

Chapter II: Explanation of the Signs + Plus and - Minus

• In Algebra, in order to generalise numbers, we represent them by letters as a, b, c, d , etc. Thus, the expression $a+b$, signifies the sum of two numbers which we express by a and b , and these numbers may be either very great or very small.

• In the same manner, $f+m+b+x$, signifies the sum of the numbers represented by these four letters. If we know, therefore, the numbers that are