

from the four inflexional lines that meet, *e. g.*, $\overline{AB}$ and $\overline{AC}$, in inflexional points other than *A*.

The nonsingular plane cubic is one of an indefinitely great series of "elliptic normal curves" in spaces of three dimensions, four dimensions, etc., respectively. On each of these there exists a configuration analogous to that of the inflexion-system of the cubic. All such are mere matters of course when the points of the curve are represented by values of an elliptic integral of the first sort. But they are no less easy of discovery by the immediate extension of the foregoing method; and the closed chains of four tetrahedra, five pentahedra, etc. appear to be novel and interesting objects for the geometric imagination. Further, by the application of elliptic parameters to these objects an extensive theory may be evolved, peculiar and not devoid of profit.

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ON THE INTERSECTIONS OF PLANE CURVES.

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LINEA Ordinis (n) occurrere potest aliæ ejusdem Ordinis in punctis n^2 . Proinde duæ Lineæ Ordinis (n) per eadem puncta n^2 transire nonnunquam possunt; adeoque puncta data quorum numerus est $\frac{1}{2}(n^2 + 3n)$ non sufficiunt ad Lineam Ordinis (n) ita determinandam ut unica sit curva quæ per ea data puncta duci possit: Cum vero coefficientes in æquatione generali ad Lineam Ordinis (n) sint $\frac{1}{2}(n^2 + 3n)$, patet si plura dentur puncta, Lineam Ordinis (n) per ea forsân duci non posse et Problema reddi posse impossibile. Sic novem puncta non adeo plene determinant Lineam Ordinis tertii ac quinque Lineam Ordinis secundi, decem tamen ad Lineam tertii Ordinis determinandam nimia sunt.

MACLAURIN, *Geometria Organica*, 1720; Sect. V, Lemma III, Corol: II; p. 137.

Ensuite je ferai voir le défaut, qui se trouve dans ces conséquences, qui consiste dans une fort subtile précipitation du raisonnement, laquelle n'étant pas si facile à découvrir, nous doit rendre extrêmement circonspects, principalement dans les autres sciences, afin que nous ne nous laissions pas séduire par de semblables contradictions apparentes. Car,