

Jan 28 7

Ja. Means Erg

My dear M^r Means

I have your welcome letter of 26th. You do not seem to have received my letter of 19th, and fearing that it may have miscarried. I send you herewith a copy of it. It is curious that the story which the aviator from Brazil tells should be previously similar to the story told me by Paul. The latter claimed to have soared for miles over the three stops in Kentucky. He was very modest in his money demands, and formed very faithful and industrious in building his machine, but it did not succeed. He still [stands] to his story, and wants to rebuild his machine upon the modified plan which I showed you. The difficulty, in my judgement, is that the head resistance, and the consequent angle of gliding, will be too great to permit the energy [demand] from the wind rising the apparatus higher than its starting point. The bird easily glides 1 in 10, and I have not been able to get an artificial machine to do better than 1 in 6.

Yours very Truly

O. Chanute