. Jacques, Roulogne.
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 ROBERTS, R. A., M.A.; School of Trin. Coll., Dublin.
 ROBERTS, S., M.A., F.R.S.; Tufnell Park, London.
 ROBERTS, Rev. W., M.A.; Senior Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin.
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 SYLVESTER, J. J., D.C.L., F.R.S.; Professor of Mathematics in the University of Oxford, Member of the Institute of France, &c.
 SYMONS, E. W., M.A.; Fell. St. John's Coll., Oxon.
 TAIT, P. G., M.A.; Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh.
 TAYLOR, Prof. H. W. L., M.A.; S. Wales Unit. Coll.
 TAYLOR, F. A., M.A.; Fell. Trin. Coll., Dub.
 TAYLOR, Rev. C., D.D.; Master of St. John's College, Cambridge.
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 TUCKER, E., M.A.; Mathematical Master in University College School, London.
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 WILLIAMSON, H., M.A.; Fellow and Tutor of Trinity College, Dublin.
 WILSON, J. M., M.A.; Head-master, Clifton Coll.
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 WRIGHT, Dr. S. H., M.A.; Penn Yan, New York.
 WRIGHT, W. E., B.A.; Herne Hill.
 YOUNG, JOHN, B.A.; Academy, Londonderry.

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1192. (The Editor.)—In order to ascertain the heights of two balloons (Q, M), their angles of elevation as set forth hereunder are observed, at the same instant, from three stations (A, B, C) on the horizontal plane, whose distances apart are AB = 553, BC = 791, CA = 399 yards, (Q, A) denoting the elevation of Q at A, &c. :—

$$\begin{array}{l|l} (Q, A) = 84^\circ 10' 10'' & (M, A) = 84^\circ 2' 50'' \\ (Q, B) = 76^\circ 13' 48.6'' & (M, B) = 75^\circ 57' 1'' \\ (Q, C) = 79^\circ 35' 5.5'' & (M, C) = 79^\circ 22' 12'' \end{array}$$

It is also observed that only *one* of the balloons (Q) is vertically over the triangle ABC. Show that the heights of the balloons Q, M are 1874.8, 3339.4, and that their distance apart is 1560.4..... 75

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$$x^2 + 4xy + 6y^2 = 28, \quad x^2 + 4xz + 14z^2 = 60, \quad 3y^2 + 2yz + 7z^2 = 40 \dots (1, 2, 3),$$

are given by $x^2 = (\pm\sqrt{5}-1)(\pm 5\sqrt{2}-6)(\pm\sqrt{10}-2),$

$$y^2 = \frac{1}{2}(\pm\sqrt{5}+1)(\pm 5\sqrt{2}-6)(\pm\sqrt{10}+2),$$

$$z^2 = \frac{1}{2}(\pm\sqrt{5}+1)(\pm 5\sqrt{2}+6)(\pm\sqrt{10}-2). \dots\dots\dots 122$$

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5501. (Professor Ball, LL.D., F.R.S.)—If in an equation x be changed into $k + x^{-1}$, show that any semi-invariant of the transformed will be a covariant in k of the original equation..... 67
5635. (Elizabeth Blackwood.)—Two excursion trains, each m yards in length, may start with equal probability from their respective stations at any time between 2 o'clock and 10 minutes past 2, in directions at right angles to each other, each at a uniform rate v ; find the chances of a collision, each being n yards distant from the point at which their lines cross, and both being ignorant of the risk they are running..... 36
5636. (C. Leudesdorf, M.A.)—A polished uniform straight metal rod is held in a horizontal position with one end fixed at a point A, and is

then allowed to swing under the action of gravity till it reaches a vertical position, when the end A is loosed, and the rod allowed to fall; find the locus traced out by the image of the fixed point A, as seen from any point by reflection at the rod during the motion of the latter. 51

5672. (Col. Clarke, C.B., F.R.S.)—P and Q are two points in a finite line AB. The parts PA, QB are rotated in opposite directions round P and Q respectively, until A and B meet in a point R. Supposing P and Q evenly distributed, determine the law of density of the point R. 45

6118. (Professor Sylvester, F.R.S.)—A plane or solid reticulation, rigid but without weight, is formed by the intersections of equi-distant lines or planes. One of these intersections is fixed, and at a certain number of others of them, which are given, forces may be applied. It is obvious that there are an infinite number of sets of parallel forces each containing an exact number of pound weights, which, acting at the given points of application, will balance about the fixed point.

It is required to prove that out of these a *limited* number may be selected such that by their due repetition and superposition any other balancing set whatever may be formed. In other words, *i* balancing sets of parallel forces P, Q ... W (*i* being some finite number) may be found such that any other balancing set will be made up of m_1 of the first set or its opposite, m_2 of the second set or its opposite, m_i of the *i*th set or its opposite; m_1, m_2, \dots, m_i being positive integers. 61

6215. (Professor Sylvester, F.R.S.)—If E_i denote

$$a_0 \frac{d}{da_1} + i a_1 \frac{d}{da_{1+1}} + \frac{i(i+1)}{1 \cdot 2} a_2 \frac{d}{da_{1+2}} + \&c.,$$

and F_i denote $a_0 \frac{d}{da_1} + (i+1) a_1 \frac{d}{da_{1+1}} + \frac{(i+1)(i+2)}{1 \cdot 2} a_2 \frac{d}{da_{1+2}} + \&c.;$

(1) express $(F_i)^n$ in terms $F_1, F_2, F_3, \&c.$; and (2) I being an invariant of the *i*th order of $(a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)(x, y)^n$, which becomes I' when every suffix is increased by unity, show that $I = \phi I'$, where

$$\phi = \frac{E_1^\lambda \cdot E_2^\mu \cdot E_3^\nu \dots}{\lambda! \mu! \nu! \dots},$$

and $\lambda, \mu, \nu, \dots, r, s, \dots$ are any integers satisfying the equation

$$\lambda r + \mu s + \nu t + \dots = i. \dots\dots\dots 30$$

6251. (The Editor.)—One of the diagonals of a regular quindecagon is drawn at random, and then the process is repeated; show that (1) the probability of the chosen diagonals being such as cross within the perimeter is $\frac{2}{3}$, if the two must be distinct, and $\frac{1}{3}$, if the second may be identical with the first; (2) the like probabilities for a regular $(2n+1)$ -gon are $\frac{1}{2}(2n^2-n)$ divided, in the two cases respectively, by $[(2n+1)(n-1)-1]$ or $[(2n+1)(n-1)]$; and hence (3) the chance of two random chords meeting within a circle is $\frac{2}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$ 23

6418. (Professor Malet, M.A., F.R.S.)—Prove the following extension to surfaces of Chasles' theorem for plane curves:—If to a surface of the class *n* any system of *n* parallel tangent planes be drawn, then the centre of mean position of their points of contact is fixed. 50

6456. (G. Heppel, M.A.)—If the expansion of $\sec x$ be $1 + \frac{m_2}{2!} x^2 + \frac{m_4}{4!} x^4 + \&c.$, and that of $2 \sec^2 x$ be $2 + \frac{r_2}{2!} x^2 + \frac{r_4}{4!} x^4 + \&c.$; prove