

FRENCH AVIATOR ARRIVES.

An interesting passenger for Sydney on R.M.S. Orontes, which arrived at Melbourne on Monday, is the French aviator, M. Maurice Guillaux, who intends to give exhibitions of flying during a four months' tour of Australia. He comes to this country with a two years' record of flying feats, which stamps him at once as a daring and successful performer. He flew from Paris to London with a passenger in record time, making only one stop en route, and on another occasion won the Pommery

Cup for the longest distance covered in a day.

M. Guillaux's specialty, of which he will give demonstrations in Australia, is described as "the flutter." He rises to a great height, stops the engine of the machine, and falls, or "flutters," after the style of an injured bird. When disaster sees imminent he resumes—for an aviator—more normal conditions, and continues his flight or descends safely to earth. He claims to have been the first aviator who "looped the loop" with the man outside and the machine inside the curve. This arrangement is obviously more difficult than that usually adopted, for the reason that centrifugal force tends to throw the man off at a tangent, instead of pinning him down to his seat.

No time-table of the tour has as yet been drawn up, but roughly M. Guillaux's intention is to commence at Sydney and to work his way round to Adelaide, giving exhibitions wherever conditions permit.

The machine which M. Guillaux has with him on the Orontes is of the Bleriot monoplane type, fitted with a 50 horse power Gnome motor. Being unable to speak English, M. Guillaux has secured the services, as manager and interpreter, of M.

Maistre, son of a former French vice-consul in Melbourne.