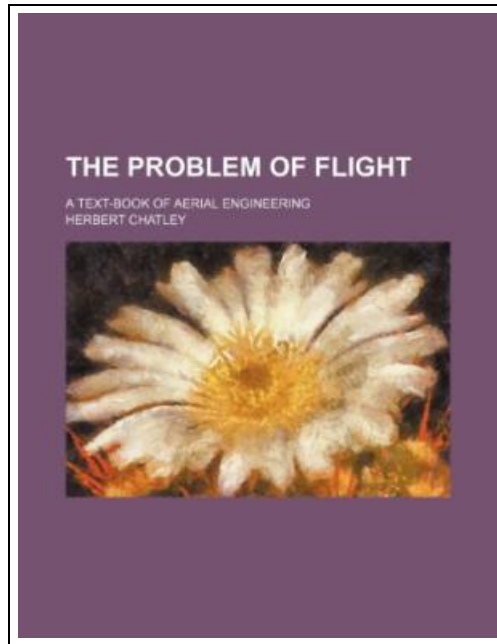


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Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1907 Excerpt: .are so tilted that there is a minimum resistance in the direction of the resultant momentum (i.e. compounded of the vertical and forward thrust). We thus find that the flight of a bird or insect consists of two component actions on the down-stroke and two on the up-stroke. (1) Downward thrust, from which is obtained the ascensional force. (2) Forward thrust, which is combined with (1), so obtaining the aeroplane effect. (1) and (2) together constitute the down-stroke which provides the lift. (3) Eotation of wing from an inclined plane into a nearly horizontal plane. (4) Upward movement of limb. (3) and (4) together form the up-stroke, which, by drawing against the air current of the down-stroke, gives forward propulsion. In the case of a bird s flight on the up-stroke, the feathers are thought to be partially separated, so that, if there is any part of the wing traversed by the air, the resistance will be as small as possible. On the question of balancing, the bird well illustrates the principle I have repeatedly referred to of the coincidence of the centroid with the axis of the thrusts. A flying bird extends its neck forwards and spreads the tail so that the whole body is balanced about a point midway between the wings. The wings are readily adjustable, so that the turning effect of the air-thrust in one balances that from the other, and horizontal equilibrium is also maintained by moving the tail feathers. There...

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