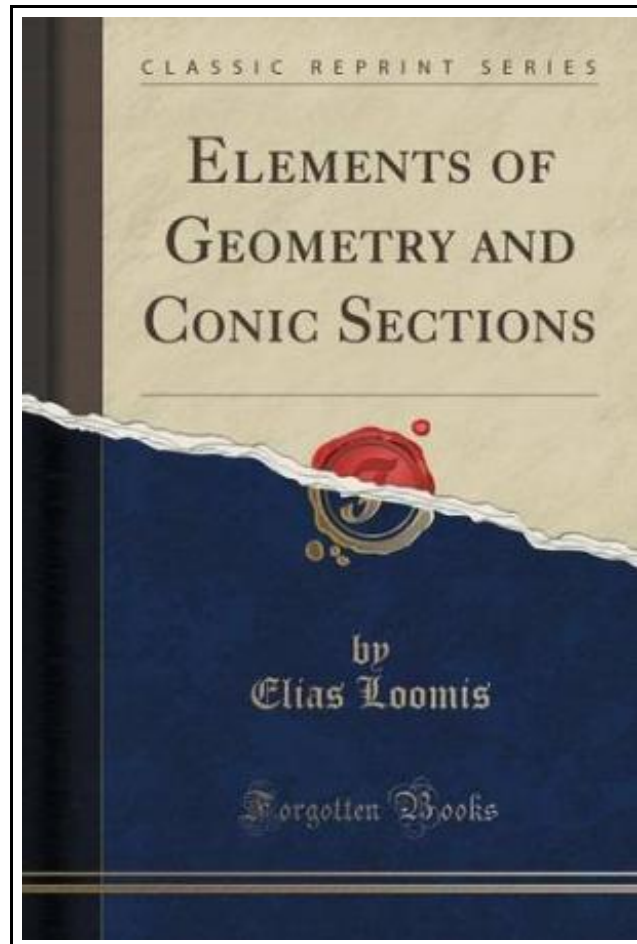


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Elements of Geometry and Conic Sections In the following treatise, an attempt has been made to combine the peculiar excellencies of Euclid and Legendre. The Elements of Euclid have long been celebrated as furnishing the most finished specimens of logic; and on this account they still retain their place in many seminaries of education, notwithstanding the advances which science has made in modern times. But the deficiencies of Euclid, particularly in Solid Geometry, are now so palpable, that few institutions are content with a simple translation from the original Greek. The edition of Euclid chiefly used in this country, is that of Professor Playfair, who has sought, by additions and supplements, to accommodate the Elements of Euclid to the present state of the mathematical sciences. But, even with these additions, the work is incomplete on Solids, and is very deficient on Spherical Geometry. Moreover, the additions are often incongruous with the original text; so that most of those who adhere to the use of Playfair's Euclid, will admit that something is still wanting to a perfect treatise. At most of our colleges, the work of Euclid has been superseded by that of Legendre. It seems superfluous to undertake a defense of Legendre's Geometry, when its merits are so generally appreciated. No one can doubt that, in respect of comprehensiveness and scientific arrangement, it is a great improvement upon the Elements of Euclid. Nevertheless, it should ever be borne in mind that, with most students in our colleges, the ultimate object is not to make profound mathematicians, but to make good reasoners on ordinary subjects. In order to secure this advantage, the learner should...



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