

## Hydro-aeroplanes on Lake Windermere.

For the last two years Lake Windermere has been the scene of experiments with aero-hydroplanes on the part of two residents in the district. One of these, Mr. E. W. Wakefield, has at last, after numerous attempts, succeeded in rising from the water and alighting on it several times without injury to aeroplane or float. The trials were carried out on the lake on Saturday last in a breeze which increased to 12 knots. Mr. Adams, the well-known aviator, who is flying the machine of behalf of Mr. Wakefield, rose from the water and ascended about 10 ft. and flew for a distance of four miles. He then alighted on the water, turned around without any assistance or stopping the engine, and ascended to a height of 60 ft., flying from Lakende, the bottom end of Windermere Lake, to a point one mile above Storr's Hotel, a distance of six miles. This he did several times until darkness set in and stopped the trials for the day. The aeroplane is of the biplane type fitted with a 50 h.p. Gnome, built by Messrs. A. V. Roe, of Manchester. The floats were built by the local firm of Borwick and Sons, boatbuilders, Windermere, who, we understand, have carried out a lot of experimental work with hydroplanes, having built a 13 ft. hydroplane from the design given in THE MOTOR BOAT some years ago.

Messrs. Borwick and Sons have in their sheds also a very powerful aero-hydroplane fitted with a 50 h.p. Clergèt engine. It is of the monoplane type, and is expected to develop a high turn of speed. The designer and owner, Mr. Gnosselius, of Silverholme, Windermere, had a preliminary trial on Saturday morning, but it is said one of the side balances got immersed too far and, aided by a puff of wind, the machine dived by the nose, turning a complete somersault—Mr. Gnosselius, with great presence of mind, throwing himself clear. We are informed this is the second time he has been thrown in the water. It will probably take a couple of weeks to repair the broken wing and replace the propeller, but a successful series of tests is confidently expected.

Lake Windermere is unquestionably a very suitable site for experiments of this nature, and Messrs. Borwick, we understand, are giving the design of aero-hydroplanes very serious attention.