

[108r]

Ockham
Sunday. 6th July

Dear M^r De Morgan. It is perhaps unfair of me to write again with a batch of observations & enquiries, before you have had time to reply to the previous one. But I am so anxious to get the present matters off my mind, that I cannot resist dispatching them by this post. —

I have two series of observations to send, one relating to the passage from page 107, (line 8 from the bottom), to the last line of page 108; the other to certain former passages in pages 99, 100 & 103, concerning which some questions have suddenly occurred to me quite recently.

I shall begin with pages 107 & 108: I enclose you my development & explanation of $\int \frac{x^n dx}{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}}$ up to $\int \frac{x^n dx}{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}} = -x^{n-1}\sqrt{a^2-x^2} + (n-1)a^2 \int \frac{x^{n-2} dx}{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}} - (n-1) \int \frac{x^n dx}{\sqrt{a^2-x^2}}$ from which you will judge if I understand it so far. I should tell you that I have not yet begun page 109.

I will now ask two or three questions : 1^{stly}: page 107, [108v] (line 3 from the bottom): “the diff. co of $a^2 - x^2$ being $(-2x dx)$ &c”. This surely is incorrect ; & you will see that in my development I have written it as I fancy it should be “being = $(-2x)$, &c”

2^{ndly}: page 108, (lines 8, 9, 10 form the top) : “By $\int U dV$ “we mean p. 102, where “the values of ΔV in the several terms are different, but comminuent.” I do not see that this is a case of page 102 rather than of page 100 ; in other words, that the increments in this Integration are “unequal but comminuent”. —

3^{dly}: the subtraction in line 15 from the top, of $(n-1)x^{n-2} \times dx$ for $d.(-x^{n-1})$ appears to me quite inconsistent with the inseparable indivisible nature of a diff. co. —

4^{thly}: Lines 9, 10 from the bottom, “We have therefore “&c that of $\sqrt{a^2-x^2}x^{n-2}dx$ ”. Admitted, most fully. But $\int \sqrt{a^2-x^2}x^{n-2}dx$ does not answer exactly to $\int v dx$ or $\int \sqrt{v} d2u$, and

therefore it appears to me that this Integration is not strictly an example of lines 5, 6, 7 (from the bottom) of page 107. You will remember that $-x^{n-1}$ was $= 2V$, therefore the x^{n-2} of $(\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}x^{n-2})$ is equal to $(-1) \times \frac{2V}{x}$ or $\frac{-1}{x}.2V$. So that another factor $\frac{-1}{x}$ enters into the [109r] expression which was, as I understand it, to answer strictly to $\int vdu$ or $\int \sqrt{vd}2u$

5^{thly} (line 5 from the bottom) page 108: I think there

is an Erratum. Surely $\int \left(\frac{a^2 x^{n-2}}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} - \frac{x^n dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} \right)$

ought to be $\int \left(\frac{a^2 x^{n-2} dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} - \frac{x^n dx}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}} \right)$

I don't know if my pencil Sheet enclosed will be very intelligible, for it is as I wrote it down at the time quite roughly, & without any very great amplitude or method. ___

I now proceed to my series of observations relating to former pages, beginning with page 102, (line 10 from the bottom)

“+ less than $nC\frac{\Omega^2}{2}$, or $Ch\frac{\Omega}{2}$ ”;

now in order to [‘effect’ inserted] the substitution of $Ch\frac{\Omega}{2}$ for $nC\frac{\Omega^2}{2}$ the latter is resolved into $C.n\Omega.\frac{\Omega}{2}$, & [‘for’ inserted] $n\Omega$ is substituted h . But by the hypothesis & conditions, h must be less than $n\Omega$. Therefore it does not necessarily follow that that which is proved less than $nC\frac{\Omega^2}{2}$, is also less than $Ch\frac{\Omega}{2}$. _ You see my objection. ___

2^{ndly}. See Note to page 102 : If the “completion of the [‘first’ inserted] Series” [109v] in this page is unnecessary, surely it is equally unnecessary in the first Series of page 100 ; for the same observation applies to the latter as to the former, viz : that the additional term is comminuent with w . ___

3^{dly}. See page 99 (line 8 from the bottom) :

$$“\int_a^x \varphi x . dx = (x - a)a + \frac{(x-a)^2}{2} = \frac{x^2 - a^2}{2}”$$

This is another form of $\int_a^{a+h} x dx = ha + \frac{h^2}{2}$ 8 lines above, & of the limit of the summation for $\varphi x = x$ in the previous page. And therefore it appears to me that it ought to be

$$\int_a^x x . dx = (x - a)a + \frac{(x-a)^2}{2} = \frac{x^2 - a^2}{2}$$

I do not see what business φx has. ___

Now at last, I have done troubling you. ___
I am very anxious on all these points. ____
With many apologies, believe me
Yours very truly
A. A. Lovelace