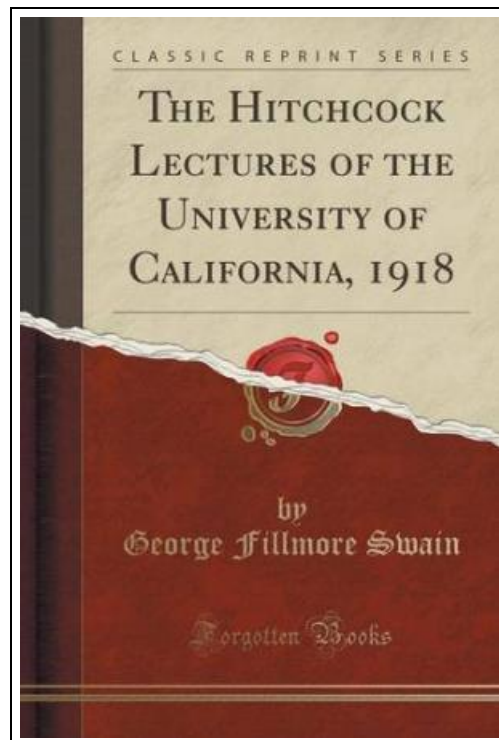


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from The Hitchcock Lectures of the University of California, 1918 While some of the employees appear to have felt uneasy with regard to this buckling, it was apparently considered by those in charge to be insignificant and not a cause for anxiety. On August 28th a conference of the chief engineers and others in authority was held, and it was decided to place the situation before the consulting engineer in New York. A messenger went to New York for this purpose, and the consulting engineer, after conference, telegraphed Phoenixville, where the bridge was being fabricated, and sent his representative there for consultation with the officers of the bridge company. By the time he arrived at Phoenixville the bridge had collapsed. Eighty-five men went down with the bridge, and of these only eleven were saved. No such mass of steel work had ever collapsed in the history of bridge building. Some 17,000 tons of steel formed one tangled mass of debris, extending from the anchor pier over the central pier down into the main current of the river. A study of engineering failures is more enlightening than a study of engineering successes. The lecture discussed the causes of the disaster, and drew the lessons which it taught. The material and workmanship of the bridge was considered to have been excellent. The disaster was not attributed to any flaw in material or defect in manufacture. It was due to the failure of the compression member and the buckling which had been noticed. This compression member had been designed without taking due account of the actual weight of the structure, the stresses in it were allowed to be too...



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