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During the nineteenth century, we see early examples of both abstract and axiomatic approaches to algebra in the works of several British mathematicians, most notably Augustus De Morgan. We also see criticisms of the associated methods. In the early decades of the twentieth century, similar ideas took a prominent place in the American mathematical community, though apparently largely independently of the prior British work. In this talk, I will look at the similarities that are present in the algebraic works of these two communities, and compare the points upon which each was criticised. (Received September 05, 2017)