



The Fundamental Principles of Algebra: Address (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Alexander MacFarlane

Forgotten Books, United States, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Fundamental Principles of Algebra: Address Cotemporaneously with Boole, and living on the same Emerald Isle, another mathematician spent many days reflecting on the fundamental principles of algebra - Sir W. R. Hamilton. His investigation started from the reading of some passages in Kant's critique of the Pure Reason, which appeared to justify the expectation that it should be possible to construct a priori a science of time as well as a science of space. The principal passage is as follows: Time and space are two sources of knowledge from which various a priori synthetical cognitions can be derived. Of this pure mathematics gives a splendid example in the case of our cognitions of space and its various relations. As they are both pure forms of sensuous intuition, they render synthetical propositions a priori possible. Thus, according to Kant, space and time are forms of the intellect and Hamilton reasoned that, as geometry is the science of the former, so algebra must be the science of the latter. He amplifies that view as follows...



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