



A PILCHER GLIDER, 1895.

A HISTORY OF  
AVIATION

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Percy S. Pilcher (born 1866), an engineer and lecturer at Glasgow University, was a follower of Lilienthal and like him modelled his gliders more or less on the form of the wings of birds. Pilcher's early experiments were made from a hill on the bank of the Clyde, near Cardross. Subsequently he improved considerably on Lilienthal's apparatus, and in 1895 constructed his fourth and last glider "The Hawk," a notable feature of which was its wheeled undercarriage—a new invention. After making many successful glides, one of which is illustrated, Pilcher was killed during a flight at Stanford Park, near Rugby, in 1899.

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