

New-Exchange Coffee House  
Sep. 20<sup>th</sup> - Stand -

Sir

I have read your Algebraic Treatise with critical  
nicety, and tho' to do you justice it has some little merit  
yet is beset with defects - To point out a few, I hope,  
will be doing you no injustice. The 4 fundamental Rules  
of arithmetic are rather too pedic of complicated in their  
language to be understood by young beginners, & short few  
I am clear, w<sup>d</sup> be at the trouble of perusing - You have  
omitted to inform Freshmen about arithmetic.

They are certainly very self evident things, but s<sup>d</sup> not  
be omitted, as they tend to awaken the reasoning faculties  
of youth, for the better reception of knowledge, and convince  
them that your superstructure is built on the foundation  
of simple Truth. - As for your Explanation or rather  
introduction of the + & - signs in  $x$ , it is an unintelligible  
heap of confused nonsense. As learn w<sup>d</sup> possibly make  
it out, & if he did he w<sup>d</sup> never be more thoroughly  
convinced that  $-x -$  produced  $+$  or that  $+x -$  produced  
 $-$

As for your Fractions they are concise, but  
have nothing new - The Decimals Evolution of Involution  
are Decently Explained - The  $\sqrt{\quad}$  of  $\sqrt{\quad}$  are good

complex throughout I wd defy the very Devil to  
undertand your meaning - much less wd a youth just  
come from School - If I do not find to morrow  
that your Equations are more clearly Explained, I  
shall begin to be fain, that I have been such a  
damnable fool to have made a purchase of your  
caterpary performance - This morny. I have gone over  
another field of yours, which I found so choaked up  
with byas & thorns, that I cd scarcely tread along -  
I mean your Equations, or if you had rather, your  
Demonstrations - Who wd ever be at the trouble of  
proving over such by - rigmarole Methods of solving  
Equations as you have laid down, when he need  
only look into Ludlam's, where in a few minutes  
he might be as well informed of their different  
solution as the immortal Newton himself -  
The Proofs as far as they go are more fully  
Explained than any I have read, but when has  
ten pages of them fled to a - Whether they have

not been published, or whether they have been  
accidentally torn out since, I cannot say, but  
I think, you ought not to suffer an incorrect book  
to be dispersed ~~about~~ — The Binomial Theorem  
may be understood by the help of some more explanatory  
treatises, but in the manner you have proceeded  
few young minds: wd easily comprehend it —

In short Sir, your treatise upon the whole  
if I may so venture to compare it is like a piece of  
Marble in the Quarry, rough & unburnt; it wants  
a N.º of hands, before it can be brought to that  
smooth polish, which makes it fit for use:  
or perhaps a more apt simile might be  
in Ovid's description of Chaos —

~~Cundi. ind. a. p. t. a. g. i. n. e. l. e. s. d. e. c. i.~~  
which I will refer you to — You have got my  
away, but I wd. sooner have made you proud  
of being the Son than that you sh<sup>d</sup>. have betrayed  
your want of abilities to y<sup>r</sup>. Public, of total residence  
of the fundamental principles of the Mathematics  
I am — ~~Yours~~ — ~~Semper Amicus~~.

H.B. I do not intend publishing these remarks  
for public observation —

Amicus

Mr Manning

Author of a new Algebraic  
Textbook.

Cambridge

