

## Foreword

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THIS story, all but the last two chapters, was written in the fall of the year 1900. The flying machine was a mere theory. Wireless telegraphy had just been invented by Marconi, but the idea of "tuning" it, had not been then hit upon. The Automobile was so much a toy in 1900 that its world-wide utilization in the near future had not impressed the public, nor yet its supersedure as a pleasure conveyance again in its turn by the Aeroplane.

So many of the things pictured in 1900 as still to come have, in the short eight years since, been realized; so many social and economic forces have been moving and inclining in the direction anticipated by this Story, the temptation has become irresistible to finish the same as at first intended and publish it.

THE WRITER.