



Vol. XVI.

OTTAWA, ONT., JUNE, 1914.

No. 9

Entered at the Post Office at Ottawa, Ont., as Second-Class Matter.

Conquest of the Air.

IF it were possible for one to indulge in a prolonged siesta, as did the immortalised Rip Van Winkle of Washington Irving, the awakening of the individual today would be accompanied with greater awe and astonishment than was that of the rustic gentleman referred to above. The changes which took place in his native village during his twenty-year nap are not to be compared with the general transformation which has taken place in the world during the last two decades, due to the astounding results of human activity.

The great progress of industries under every conceivable name, the improving and remodelling of present-day naval armament, under its modified phases, the wonderful inventions in the domain of electricity, more apt means of transportation, the telephone and wireless telegraphy: the above are but a few of the transformations. However, the advancement and progress of the world has always been dependent, to a large extent, upon the means of transportation afforded. Not satisfied with the communication afforded by the development of intricate waterways, and by the construction of railways, man set his brain to work to invent a machine which would conquer the air. The outcome was the aeroplane, which flies through space as gracefully and as swiftly as the denizens of the upper regions.

Although the development of aeroplaning has brought with it numberless dangers and many fatal accidents, still it is not alone; all new endeavors in any sphere of activity in which experience is