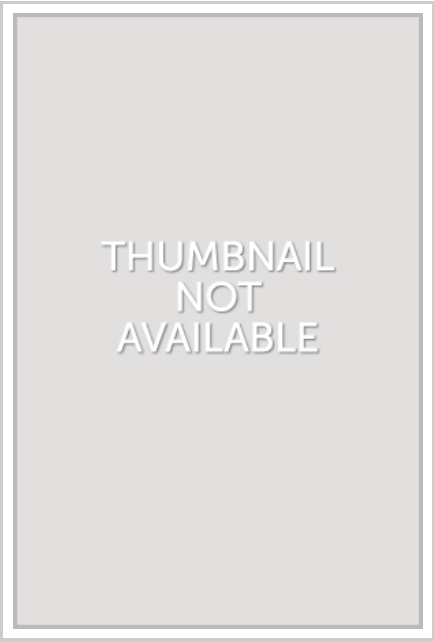


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Choice and Chance: An Elementary Treatise on Permutations, Combinations, and Probability, with 640 Exercise (Paperback)

By William Allen Whitworth

Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.An excerpt from the beginning of CHAPTER I. CHOICE. We have continually to make our choice among different courses of action open to us, and upon the discretion with which we make it, in little matters and in great, depends our prosperity and our happiness. Of this discretion a higher philosophy treats, and it is not to be supposed that Arithmetic has anything to do with it; but it is the province of Arithmetic, under given circumstances, to measure the choice which we have to exercise, or to determine precisely the number of courses open to us. Suppose, for instance, that a member is to be returned to parliament for a certain borough, and that four candidates present themselves. Arithmetic has nothing to do with the manner in which we shall exercise our privilege as a voter, which depends on our discretion in judging the qualifications of the different candidates; but it belongs to Arithmetic, as the science of counting and calculation, to tell us that the number of ways in which (if we vote at all) we...

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