

THE DAVIS CALCULUS.

THE attack on our Calculus in the June BULLETIN perhaps calls for a word of protest. It is some consolation to know that the book has attractive elements, even though it is not stated what they are. Pleasant also is it that the reviewer recognizes that we did try to introduce interest into the subject. To get the student interested is certainly an important matter; and it is our belief that a text can and should help a teacher in doing so. The exciting of interest, however, is but a means to an end, that end being the stimulation of accurate thought on the many and varied applications of the calculus.

Mayhap the reviews of the book in the *American Mathematical Monthly*, in the *Bulletin* of the Society for Promoting Engineering Education, and in *Science* were far too favorable; yet, taken altogether, they would seem to indicate that we had been reasonably successful in carrying out our ideas. Still more satisfactory is it to know that of the seventy-odd institutions who will use the book for the coming year, a majority have already used it for three years.

Might we indeed possibly suggest that a review, to be valuable, should be accurate and judicial, not marred by exaggeration, by guesses as to how the book was written and what its reception will be, or by remarks on visionary ideals that have nothing to do with the use of the book?

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NOTES.

THE July number (volume 16, number 3) of the *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* contains the following papers: "Sur les fonctionnelles bilinéaires," by M. FRÉCHET; "Oriented circles in space," by D. F. BARROW; "A new isosceles triangle solution of the three body problem," by D. BUCHANAN; "Surfaces Ω and their transformations," by L. P. EISENHART; "The general theory of congruences," by E. J. WILCZYNSKI; "On matrices whose coefficients are functions of a single variable," by J. H. M. WEDDERBURN; "Conformal classification of analytic arcs or elements: Poincaré's local problem of conformal geometry," by E. KASNER; "Extensions of Descartes' rule of signs connected with a problem suggested by Laguerre," by D. R. CURTISS; "On parastrophic algebras," by J. B. SHAW.