THE PHILLIPS FLYING MACHINE.

(See Aeronautical Journal July, 1908).

It is interesting to note the experiments of an English inventor, who has, for some years been working on a machine of an entirely different type from these which are now claiming our attention.

Experiments were first made with a model in 1893 by Mr. Phillips. The sustaining surfaces consisted of a series of planes assembled in such a way as to resemble venetian blinds. There are over fifty of these slats, each 22 feet long and 1 1/2 inches wide. They were slightly concave and tilted at about two degrees with the horizontal.

In general dimensions the machine was 25 feet long, breadth, 22 feet, and 11 feet high. The total weight, including lead was 420 lbs.

The machine was mounted on three wheels, the single wheel leading. The propeller which was 6 feet in diameter had an eight feet pitch and developed a thrust of about 75 lbs. the meter power used was steam, the engine developing about 8 H.P., and weighing 200 lbs. Coal was used for fuel; the machine was started on a circular track about four feet wide.

It was governed by a wire running from the machine to the center of the circular track. During one trial the machine supported itself in the air for about 2000 feet flying about four feet above the track.

Mr. Phillips was so encouraged by these experiments that in 1907 he constructed a much larger model.