

CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

THE EQUATION OF WAVE MOTION

	PAGE
Introductory	1
General Form of Progressive Waves	1
Harmonic Waves	2
Plane Waves	4
The Equation of Wave Motion	5
Principle of Superposition	5
Special Types of Solution	6
List of Solutions	13
Equation of Telegraphy	15
Exponential Form of Harmonic Waves	16
A Solved Example	17
Examples	19

CHAPTER II

WAVES ON STRINGS

The Differential Equation	21
Kinetic and Potential Energies	23
Inclusion of Initial Conditions	25
Reflection at a Change of Density	25
Reflection at a Concentrated Load	28
Alternative Solutions	29
Strings of Finite Length, Normal Modes	30
String Plucked at its Mid-point	31
The Energies of the Normal Modes	33
Normal Co-ordinates	36
String with Load at its Mid-point	37
Damped Vibrations	39
Method of Reduction to a Steady Wave	40
Examples	41

CONTENTS

CHAPTER III

WAVES IN MEMBRANES

	PAGE
The Differential Equation	43
Solution for a Rectangular Membrane	44
Normal Co-ordinates for Rectangular Membrane	47
Circular Membrane	48
Examples	50

CHAPTER IV

LONGITUDINAL WAVES IN BARS AND SPRINGS

Differential Equation for Waves along a Bar	51
Free Vibrations of a Finite Bar	53
Vibrations of a Clamped Bar	53
Normal Co-ordinates	53
Case of a Bar in a state of Tension	54
Vibrations of a Loaded Spring	55
Examples	59

CHAPTER V

WAVES IN LIQUIDS

Summary of Hydrodynamical Formulæ	60
Tidal Waves and Surface Waves	62
Tidal Waves, General Conditions	63
Tidal Waves in a Straight Channel	64
Tidal Waves on Lakes and Tanks	67
Tidal Waves on Rectangular and Circular Tanks	70
Paths of the Particles	70
Method of Reduction to a Steady Wave	71
Surface Waves, the Velocity Potential	72
Surface Waves on a Long Rectangular Tank	74
Surface Waves in Two Dimensions	75
Paths of the Particles	77
The Kinetic and Potential Energies	78

CONTENTS

xi

	PAGE
Rate of Transmission of Energy	79
Inclusion of Surface Tension, General Formulæ	81
Capillary Waves in One Dimension	83
Examples	84

CHAPTER VI

SOUND WAVES

Relation between Pressure and Density	87
Differential Equation in Terms of Condensation	87
Boundary Conditions	90
Solutions for a Pipe of Finite Length	90
Normal Modes in a Tube with Movable Boundary	91
The Velocity Potential, General Formulæ	93
The Differential Equation of Wave Motion	93
Stationary Waves in a Tube of Finite Length	95
Spherical Symmetry	95
The Kinetic and Potential Energies	96
Progressive Waves in a Tube of Varying Section	97
Examples	100

CHAPTER VII

ELECTRIC WAVES

Maxwell's Equations	102
Non-conducting Media, the Equation of Wave Motion	105
Electric and Magnetic Potentials	106
Plane Polarised Waves in a Dielectric Medium	109
Rate of Transmission of Energy in Plane Waves	111
Reflection and Refraction of Light Waves	113
Internal Reflection	118
Partially Conducting Media, Plane Waves	119
Reflection from a Metal	122
Radiation Pressure	124
Skin Effect	125
Examples	125

CHAPTER VIII

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

	PAGE
Doppler Effect	128
Beats	130
Amplitude Modulation	132
Group Velocity.	132
Motion of Wave Packets	135
Kirchhoff's Solution of the Equation of Wave Motion	138
Fresnel's Principle	142
Diffraction at a pin-hole	145
Fraunhofer Diffraction Theory	148
Retarded Potential Theory	151
Examples	153
Index	157