

**ELEMENTS OF DYNAMIC; AN
INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY
OF MOTION AND REST IN SOLID
AND FLUID BODIES; PART I:
KINEMATIK**

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W. K. CLIFFORD

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ELEMENTS OF DYNAMIC //

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF

MOTION AND REST

IN SOLID AND FLUID BODIES

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CONTENTS.

BOOK I. TRANSLATIONS.

CHAPTER I. STEPS.

	PAGE
Introduction	1
On Steps	3
Composition of Steps. Geometry	4
Composition of Steps. Algebra	7
Resolution and Description of Steps	11
Representation of Motion	14
Uniform Motion	15
Uniform Rectilinear Motion	16
Uniform Circular Motion	18
Harmonic Motion	20
On Projection	24
Properties of the Ellipse	27
Elliptic Harmonic Motion	31
Compound Harmonic Motion	33
Parabolic Motion	38

CHAPTER II. VELOCITIES.

The Direction of Motion. (Tangents.)	41
Exact Definition of Tangent	44
Velocity. Uniform	47
Velocity. Variable	51
Exact Definition of Velocity	53
Composition of Velocities	59
Fluxions	62
Derived Functions	64
Hodograph. Acceleration	67
The Inverse Method	68

	PAGE
Curvature	73
Tangential and Normal Acceleration	77
Logarithmic Motion	78
On Series	81
Exponential Series	83
The Logarithmic Spiral	85
Quasi-Harmonic Motion in a Hyperbola	89

CHAPTER III. CENTRAL ORBITS.

The Theorem of Moments	92
Product of two Vectors	94
Moment of Velocity of a Moving Point	96
Related Curves	100
Acceleration Inversely as Square of Distance	105
Elliptic Motion	107
Lambert's Theorem	108
General Theorems. The Squared Velocity	110
General Theorems. The Critical Orbit	113
Equation between u and θ	116

BOOK II. ROTATIONS.

CHAPTER I.

Steps of a Rigid Body	118
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CHAPTER II. VELOCITY-SYSTEMS.

Spins	122
Composition of Spins	123
Velocity-Systems. Twists	125
Composition of Twists	126
Moments	132
Instantaneous motion of a Rigid Body	136
Curvature of Roulette	140
Instantaneous Axis	141
Degree of Freedom	143
Involute and Evolute	144

CHAPTER III. SPECIAL PROBLEMS.

	PAGE
Three-Bar Motion	146
Circular Roulettes	151
Double Generation of Cycloidal Curves	152
Case of Radii as 1 : 2	153
Envelop of Carried Roulette	155

BOOK III. STRAINS.

CHAPTER I. STRAIN-STEPS.

Strain in Straight Line	158
Homogeneous Strain in Plane	159
Representation of Pure Strain by Ellipse	160
Representation of the Displacement	161
Linear Function of a Vector	162
Properties of a Pure Function	164
Shear	167
Composition of Strains	168
Representation of Strains by Vectors	170
General Strain of Solid. Properties of the Ellipsoid	172
Representation of Pure Strain by Ellipsoid	176
Properties of Hyperboloid	177
Displacement Quadric	181
Linear Function of a Vector	185
Varying Strain	186

CHAPTER II. STRAIN-VELOCITIES.

Homogeneous Strain-Flux	191
Circulation	194
Strain-Flux not Homogeneous	197
Lines of Flow and Vortex-Lines	199
Circulation in Non-Homogeneous Strain-Flux	200

	PAGE
Irrotational Motion	203
Equipotential Surfaces	204
Motion partly Irrotational	205
Expansion	207
Case of No Expansion	210
Squirts	212
Whirls	214
Vortices	216
Velocity in Terms of Expansion and Spin	219

BOOK I. TRANSLATIONS.

CHAPTER I. STEPS.

INTRODUCTION.

JUST as Geometry teaches us about the *sizes* and *shapes* and *distances* of bodies, and about the relations which hold good between them, so Dynamic teaches us about the changes which take place in those distances, sizes, and shapes (which changes are called *motions*), the relations which hold good between different motions, and the circumstances under which motions take place.

Motions are generally very complicated. To fix the ideas, consider the case of a man sitting in one corner of a railway carriage, who gets up and moves to the opposite corner. He has gone from one place to another; he has turned round; he has continually changed in shape, and many of his muscles have changed in size during the process.

To avoid this complication we deal with the simplest motions first, and gradually go on to consider the more complex ones. In the first place we postpone the consideration of changes in size and shape by treating only of those motions in which there are no such changes. A body which does not change its size or shape during the time considered is called a *rigid* body.

The motion of rigid bodies is of two kinds; change of place, or *translation*, and change of direction or aspect, which is called *rotation*. In a motion of pure *translation*, every straight line in the body remains parallel to its original position; for if it did not, it would turn round,