

Brief von Gustav Lilienthal an Octave Chanute

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Berlin, den 5. Mai 1894

Dear Sir:

As my brother, Mr. Otto Lilienthal, does not write English, I kindly ask you to accept my answer to your friendly letter of March 12th. We are pleased to learn that with the purchase of my brother's book «Der Vogelflug» you are ready to study our experiments. Indeed we would like to see them repeated on a larger scale by somebody who has greater resources at his disposal. Our means for the experiments are very limited and we even have less spare time to be devoted to this diversion. Contrary to what has been published in certain foreign papers, we have not received the least assistance from any branch of the government whatever. The Emperor's recent gift to the Aeronautical Society has been used to purchase the balloon «Thoemi» as areplacement of the balloon "Humboldt" which was destroyed by fire.

Our experiments with fixed wings have been discontinued, and flapping wings will be substituted. We started out with the latter type, but had to stop, because shape and equilibrium had not been sufficiently investigated. The latter difficulty has been overcome, so that we now can try flapping wings again.

There is a hard road to be traveled, but we do not follow it without some guidance, although we would be pleased to have more than what our own studies provided.

We shall be very glad to see the publication of your investigations, and we note with great pleasure that you are going to send us a copy.

Very sincerely yours
G.Lilienthal