
FLYING MACHINE ACCIDENT.

A very serious accident has befallen Mr. Percy S. Pilcher, well known in scientific circles by reason of his many successful experiments in artificial flight. During the last few months Mr. Pilcher had on several occasions given satisfactory evidence of the possibility of such flight by rising from the ground and soaring 300 or 400 yards at an altitude of from 20ft. to 50ft. On Saturday a number of persons assembled near Rugby to witness a repetition of his experiments. The weather was most unfavourable, and Mr. Pilcher was strongly dissuaded from making the attempt under such conditions. But after two attempts, which failed owing to the sudden breaking of the line attached to the machine, he succeeded in leaving the ground and attained a considerable altitude. He was preparing to make a gradual descent when one of the stays of the machine gave way and the apparatus collapsed, causing Mr. Pilcher to fall heavily from a height of about 30ft. Both legs were broken, and Mr. Pilcher's condition on Sunday night was extremely critical.

DEATH OF MR. PILCHER.

Mr. Percy S. Pilcher died from his injuries at 2.40 on Monday morning without having recovered consciousness.
