



A.D. 1866, 7th JUNE. N° 1571.

Apparatus for Aërial Navigation.

(This Invention received Provisional Protection only.)

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by Francis Herbert Wenham at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 7th June 1866.

I, FRANCIS HERBERT WENHAM, of Union Road, Clapham, in the County of Surrey, Engineer, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "IMPROVEMENTS IN APPARATUS FOR AERIAL NAVIGATION," to be as follows:—

My Invention relates to a novel arrangement of surfaces placed one above the other, and kept in parallel planes by means of cords, or rods, or webs of woven fabric. Each of these surfaces is made of silk, canvas, or other light material stretched in a frame or by means of wooden rods or ribs of steel. If the length of the surface exceeds the breadth I prefer placing the long edges foremost in the direction of motion. The number of these surfaces may be increased from two upwards according to the amount of weight to be raised or carried. This system of surfaces is arranged above a framework or car, or other suitable structure for containing the motive power. If manual power is employed I prefer placing the body in a horizontal position. The arms or legs work a slide or treadle from which connecting cords convey a reciprocating motion to oars or propellers which are hinged above the back of the person working them. The oars extend out sideways, each consisting of a spar at the end of which is a fabric stretched by ribs resembling the wing of a bat. Several persons may be placed side by side and work the treadles together. If the machine is held against the wind with the planes slightly inclining upwards it will be raised. The treadles are then to be

Wenham's Improvements in Apparatus for Aërial Navigation.

worked in order to continue the motion. If there is no wind a start may be obtained by lowering the legs beneath the machine and running down hill; or the machine may be laid on a carriage running down an incline or drawn forward by some temporary motive force; if a steam engine or other motive power is employed one or more screws or rotary vanes may be applied for propelling the machine.

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