

physical phenomena and theories as appear in the first half of his work. We must reserve the second half for notice at another time.

The volume should close here, but does not. For there is a note of 225 pages of the most mathematical character by the two Cosserats on the theory of deformable bodies. Even more than their note in the first volume is this wholly out of place, a worse than vermiform appendix. If the substance of these notes were unimportant, we could ignore them; but as they contain material which forms a distinct contribution to theoretical analytic mechanics, we shall try to give our readers an idea of their content at an early date.

From the numerous adverse comments which we have passed upon Chwolson's two volumes it might appear that we were not pleased with them. This is not so. We have found all the fault we could (a great deal of it with the editors' additions) in the hope that in future editions our criticisms might perhaps be productive of improvements. But without any changes the work is a masterpiece, and one that we should be glad to see not only in physical libraries but upon the shelves of our mathematical seminar rooms, to the end that our students of mathematics might readily avail themselves of its interesting and readable and broadening contents.

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ARITHMÉTIQUE GÉNÉRALE.

Je trouve dans le BULLETIN (Mars, 1912) un compte-rendu de mon livre Arithmétique générale.

Je crois nécessaire et de mon droit de rectifier une grave erreur du critique. Mon arithmétique n'est pas du tout un corollaire de la physique. J'ai dit au contraire que la mathématique pure doit être à mon avis une préface de la physique. Cela veut-il dire que la mathématique doive être une science expérimentale? Nullement. Or le critique donne à entendre que ce soit là ma façon de penser. Il dit que je démontre mes théorèmes fondamentaux en me servant de "remarques faites expérimentalement sur la nature des grandeurs" et le lecteur de ce compte-rendu doit s'imaginer