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A Modern Wonder

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A Modern Wonder

The Spirit of the Modern Wonders, Man's
Thoughts Applied to the Science of
Mankind

"To the ancients, a wonder had to be fashioned with the strong arm; its virtues were chiefly those of size and strength. The modern wonders find their inspiration in the service of human life, and the conception in minds, not in muscles." The seven wonders of the Ancient World were the Pyramids of Egypt, the Pharos of Alexandria, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Temples of Diana at Ephesus, the Statue of Jupiter by Phidias, the Mausoleum of Artemisia and the Colossus of Rhodes. Selected by the Greek Scientist.

By consensus of opinion among scientists of the present age, and as a result of an international poll of scientists, the Seven Wonders of the Modern World today are: Wireless telegraphy, telephone, the aeroplane, radium, antiseptics and antitoxins, spectrum analysis, and the X-ray. It were a far easier task for even the trained men who shared in the selection to name seven more wonders instead of seven. We no longer marvel at the theory that man can operate a "heavier than air craft" thousand of feet above us. Even the rattle of this problems of an airship over our heads has become monotonous, we are not terror stricken at all; we simply look up leisurely and say, "There goes Johnston, Paoli

Brown, Wood, Burnside, Gilpatric, Beachy, Bergdoll or some noted aviator on a pleasure jaunt." The airship is fast becoming almost a necessity instead of a luxury. Bids are already being made for the transportation of mail by way of the aerial route. The various powers are using with some degree of success the aeroplane as a man-of-war craft. Scout duty especially is being effectually done by means of air-ships. In numerous other ways the airship is being used. It is taking place of the horse, yes, and even the automobile is giving way to its recent rival. There is no aerial speed law as given automobiles, and boats. There is an altitude law that a birdman must fly five hundred feet above a city or his license may be revoked.

There are among airships, as among other articles of common use, a number of styles to choose from, the styles and models of aircrafts are as various as the styles of wearing apparel; some resemble hugh butterflies, or giant grasshoppers, while others look like leather winged bats. The problem of flight has been solved to the extent that man can venture out upon the wind in his aerial craft. Undaunted by the former loss of life, he may soar so high as to make the spectators shudder with fear and amazement at the daring risk he takes. It is but natural that boys should take great interest

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in the aeroplane. This interest led Lawerance Hartgrove, now a Junior student at the Armstrong Technical High School, Washington, D. C., to do remarkable experimenting in aero-dynamics. Being greatly influenced by the Wright brothers, who were giving a series of exhibition flights at Atlantic City, N. J., Hartgrove managed, after several days of almost incessant toil, to launch his first model, a miniature aeroplane. This model which was launched from a window of the Strand Hotel did not make a favorable showing to the many assembled. It "flew" like a brick.

But using his former failure as a stepping stone to success, after careful study other models were constructed. Some of these made remarkable flights, while others came to grief by colliding with trees, houses and other obstacles.

However, nineteen-thirteen found the little airship builder enthusiastic and still undaunted by his many failures, and on the campus at Howard University, Hartgrove has launched many a model successfully. By applying the laws of physics, machines have been made whose flights have startled curious spectators with the spiral dips, the figure of eight (8) curves and other antics. And Howard University Campus is referred to frequently as the Aerodrome.

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A Daily Thought

[Schopenhauer]

Thoughts put on paper are nothing more than footsteps in the sand; you see the way the man has gone, but to know what he saw on his walk you want his eyes.