

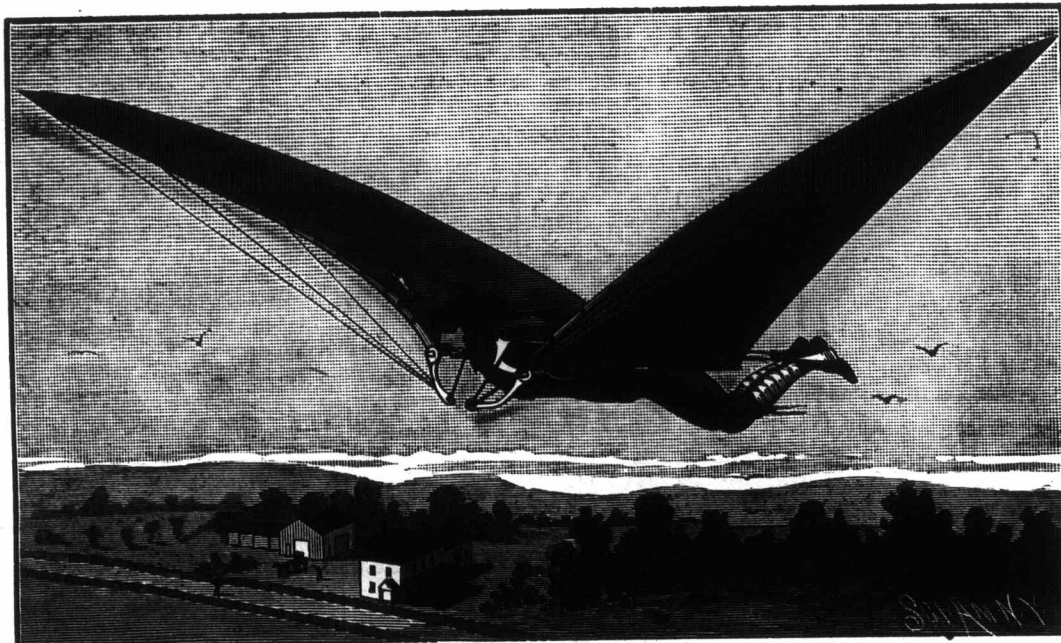
A New Flying Machine.

The easy and graceful flight of birds through the air has for the last hundred years been a problem occupying the acutest minds. Attempts have been made during the same period to imitate the motion of the bird in ethereal space, either by the aid of the application of the balloon or by the use of the muscles of the human body alone. Attempts in this direction, although none have as yet been crowned with success, are praise worthy, and doubtless will in time achieve a fair degree of success. The accompanying engraving represents a flying machine, which is the invention of Dr. H. P. Booth, of Chippewa Falls, Wis. The fundamental principle of this flying machine is in using simultaneously every important muscle of the body for the purpose of elevating the body and propelling it forward through the air.

In harness a man has lifted 3,500 pounds, and this wonderful result is achieved only by allowing every muscle to act simultaneously to its fullest capacity, and under the most advantageous circumstances. This flying machine is merely a harness by which the human body acts to its best advantage, to the end that it may be both lifted and propelled; and if flying by muscular force alone is ever accomplished, it must be by using all the power there is in the human frame. In this machine there are two wings, each of which is from 12 to 15 feet long, and the breadth equal to the length of the operator, from his shoulders to his feet. The frame of the wings consists of three bamboo poles lashed together, and bent to suitable shape, and covered with silk. A cord extends from one extremity to the other of each of these wings (that is, from the heel to the tip,) which serves to give the wing proper shape and tension, being covered by the silk of the wing.

The wings are provided with suitable valves, which open on the upward and close on the downward movement. The frame of the wings forms a right angle in front of the shoulders, and below the breast of the operator, as shown in the engraving; and to these is attached two strong ropes of rawhide. Each of those ropes passes from the wing to which it is attached to the shoulder of the operator, who is supplied with a suitable collar, which supports the frames of the wings loosely, and runs along the back, forming a pair of loops for the feet to pass through. When the body is forcibly straightened, the wings are brought down with all the power of the most powerful muscles of the

body, as shown in the engraving, and this movement is also assisted by the strong muscles of the arms, operating the wings from the under side. Over the shoulders, extending from one wing to the other, is a strong rubber spring, the tendency of which is to lift the wings, thus assisting the arms in the upward movement. If desired, the hands, instead of operating the wings from the under side, may grasp the short lever forming the base of the wing, and thus make use of more powerful muscles of the arm than if the arms are extended. Which of these is best is, of course, a matter to be determined by experiment. Each wing may be operated independently of the other, it being only necessary to operate one foot or the other to give each wing just such a movement as may be desired. A canvas extends from the base of one wing to the other, forming a sort of stretcher, upon which the operator rests. From the lowest point of the base of the wings are several small stay ropes running to different points of the wings, which serve to stiffen and strengthen



BOOTH'S NEW FLYING MACHINE.

them. In this device the body of the operator offers the least possible resistance to the air, he being in precisely the same attitude that a bird is in during flight. The parts of the apparatus are constructed of the lightest as well as the strongest materials.

Fourteen Wonders of the World.

The seven wonders of the world in ancient times, were the pyramids of Egypt, the Pharos of Alexandria, the walls and hanging gardens of Babylon, the temple of Diana, the statue of the Olympus Jupiter, the Mausoleum of Artemisia, and the Colossus of Rhodes.

The seven wonders of the world in modern times, are the printing press, the steam engine, the telegraph, the daguerreotype, the telephone, the phonograph, and the electric light.

The so-called seven wonders of the ancients were merely trifles compared with those of the present time. The Brooklyn bridge, for example, would make the hanging gardens of Babylon a mere toy, while the whole seven wonders put together would sink into insignificance could the builders have seen a lightning express train at full speed.

Puzzled.

Banks, in order to prevent roguery, require that persons who present checks to the tellers shall be known by the tellers, or shall be identified by some person with whom the teller or bank officers are acquainted. The Commercial Advertiser humorously shows how a free-and-easy German met this requirement:

A German citizen approached the window and requested that a check payable to the order of Schweitzerzcase be cashed. "Ja, dot's me," he nodded reassuringly, in answer to the teller's look of inquiry:

"But I don't know that you are Mr. Schweitzerzcase. You must get yourself identified," said the teller.

"How vas dot?" asked the German citizen, with a puzzled look.

"You must get some one to identify you," repeated the bank officer. "I don't know you."

"Ah! ja," cried John, much relieved. "Dot's all right. I don't know you, neither."

A party of young men travelling in Europe had among them a citizen of our great republic who was so thoroughly patriotic that he could see no excellence in anything in the Old World as compared with his own country. Mountains, water falls, lakes, churches, monuments, scenery, and all other objects of interest were inferior to what the United States could show. His companions became somewhat

tired of his overweening boastfulness, and determined to "take him down a peg." The party spent a winter in Rome; and one evening, having all things prepared, they induced their Yankee friend to join a drinking bout, and so managed that they kept sober while he got gloriously drunk. Thereupon they took him up and carried him into the Catacombs, laid him carefully down, with a candle within reach, and retired a short distance out of sight to wait for developments.

After a while their friend roused up, having slept off his first drunken stupor, and, in a state of some astonishment, began endeavoring to locate himself, at the same time muttering: "Well—hic—this's a little strange. Wunner—hic—where I am, anyway."

He got out his match, lighted his candle, and began to study his surroundings. On each side were shelves piled with grinning skulls, and niches filled with skeletons, while all about were piled legs, arms, ribs, and vertebrae—a ghastly array, and altogether new to him