

Consequently, the quotient will be  $4 + \sqrt{2}$ . The truth of this may be proved, as before, by multiplication; thus,

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 + \sqrt{2} \\ 3 - 2\sqrt{2} \\ \hline 12 + 3\sqrt{2} \\ - 8\sqrt{2} - 4 \\ \hline 12 - 5\sqrt{2} - 4 = 8 - 5\sqrt{2}. \end{array}$$

331. In the same manner, we may transform irrational fractions into others, that have rational denominators. If we have, for example, the fraction  $\frac{1}{5 - 2\sqrt{6}}$ , and multiply its numerator and denominator by  $5 + 2\sqrt{6}$ , we transform it into this,  $\frac{5 + 2\sqrt{6}}{1} = 5 + 2\sqrt{6}$ ; in like manner, the fraction

$$\frac{2}{-1 + \sqrt{-3}} \text{ assumes this form, } \frac{2 + 2\sqrt{-3}}{-4} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{-3}}{-2};$$

$$\text{also } \frac{\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{5}} = \frac{11 + 2\sqrt{30}}{1} = 11 + 2\sqrt{30}.$$

332. When the denominator contains several terms, we may, in the same manner, make the radical signs in it vanish one by one. Thus, if the fraction  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{10} - \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3}}$  be proposed, we first multiply these two terms by  $\sqrt{10} + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$ , and obtain the fraction  $\frac{\sqrt{10} + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}}{5 - 2\sqrt{6}}$ ; then multiplying its numerator and denominator by  $5 + 2\sqrt{6}$ , we have  $5\sqrt{10} + 11\sqrt{2} + 9\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{60}$ .

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### CHAP. IX.

#### *Of Cubes, and of the Extraction of Cube Roots.*

333. To find the cube of  $a + b$ , we have only to multiply its square,  $a^2 + 2ab + b^2$ , again by  $a + b$ , thus;

$$\begin{array}{r} a^2 + 2ab + b^2 \\ a + b \\ \hline a^3 + 2a^2b + ab^2 \\ a^2b + 2ab^2 + b^3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

and the cube will be  $a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$ .

We see therefore that it contains the cubes of the two parts of the root, and, beside that,  $3a^2b + 3ab^2$ ; which quantity is equal to  $(3ab) \times (a + b)$ ; that is, the triple product of the two parts,  $a$  and  $b$ , multiplied by their sum.

334. So that whenever a root is composed of two terms, it is easy to find its cube by this rule: for example, the number  $5 = 3 + 2$ ; its cube is therefore  $27 + 8 + (18 \times 5) = 125$ .

And if  $7 + 3 = 10$  be the root; then the cube will be  $343 + 27 + (63 \times 10) = 1000$ .

To find the cube of  $36$ , let us suppose the root  $36 = 30 + 6$ , and we have for the cube required,  $27000 + 216 + (540 \times 36) = 46656$ .

335. But if, on the other hand, the cube be given, namely,  $a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$ , and it be required to find its root, we must premise the following remarks:

First, when the cube is arranged according to the powers of one letter, we easily know by the leading term  $a^3$ , the first term  $a$  of the root, since the cube of it is  $a^3$ ; if, therefore, we subtract that cube from the cube proposed, we obtain the remainder,  $3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$ , which must furnish the second term of the root.

336. But as we already know, from Art. 333, that the second term is  $+b$ , we have principally to discover how it may be derived from the above remainder. Now, that remainder may be expressed by two factors, thus,  $(3a^2 + 3ab + b^2) \times (b)$ ; if, therefore, we divide by  $3a^2 + 3ab + b^2$ , we obtain the second part of the root  $+b$ , which is required.

337. But as this second term is supposed to be unknown, the divisor also is unknown; nevertheless we have the first term of that divisor, which is sufficient: for it is  $3a^2$ , that is, thrice the square of the first term already found; and by means of this, it is not difficult to find also the other part,  $b$ , and then to complete the divisor before we perform the division; for this purpose, it will be necessary to join to  $3a^2$  thrice the product of the two terms, or  $3ab$ , and  $b^2$ , or the square of the second term of the root.

338. Let us apply what we have said to two examples of other given cubes.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 a^3 + 12a^2 + 48a + 64 \quad (a + 4 \\
 a^3 \\
 \hline
 3a^2 + 12a + 16) \quad 12a^2 + 48a + 64 \\
 \phantom{3a^2 + 12a + 16)} \quad 12a^2 + 48a + 64 \\
 \hline
 0.
 \end{array}$$

