

# *First Monroe air show didn't get off the ground*

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fortunately the ground was bumpy and full of holes. (On a level field it was reckoned by the *Telephone* that he could take off in 40 feet.)

On Dunn Meadow it took Kearney several hundred feet. He was also distracted by a wire fence ahead . . . Some trees got between him and the sky, and he had to be lifted out of the Jordan River.

Fortunately suffering from only a wrenched back, Kearney was driven back to the Meadow

the next day by Mayor Harris in his motor car. His mechanics were crating up what was left of the plane. They had had to use a gun to persuade souvenir hunters not to carry off pieces of wire and canvas.

Monroe Countians may have been disappointed or amused by

their first sight of a flight, but they were lucky to see a real, live aviator and plane.

As for Kearney, he wasn't so lucky. He drowned on a flight between Los Angeles and San Francisco in December of the following year.

**Perry Township  
Volunteer Fire Department  
Annual**