

II -The memoir of Fleeming Jenkin

The memoir of Fleeming Jenkin delves into his instrumental contributions to the field of engineering, particularly in electrical and mechanical engineering, towards the end of his life. Jenkin, renowned for his work, played a pivotal role in the development and realization of an innovative system that commenced practical operations at Glynde, Sussex, four months posthumously. His publication on "Magnetism and Electricity" in 1873 under Longman's elementary series marked a significant shift in the educational approach towards electricity. This book, celebrated for incorporating quantitative methods initiated by the British Association Committee on Electrical Standards, underwent several editions, including translations into Italian and German, emphasizing its widespread recognition.

Jenkin's contributions were not confined to literature. His engineering papers, though few, left an indelible mark for their insight and practicality. Notable among these works was his comprehensive piece on "Bridges" for the "Encyclopaedia Britannica's" ninth edition, which gained further momentum as an independent publication in 1876. Another remarkable paper discussed the application of reciprocal figures in calculating strains in frameworks, presented to the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1869. Perhaps his most groundbreaking work lay in his exploration of graphic methods to assess machinery efficiency, for which he had the honor of receiving the Keith Gold Medal in 1876-78. This piece not only continued the dialogue initiated in "Reulaux's Mechanism" but also enhanced it by integrating Reulaux's theories into a pragmatic framework for machinery evaluation.

In a different vein, Jenkin's endeavors in sanitary reform are also acknowledged, showcasing a versatile portfolio that not only highlighted his technical genius but his commitment to societal well-being. His multifaceted contributions reflect a blend of theoretical innovation and practical application, leaving an enduring legacy in the

engineering domain.



Summaryer