

Blanchard to Bell.

To A.G. Bell,  
Baddeck, N. S.

Baddeck, N.S., Oct. 24, 1908:-As I promised you, I send you a verbatim extract from that famous book of mine. "Mr. White" is one of the inhabitants of the days of A.D. 1837 and the man using the "first person singular" is the person who is a survivor of A.D. 1899 telling his experiences after he awakes in A.D. 1937:- only 38 years of a jump. That thought of "concurrent inventions" I know of to my own sorrow. I once in Montreal applied to a patent lawyer to patent the glass ball and socket caster. Imagine my surprise when he told me he had patented it for another man within three months past, which was I found, a fact. This is an invention whose principles are as old as the leg joints of an animal body.

I send you a picture of the "Dragon Fly". It would not fly as a kite and develop its basic principle. For its stability, it depends on its speed whereby the impact, or rather projective force comes into play to sustain it in its line of direction. You will note that only a part of the tail vanes incline for steering. The major part remain parallel to line of direction to feather or steady the machine, and I think similar small steadying vanes in same parallel (not inclined) distributed along the shaft line, would be an advantage to act like a keel or centerboard. You know the difference between rowing a smooth bottom dory and a keel boat.

I will send you detail of turbine motor as soon as I can get to it. This letter and the extract is for the Bulletin if you wish.  
(Signed) H. Percy Blanchard.