

McCurdy to Bell.

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

Hammondsport, N.Y., Dec. 9, 1908:— I am enclosing a short account of our experiments with the "Loon". Although short they may be interesting to incorporate in the Bulletin and supplement the photograph of the experiments, already sent you by Mr. Curtiss. I have sent a copy of the enclosed to Ernest La Rue Jones, Editor of Aeronautics and given him permission to take any facts from the article he wishes, to write up a story in his magazine at his request.

I suppose you have seen the New York Herald an account of the trials of the Silver-Dart here on Sunday. We refrained from sending you telegram of successful flight because they were simply preliminary canterers and of no account in view of what we intend to do. On Sunday we had three starts all of about 200 yards, the machine dropping of her own accord on account of insufficient theoretically speed in advance of the propeller. On Wednesday the 9th, we had an early trial with the change from last trial of open auxiliary ports. It was assumed that this would give increased speed to the engine and that perhaps the few more revolutions obtained would be enough to cause the machine to take the air. Unfortunately, however, before we had gone 150 ft. the machine showed marked lift without my realizing the fact with the result that the machine twisted around to starboard and an accident occurred similar to the one experienced by Casey the latter part of September. We find that we must have a stronger running gear owing to the increased weight