

in the interest of a sport.

France and Germany in particular, are alive to the fact that flying-machines may revolutionize the art of war. The struggle for the supremacy of the air has commenced in earnest. In this struggle the British Empire has a great deal at stake. England's insular security is threatened. The sea is no longer a barrier. Even in the present state of the Art a dirigible balloon like Count von Zeppelin's is a greater menace to London than two German Navies.

An impression seems to exist that a general agreement was made at the Hague Conference that explosives should not be dropped from dirigible balloons and flying-machines. As a matter of fact this proposal was made, but only one first class power agreed to it.

Military authorities agree that flying-machines or dirigible balloons could operate in almost perfect safety at the comparatively low altitude of a mile above the ground and from this height could drop explosives with great accuracy.

If this be the case, London could be destroyed and the combined navies of the world could not prevent it. A military training is hardly necessary to see that our bulwarks must be extended upwards, and our aerial fleet maintained at least upon a two power basis. A great sea-faring people should never be content to see other nations control the sea above us.

However apart from this use in warfare, flying-machines will be of inestimable value for scouting. Major Squier