

THE LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM THE WRIGHT  
DISASTER? By Gardiner H. Bell.

We are very grateful to Mr. Cline for the article he has written concerning the Wright disaster at Fort Meyer. Mr. Cline had undoubtedly a position of great advantage from which to view the accident, and he had the good fortune of being the first civilian on the field.

It has been suggested that if we knew just what took place after the breaking of the propeller while the machine was in the air, many valuable lessons might be learned from the accident. Undoubtedly we should gain much if we could know the actions of the machine when the propeller broke; but is this not impossible?

It is very difficult to follow the manoeuvres of a body in mid-air; It may be because the eye has no definite background by which to gauge the direction of a moving object, but however this may be the fact is important and only goes to show the helplessness of deducting practical knowledge from such a case as this.

We are told that there was a report like that of a pistol; the machine lurched forward a few times and came to earth. Following this the utmost confusion reigned. The crowd one and all rushed madly to the scene of the disaster. Somebody called for an ambulance.

It was interesting to know the different views on the subject of what happened, but technically they can be of no importance.

We are asking a man to describe accurately what happened in the space of a few seconds. We are not taking into