

Feb. 12 [189]7

C. F. Marvin Esq

My dear Mr. Marvin

I duly received your kind letter of Jan. 27 and now have that of Feb. 8 enclosing the translation of Obermayer's paper.

I beg heartily to thank you for this, and I have given the paper a first reading with great interest.

I entirely agree with you that Obermayer's assumption that air pressures are as  $\sin\alpha$  or  $\sin\alpha^2$  is not admissible, but that, nevertheless, he has shown that Lilienthal's results are viciated by a probably erroneous assumption of the location of the centre of pressure.

It is very much to be desired that a series of fresh experiments shall be made upon curved surfaces, so that we shall have firm ground to stand on. I am persuaded myself that a phenomenon akin to "aspiration" does exist, and I attribute most of the effect to rarefaction over the convex side.

Yours very Truly

O. Chanute

I have heard nothing from Boston as to the prize essay contest.