

LETTER FROM ORVILLE WRIGHT:

Dayton, Ohio, July 20th,

To Mr. G. H. Curtiss,
Hammondsport, New York.

Dear Mr. Curtiss:

I learn from the Scientific American that your "June Bug" has moveable surfaces at the tips of the wings, adjustable to different angles on the right and left sides for maintaining the lateral balance. In our letter to Lieut. Selfridge of January 18th, replying to his of the 15th, in which he asked for information on the construction of flyers, we referred him to several publications containing descriptions of the structural features of our machines, and to our U.S. Patent #821,393. We did not intend of course, to give permission to use the patented features of our machine for exhibitions, or in a commercial way.

This patent broadly covers the combination of sustaining surfaces to the right and left of the center of a flying machine adjustable to different angles, with vertical surfaces adjustable to correct inequalities in the horizontal resistances of the differently adjusted wings. Claim 14 of our patent #821,393, specifically covers the combination which we are informed you are using. We believe it will be very difficult to develop a successful machine without the use of some of the features covered in this patent.

The commercial part of our business is taking so much of our time that we have not been able to undertake public