

Nov. 10~ 6

Carl F. Myers Esq.

My dear Sir.

I suppose you have seen in the newspapers some accounts of my recent experiments.

I have now two gliding machines, each on a different principle, which will glide downward from 5 to 7 feet for each foot of fall, and which are a good deal steadier and safer than the Lilienthal apparatus. A third machine, the invention of Mr. Paul did not prove a success.

The latter is anxious to continue experimenting, and I am disposed to land him one of my own machines under such safeguards as to preclude accidents. For this I beleive the experiments should be carried on over water, in a Boynton dress, either by leaping from a tower on a barge, or by cutting loose from a balloon, the latter being the preferable plan if it is desired to make the experiments pay their way by conducting them as public exhibitions.

Now, the question with me at present is whether this can be made to pay. In view of the season of the year, the present field of operations would have to be in the south, say lake Ponchertrain, Mobile bay, Pensacola bay, Galveston bay &c. The mode of proceeding would be to hire a steamboat for an excursion, charging 50 cents or \$1.00 to go out into the lake, inflate the balloon, and then go home.

Will you kindly advise me as to what would be the balloon expenses per trip, and whether in your judgment the exhibition would pay. I should not want to be connected with it in any way, as I propose to confine myself to scientific experiment, and to have no commercial complications.

Yours Truly

O. Chanute

P. S. Paul's principal object is to develop circling flight in a wind; he beleiving that he knows how the sailing birds do it.