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NEW OBSERVATIONS ON REACTION-PROPELLED MANNED AIRCRAFT CONCEPTS. CA. 1670-1900: PART II (1870-1900)

Abstract

This paper concludes our historical survey of concepts of reaction-propelled manned aircraft from 1670 to 1900 and covers the period from 1870 to 1900. Part I, covering the period 1670 to 1869, was presented in the 64th IAC Congress in Beijing, People's republic of China, as paper IAC-13-E4.2.2. Part II cover the concepts of such pioneers as Russell Thayer, A.V. Evald, Sumter B. Battey, Edmund Pynchon, Thomas Griffiths, William W. McEwen, et. al. As with the previous paper, we will use newly discovered documents and other sources for our findings and will also present an overall conclusion. The paper will therefore help fill gaps on the history of the earliest known concepts of manned, rocket-propelled flying craft.