


Robertson to Bell.

To Dr. A.G. Bell,  
Baddeck, N.S.

Mt. Vernon, Indiana, Oct. 18, 1908:- Your favor of 7th inst. in answer to my letter of Sept. 20 has been received. My suggestions on aerial craft were not for gain, but to promote the art of aviation in America; and it would please me to have you submit my plans to the members of the Association for discussion and consideration, as my letter was not intended to be confidential. I have never tried to take out any patents on this idea, and do not intend to.

I should be pleased to give you any further suggestions on the subject, as they may occur to me should you desire. The little model I have constructed (about 24" x 36") would show up the idea much better than the drawings, and I will ship it to you by express if you wish.

The point I stated in my letter of Sept. 20, that the gas bags need not necessarily be large enough to lift the machine depending on the horizontal propeller for a part of the lift, was with the idea of giving it greater speed when going forward and using the aeroplanes. In cases where speed was not desirable additional sections  of balloons could be inserted, so it would have more buoyancy and the bamboo harness frame lengthened. I am of the opinion that aeroplanes may be so perfected in time that they could probably be used as "Scouts" in war, but I think for real military service the aerial craft must be able to move slowly and steadily at times; or hover over any desired spot for a while and then move back to its headquarters rapidly.

(Signed) Geo. W. Robertson.