

**FIRST LESSONS IN  
ALGEBRA, EMBRACING  
THE ELEMENTS OF THE  
SCIENCE**

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First lessons in algebra, embracing the elements of the science by Charles Davies

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**CHARLES DAVIES**

**FIRST LESSONS IN  
ALGEBRA, EMBRACING  
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SCIENCE**



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FIRST LESSONS

IX

A L G E B R A ,

EMBRACING THE ELEMENTS

OF THE

SCIENCE.

BY CHARLES DAVIES,

AUTHOR OF MENTAL AND PRACTICAL ARITHMETIC, 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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## DAVIES' COURSE OF MATHEMATICS.

**DAVIES' MENTAL AND PRACTICAL ARITHMETIC**—Designed for the use of Academies and Schools. It is the purpose of this work to explain, in a brief and clear manner, the properties of numbers, and the best rules in their various applications.

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## PREFACE.

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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 and disgusts the pupil.

In the FIRST LESSONS 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 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 *FIRST LESSONS*. It is hoped they may advance the cause of education, and prove a useful introduction to a full course of mathematical studies.

HARTFORD, *September, 1838.*



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