

Death of Otto Lilienthal.

Herr Lilienthal, an engineer, who for many years was experimenting in the building of flying machines, met with an accident on August 11 that resulted in his death. He started with one of his machines to fly from a hilltop at Rhinow, near Berlin. The apparatus worked all right for a few minutes, and Lilienthal flew quite a distance, when suddenly the machinery of the apparatus got out of order, and man and machine fell to the ground. Lilienthal was so badly injured that he died in the hospital to which he was removed.

Herr Otto Lilienthal was born in Anklam, near the Baltic coast of Pomerania, about forty-seven years ago. He attained considerable celebrity by the invention of his machine, which was modeled on that of a bird's wing, and he was generally known as "the flying man." Herr Lilienthal was an engineer, and established in Berlin a manufactory of small steam engines, where the mechanical appliances furnished him with every facility for the construction of his flying apparatus. He often succeeded in keeping in the air for some time with the aid of his artificial wings, which seemed to be adapted rather for soaring than for flying in the proper sense of the term. His machine was made almost entirely of closely woven muslin, washed with collodion to render it impervious to air, and stretched upon a ribbed frame of split willow, which was found to be the lightest and strongest material for this purpose. During the past two or three years he gave much attention to motive force, and reached the conclusion that the vapor of liquid carbonic acid would be effective.