

February 9, 1894

Mr. L. P. Mouillard

My dear sir,

I received your letter of January 20 and feel greatly relieved to know that your book has reached you. I still have 2500 francs at your disposal to have it printed.

I am glad to note that you have decided to make the first experiments yourself. By the time this letter reaches you, you may have seen Mr. Scott and his friends. When they come back home I intend to ask them to join me to supply you with the necessary funds. I believe your experiments should be made in Egypt or at last in a country where there are soaring birds in order to have the same conditions. It ought to be very simple to build the machine because I advised you to use bamboo instead of aluminum. The latter could be used for the hinges and perhaps, if need be, they could be gotten in France according to your drawings and models. For the rest I think you may find some mechanic in Cairo. Lilienthal's machine is made of wicker which is much heavier than bamboo or agave and yet it only weighs 20 kilogrammes. Do not make too large to start with; I think 15 kg will be sufficient. See what Lilienthal had to say in my article (July and August).

Your article has been published in the *Cosmopolitan* on February 1st. I asked the publisher to send you a dozen copies and I wrote him again so he keeps you in mind. Moreover, I mailed you three copies from here and ask you to let me know if you need more. The publisher cut short certain passages so as to fit the make-up. You also may note that I added the descriptions of the pictures according to your supplementary letter.

The publication of the *Smithsonian* which should contain the translation of "L'Empire de l'Air" has not come out yet. I expect it any day now.

I deplore with you that I could not come and spend the winter in Cairo, for I have just had another loss of 25,000 francs, which should have been more serious if I had been out of the country.

Very sincerely,

O. Chanute