

## P R E F A C E.

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THE following Treatise is respectfully submitted by the author to the teachers of Canada, in the confident belief that it will materially lighten the labor of the instructor, and, at the same time, facilitate the pupil's progress and his thorough comprehension of the principles of the science of algebra. It is the earnest hope of the author that it may meet with the same flattering reception, and very general introduction into the schools of the country, that his fellow-teachers have so kindly accorded to his previous productions.

The order of succession of the different chapters depends of course mainly on their importance and difficulty, and that here adopted is the one that appears preferable to the author; but, as every chapter is nearly independent of the others, the teacher can easily modify the arrangement to suit himself.

The aim of the work is to embrace all that can be profitably discussed in the time usually allotted to a common and grammar school course; and, indeed, this volume will be found to contain at least as much of the subject, as is required to be read for the ordinary degree of B. A. in the British and Canadian Universities. Chapters on continued fractions, logarithmic series, probabilities, and