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BECOND-ULASS MAIL MATTER Philadelphia, Saturday, September 1, 1917

AUGURY OF VICTORY

COME pacifists and Philistines have en gadding about the country reading the Constitution out loud and calling on high heaven to witness that liberty is being outraged in its citadels and freedom murdered in its breeding place. ome of these persons learned in the grammar schools that conscription was an unholy thing, with which our forebears would have nothing to do. They have had visions of men being dragged ruthlessly from their beds by squads of soldiers and rushed into armies without the privilege of even kissing their children good-by. Wherefore, and because they are unwilling to make the sacrifices which the possession of liberty entails, they final and complete evidence of the downfall of democracy and the establishment of tyranny

We trust that these malcontents in of parade today and watch the abused citizens who are shortly to be sent to training camps. They will see no slave able to pick out a single man who has the appearance of a conscript. There will be hundreds who are about to leave the ones they love, hundreds who are about cause, hundreds who have no taste for war and never dreamed that they would be plunged into its awful turmoil: but there will not be ten men in all that host, nor even one, who resents the authority that has put him there or doubts the wisdom, legality and rightedusness of the legislation which makes his presence there possible.

The word "conscription" with its cognates is unfortunate. Through centuries of abuse of the draft system of recruiting, the system itself and the very names for it came into disrepute. But the conscription which we have in America to day is democracy in its very essence. No king or ruler has issued an edict for forcible enrollment of the population to serve in the armies. We have no Hessian princeling selling his men's lives and souls at so much per head. What we do have is a system of organizing armies which was insisted on first by the people themselves, who, through the press. brought the full power of public opinion to bear on a numerous legislative body of their own elected representatives which, in its turn, possessing almost plenary powers, yielded to the popular demand and enacted the desired legislation. The draft, therefore, was the voluntary act of one hundred millions of people, acting through their recognized instruments of government. We go further. The draft law could not be enforced and would be as dead as Hector himself if even 40 per cent of the population were opposed to it. What force did the Government possess to enforce s draft? An army of a few thousands which the citizens could have overruled without much exertion. Here was a law which depended for enactment and for enforcement solely on public opinion. Compulsion originated in the people

No man of all the thousands on parade today but feels himself a volunteer, not one who is regarded by his fellow citizens as other than a volunteer. He is, indeed, the finest type of volunteer, for he has nteered not only to fight but to let the Government come and take him when will, where it will, in what service it III, for the common safety and welfare. gives, in fact, a new meaning to the "conscript" and lifts the draft from cabulary of disrepute into the verar of lofty patriotism. In Thebes, related, his enemies sought to dis-Epaminondas by making him the scavenger. But by the time Epaas got through with the job he had d so much honor on the office that ever after conferred honor on held it. The greatest democracy story takes the meanest of tyransents, voluntarily adapts it

themselves, and there only does it rest.

of Philadelphia in the moment of her COMPENSATION, supreme offering. She is used to walking with honor. She has felt the pangr of a nation's birth and paid more than once with blood, drop by drop, for the integrity of her principles and the perpetuation of her ideals. She sends no warriors onward now with grieving. She feels the drive and sting of victory they augur and knows that new, imperishable glory waits for them. They go eventually to join men whose heroism has thrilled the earth and will thrill endless generations of human beings to come. They will stand side by side with men who have sipped the devotion of Thermopylae and by their own actions magnified the glory of that devotion. New standards of heroism have been set. Our representatives will measure up to them. The ages themselves stand waiting for a decision, as they did at Pharsalia, and of the men who will determine that decision many pass in parade today along our streets. What reason has the city to be anything but proud?

THE NAVY IN ACTION

TUST why the American navy escaped ness advocates it is hard to say. Cervelopment of a proper military establishment. But a kindly fate smiled on naval expansion. Since the days of John D. Long we have had a fine, vigorous mod- and soldiers, which are to be set apart in

dignity as a nation. Never has the good fortune which our strikingly demonstrated as now. We may have a certain right of choice in the have time to raise an army, but the call apportionment, one-half of the monthly for a great fleet brooked no delay. Upon the capacity of the United States navy depended the life of the American merchant marine, to protect which was one of our cogent reasons for going to war. After nearly four months of belligerency, Washington announces what amounts substantially to a brilliant victory. Warship convoys and expert naval gunners on merchantmen have so superbly warded off submarine ravages that less than one preach sedition and point to the draft as vessel in two hundred has been a victim of Germany's piracy.

Without our strong naval arm the lanes we seek to keep free for commerce and the transport of the necessities of life to our allies might have been choked great numbers will stand along the line with wreckage. The bare thought of what might have been had our power at sea been as weak at the outset as that

on land is sickening. The moral of our gratifying success warrants repeated emphasis. We can save our shipping now because our navy is large enough to take care of it. But Britain's merchant fleet is far too big for adequate protection even by her huge armada, and the rate at which we are building merchantmen foreshadows a similar American situation. Warned in advance, we must prevent such a crisis from ever coming to pass. The remedy is, of course, unceasing, virtually unlimited expansion of the navy.

The American people have got the need for merchantmen thoroughly into their heads. Naval construction must more than keep pace with the merchant

phasized to the tune of nine complete new locomotives a day.

At the rattle of September's welcome "r" the shells of oysters bountifully burst across the frontier of Autumn.

The slacker who refuses to register "is like an army deserter," declares the Philadelphia Federal Commissioner "Like" is superfluous.

"Emperor Carl Avoided Trieste, says a headline. "Trieste avoids Emperor Carl" looks like the inevitable sequel planned by fast re-won Istria.

If Germany chooses to rejoice that she has lost no merchant ships in many a day, civilization will not want to rob her of an atom of such satisfaction.

Speculation as to what Mark Twain would have thought of the war is stimu. lated by the fact he was Cleveland Motfett's most distinguished kinsman.

Fargo, N. D., has always been regarded as one of the coldest places in the country, and its protests against receiving the People's Council of pacifists now fully confirm that reported frigidity.

Mayor Smith would doubtless welcome some assurance that the forty-twoinch ple which Captain Mueller, of the Broad and Filbert streets field bakery, is making for him is not listed in the department of heavy artillery.

Any report that Rome is to give an ovation to such warriors of the Istrian campaign as are home on leave should be set down as erroneous. In the great days of the empire an ovation officially meant only a "minor triumph." The present victory has nothing to do with diminutives.

The Russian War Ministry's an souncement that the Kaiser wanted to begin Armageddon in 1909 ought uncom fortably to remind that monarch that, if he had had his way, pain from the sting of defeat would be diminishing in 1917 and he would not now have to face the prospect of swallowing that bitter pill of disaster which his foes are preparing for

The British military expert, Lieutenant Colonel Repington, inquires as to what Germany has done since Hindenburg became commander-in-chief a year ago. She has done enough to line up an armed America against tyranny and to cause the Allies, whatever the original intentions of some of them may have been, to subscribe to the noblest principles of democracy and the rights of mankind. We shall repay our debt to Gerby beating her, but when the

NOT PENSIONS

Arguments For and Against New System Heard in Washington

Special Correspondence of the Evening Ledger WASHINGTON, Aug. 31. WHETHER the pension system, which has now been in operation in the United States for half a century is to continu may be determined by the passage of a bill to amend the war risk insurance act. which Congress is now considering upon the recommendation of the Secretary of the Treasury, supported by the President of the United States.

The bill proposes to enlarge the Bureau of War Risk Insurance by adding to it a division of marine and seaman's insurance and a division of military and naval insurance, in charge of a commissioner of marine and seaman's insurance and a commissioner of military and naval insurance respectively, each of whom shall receive salary of \$5000 per annum. It proposes also to appropriate \$141,000,000, to be known as the military and naval family allowance appropriation for the payment of family allowances; \$12,150,000, to be known as the military and naval compensation appropriation, for the payment of the comthe malign influences of unprepared pensation, funeral expenses, services and supplies, and \$23,000,000 to be known as tainly they did their best to prevent de- the military and naval insurance appropria-

Funds are to be created from premium to be collected from the pay of the sailors ern fleet in some degree worthy of our the Treasury of the United States for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the act. In addition to the insurance warship programs have enjoyed been so feature, over which the soldier or sailor pay of the enlisted man 's to be reserved for the benefit of his wife and children or other dependents. The bill is quite lengthy and somewhat involved to the lay mind, although it bears evidence of careful preparation by insurance experts. It was tacked on to the war risk insurance law as a proposed amendment, although that act originally had to do with nothing except the insurance of ships and cargoes going into the war zone.

The fact that the war risk law, orig-

inally carrying \$5,000,000, was amended to admit of a capitalization of \$50,000,000 to permit of the inclusion of insurance upon the lives, limbs and effects of seamen, whether native or foreign, is responsible in measure for the inclusion of the soldiers and sailors' insurance idea in the jurisdiction of the War Risk Bureau.

Working Out the Pension System

Since the introduction of this so-called nsurance measure is attracting the atten-ion of old soldiers, and is necessarily of interest to existing insurance it is worth while quoting Secretary McAdoo as to the real intent and purpose of the bill. Before the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce the Secretary referred policy of the Government with repect to insurance. He said it "almost uniformly" carried its own insurance, such as fire insurance, war risk, etc., and that it ould do this with more satisfaction than it could be done through insurance companies. Then, referring to those features of the bill which are intended to apply a part of the soldiers' pay to the support of their families and to insurance, he said:

"This bill, to my mind, will effectively satisfy the country with respect also to pension claims that would otherwise arise out of this war. It is in lieu of pensions. The pension system would be relegated to what has already transpired in our history. ship program if we are to maintain the proud record of the opening months of strife and make our victory permanent.

strife and make our victory permanent.

strife and make our victory permanent.

strife and indemnity for extra haze compensation and indemnity for extra haze compensation and indemnity for extra haze compensation and indemnity for extra haze compensation. ship program if we are to maintain the proud record of the opening months of strife and make our victory permanent. They have been worked out upon put upon a scientific, actuarial basis in this bill. It is more equitable in its operation, therefore, than any of the existing pension aws would be if applied to the new ion, and it goes further than the pension

At other times, in answer to sympathetic combers of the committee, Mr. McAdoo re-sated his belief that this new law, if nacted, would be "in lieu" of the existing pension system and would run its cour oplicable only to the war in Europe or to subsequent wars as might occur. this the Secretary of the Treasury has been supported by Mr. Gompers, president the American Federation of Labor, wh who takes the ground that insurance and coensation laws are preferable to pension aws, since the latter are too often made he sport of politics. As Miss Lathron chief of the Children's Bureau, has als the Administration in its support

Old Pensioners Protected One lone administrative voice against the

insurance plan came from the cor pensions, and what he had to say was identily the sentiment of many of the Grand Army men before the Preside swung in line for the plan outlined to his ension commissioner defended the exist ing system, which, in the words of Lie is said to "care for him who shall borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan." Nor is it clear to what extent insurance companies and Grand Army influences may exert themselves against the bill.

The proponents of the bill assume not to oppose the insurance companies except to provide lower rates of insurance for men in the military service than the private companies pretend they can stand. It is further contended that the insurance by the Government of so large a body of men not heretofore insured will stimulate all other insurance.

As to the Grand Army men and per sioners under existing laws, they may be appeased by the assurance that existing aw, so far as it relates to them and their dependents, will not be violated by the assage "in lieu" thereof of insurance or compensation laws affecting the new army

and navy. interesting in connection with this new precedent-breaking measure of the Administration to refer briefly to the ex isting pension system. It is now fifty years old and has not generally found favor with the party now in power. From 1866 to 1916, inclusive, it has provided for old soldiers, their widows and dependents to the extent of more than \$5,000,000,000. In 1866 there were more than 126,000 pensioners. The number in creased steadily year by year, taking in Revolutionary soldiers, veterans of 1812, and of other wars, until 4902, when there were 999,446 pensioners upon the payroll From 1902 the number has been decreasing until at the close of 1916 the was slightly in excess of 709,000

The amount of pensions paid in 1916 exceeded \$159,000,000, which was less than any annual pension payment since 1882. There are now no Revolutionary dependents on the pension roll but in 1916, in addition to Civil War and Spanish-Ameri can War pensioners, the Government supporting 115 widows of the War of 812, 513 survivors of the Mexican and 3785 widows of veterans of that war.

In plain language, the bill now under consideration would take away from the soldiers of the European war a pension-able status and put them and their de-pendents under a new classification. They would be insured or compensated—not

Tom Daly's Column

THE VILLAGE POET The Saturday of Saturdays in Philadelphia town!

An' from the rising of the sun until its going down The news of all the universe will center in the street

Whose walls resound with cheering an the tramp of marching feet.

Grandfather in his easy chair will tell us what was done When Lincoln called for volunteers 'way back in '61, An' how the young defenders rose, three

hundred thousand strong, An' regiment on regiment took up the battlesona.

He'll tell us of their martial look the day they marched away. An' yet he never saw the sight that's

warriors he saw To these ten thousand youngsters who are heroes "in the raw":

spread for us today,

A uniform's a blandishment, just that an'

nothing more, An' even guns are commonplace an speak too loud of war,

But where's the sight in all the world such sympathy enlists As carnest, eager fighting men with nothing but their fists? The chevron and the golden lace will win

An' wake the faded memories of grandpa in his chair,

never saw-Ten thousand marching youngsters who

The Saturday of Saturdays in Philadelphia town!

An' from the rising of the sun until its going down.

in the world where the news is rather scarce. Ballygawley, in County Tyrone, is quiet enough, yet the regular correspondent in that town for the Tyrone Courier found all these items there:

Workman's Return-I'm sure all Ballygawley and district will be glad to learn that the able and skilled workman in the person of B. J. M'Crory has started to work at the carpentry as usual. know he is able to take his place at any

Sligo ladies at Ballygawley-Last week 2 high-standing young ladies from Bally-mote, Co. Sligo, in Miss Mary Orr and Miss Madge Doherty, friends of Rev. J. F. Fairbanks and Mr. Watson, pension officer The Grange were subject to a warm reception on arrival here on Friday. A grand garden party was held by Mr. and Mrs. Watson at the Grange, many visitors

caused much attraction from he

ReadeRs that this is the fiRst of SeptembeR and that the woRld is ouR oysteR.

'Flat feet,' said he; 'rejected.' "

If Frank Hill weren't in the insurance business you couldn't believe half the things he tells you. Much familiarity with figures makes for exactitude, of course. Well, anyway, Frank says he was sitting in a Thirteenth street car the other day, when suddenly a man in the seat behind him said, right out loud: "Isn't anybody going to say anything? oh, very well, then I'll break the monotony. Did you hear about the accident at Wayne Junction? No? Man had hat the labor forces have lined up with both feet taken off. Yep! Conductor came through and said: "Gainst the rules. pardner; mustn't put 'em on the seat in front. Keep 'em on the floor.' "

FRUITFUL THOUGHTS When a child, and I saw on the shelf a nice peach,

shelf that was high and far out my reach.

When a youth, and a peach I beheld on a free. If the peach looked as though 'twere in-

tended for me, I'd try for it. When a man, and the peach I espled on the street.

ind it spurned my attention and beat retreat, I'd sigh for it.

But if it should give me a nod or a smile, Then ribbons and laces to reach half a mile,

If ever it gave me its promise to wed, my head,

I'd die for it. and then when I tired and wanted di torce,

A braggart coming back from the Vanderbilt races pulled that old one about going so fast through the farm country the corn and beans looked like succo-Godfrey S. Mahn, who takes noash. Godfrey b. "From my car."

oody's dust, snorted. "From my car."

what were all the uniformed blue

the thoughtless fair But here is noble pathos even Lincoln

are heroes "in the raw."

The news of all the universe will center

in the street Whose walls resound with cheering an the tramp of marching feet.

ON the other hand, there are places

Stylish and fashlonable Wedding-Or Thursday morning the 2nd inst., a stylish and attractive wedding party motored into Ballygawley and put up at Mr. James Irwin's establishment, the Diamond bar. The bride who was a young Belfast beautiful dress. The groom was a popular young Tyrone man from the neighborhood of Beragh. After spending some time at Mr. Irwin's the happy couple took their departure amid loud cheers.

We aRe Requested to Remind ouR

SEZ Jarvis A. Wood, with a Poor Richard Club napkin tucked under his white heard and smiling jovially out upon his companions at table: "A report cames divation. But there is this distinction behis companions at table: "A report comes | i/ization. But there is this distinction beme of a young man in New York who was so keen for exemption from service in the army that he had nearly all his today on the departure of the troops as teeth drawn shortly before he was called for examination. But the surgeon who looked him over began at the bottom.

I'd cry for it.

I'd buy for it. I'd swear on my knees, by my heart and

To make my case good, as a matter of course,

I'd lie for it. Now don't you believe it, I'm only in fun, Just making some rhymes in the way of a pun. I'm high for it.

> P. NUT. TRAFFIC'S ENOUGH

Dollars to doughnuts some cop arrested college professor or some other guy who is in the habit of carrying a dictionary. How else may we account for the new signs posted on Chestnut street by the Police Department: "Closed to vehicular traffic." What's "vehicular" to the average bick?

A NEW SOLDIER'S VIEW OF PARADE

Not Like the Triumphs of Returning Victors-"Our Triumph Is That We Go"

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir-The thousands of young men who march through the city streets today are had absolutely no knowledge of or connecncient triumphs and modern American parades. As much emphasis is placed on their return. But in ancient times it was chiefly the return, the "triumph," that counted.

There is still another distinction about such a parade as today's, expressive of the whole difference between the way America has gone to war and the manner of Europe's plunge into belligerency. There, in fact, there was little chance for dramatic, processional leave-takings. In every country troops were rushed to the frontier, often secretly. It was all a question of grim necessity. But here there has rever been in the last three years any general feeling that our soil was threatened. There was no grim, physical necessity in the sense that Europeans understood these words in August, 1914, when it was a question of fighting at once or or abandoning one's country to the enemy. In brief, Europe's young men had to fight, principle or no principle; but America's, with no spu of immediate danger, choose to fight with

nothing under the sun to goad them on but the sense of the principle of right. Therefore our triumphal precession come: first-before we go-rather than when we teturn. Our triumph is that we go, not

that we shall return with glory. "We seek no material advantage of any kind."

Think of the origin of that word "triumph," and how different its meaning in America today than in the Rome that cried "Io triumphe!" The parade in honor of the general who was granted a "triumphus" would be a sad spectacle to our eyes. Captives walked in chains beside the tri-umphal car of the commander returning from the field of victory. When the proession reached the foot of the Capito the captive chiefs were put to death. It was always the fear or the glory of war that men felt, and the triumph also a hope that there would still be more wars to come. More and still more wars, and never a war for permanent peace until this late day! And it was a ways the goad of fear or the lust for glory that drove men battle until now. Is it any wonder we have so many determined pacifists? For every materialist who does not happen to care for martial glory and who can see that the Germans are too far away to break his precious skin is naturally a pacifist. A ma-terialist carnot understand why men should

want to fight for a principle

It is a marvel to me that there are nany more pacifists, considering the fact that so many of us are materialists. Was there ever such a choice as that which Wilson had to make? He had to put himself into the heart of the average American young man and calculate when the moment should come when that average man should be ready to say, "Now, at last, it is better to risk death than to hug peace." Multiply that average man by two or three million, and then think of the responsibility of saying for another man, "I will give my life." But time has proved tragic choice which was Sir Edward Grey, in commenting on the British Cab-inet's deliberations as to whether or not they should enter the war, said, "We had a terrible four days." But no one member of that Cabinet was supremely responsible. Lincoln was ot alone in casting the die for war: he was elected on a "no-compromise" platform. But Wilson had no mandate from any conmporary. His only guide was the history

decided that no American will fight from he motive of fear or from lust for glory. out only for a principle

ONE WHO WILL GO. Philadelphia, September 1 "JEWISH WORLD" IS LOYAL

DUTY AND YOUTH KEEP STEP TODAY

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-May I ask you kindly to publish in your valuable paper a brief statement as to the truth in the matter of the anti-conscripion circular issued by the Socialist party which was printed in our establishment. In the first place, the Jewish World, as such, outside work, and in course of husiness tha circular found its way into that department purely as an outside job. My attention was not called to it, as the foreman did not think it objectionable, and so the circular printed and delivered in the usual way. Its ontents, when subsequently discovered were as much a surprise to me as they were

to every one of the editorial staff connection permit me also to state that in the present crisis the Jewish World is persistently and consistently JACOB GINSBURG.

President and editor of the Jewish World. Philadelphia, August 29.

A TRADE UNION CANDIDATE

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-Hats off to the Evening Langer! It racing to the front with the speed of a Busy Bertha. It is a mighty tonic. It is satisfactory to the writer in every way but one; that is, it seems to me that the great numbers of trade unionists of this city can't find much publicity relative to their activi

This should not be. Labor unions are a big factor in the make-up of this city. They are daily showing that they are as loyal and as patriotic, as safe and sane, as the est of our citizenship. Labor must go greater representation if we are to solve

ur common problems.
For the first time to my knowledge a trade unionist is making a fight for Com-mon Council. Frank J. Schneider, of the Central Labor Union, is his name. He is out for the office in the Forty-third Ward. is fit for the job. He is honest, he is earnest and intelligent. The general interest is irst. FRANK McKOSKY, first. Secretary of the Central Labor Union.

Philadelphia, August 31.

ARTILLERY OBSERVERS

Artillery observation is one of the most important branches of the service. So indispensable is the airman in connection with dern artillery that a noted authority recently stated that if one side had airr while the other had none the war would be ver in six months.

Pilots and observers work in conjunction with a battery. They arrange beforehand with the general staff just where that battery is to operate. If they are ordered to seek out an enemy battery that may be lodged at the end of a wood or in some concealed position the pilot maneuvers under the instructions of the observer until the battery is spotted, whereupon its position is signaled back by means of a wireless set to the battery commander.

After notifying his battery to open fire the

observer hangs over the position at a height of, say, 6000 feet, to avoid the trajectory of the shells passing beneath his machine, and as the shells burst near the position under fire the observer notifies his short or how far ahead or how mucl either side the shells are falling. The server then orders the pilot to proceed over the next position, and the operation is re-peated. When the work is completed the airmen are ordered to return by means of signals in the form of canvas strips placed

All the while the observer is directing ar tillery fire his machine is being subjected to intense bombardment by anti-aircraft guns which are firing shrapnel shells by the hun-dreds. Flying fragments of shrapnel are all about the airmen—beneath them, all around them and above them. For three hours at times the airmen must endure this intense bombardment, and there is no telling at what moment the tail of the machine o some other vital part may be blown aw or when the machine may be blown away or when the machine may become wrapped in flames. The work is most dangerous and nerve-racking, and most of the pilots stutter after going through this ordeal. Some have been known to be unable to zerow a nut or a bolt, due to naryous allment—folianties.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

 The fine line at the top or bottom of capital letters is described by a certain technical name. What is that name?
 What boat was called "a cheese box on a 3. Who is John Parker and of what State is lie a chizen?
4. What was the Roman name for what we call France?
5. What was the central principle of the teachines of Buddha?

5. What was the central principle of the teachines of Buddha?
6. "Scherzando" is a musical direction. What does it mean?
7. Carlyle described a leader of the French Revolution as "the sea-green incorruptible." Who was the leader?
8. "Scallywag," or "Seallawag," originally was applied to animals rather than to men. What was its original meaning?
9. In what American political campaign was

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. David Hume (1711-1776) was a great English

in thy name!"
c other great Cromwell besides Oliver was
Thomas Cromwell, Henry VIII's chief
agent in effecting the English Reformation. But the King had him beheaded in

tion. But the Kling had num becomes
1540.
4. No South American country has declared
war on Germany.
5. To say "I won't take his dust" means "I
will not let his vehicle pass mine in the
road."
(1) rectangular alips of

will not let his vehicle pass mine in the rond."
"Shingles." means (1) rectangular slips of wood used like roof tile on roofs; (2) small, rounded pebbles lying on a sensiore, and (3) n skin disease.
"Au gratin" means "grated." usually referring to grated cheese or bread crumbs. Recent British Fremiers and the dates when they took office were: Lord Rosebers, 1894; Lord Sathsbury, 1895; Ballour, 1902; Camobell-Bannerman, 1905; Asquith, 1908; Lloyd George, 1914.
Barcelona, 850,000, is the largest city in Spgin.

Spain.

10. The Lick Observatory is on Mount Hamilton, an eminence in the Coast Range, California, about twenty-five miles east of San Jose.

THE YEAR THAT THE CITY WENT "BALLOON-MAD"

THE Fourth of July, 1784, was to have L been signalized by a balloon ascension in these parts, the aeronaut being a Mr. Carnes, of Baltimore, who proposed an ascent from an inclosure in a field near the city. The prices of admission were \$2 and \$2.50. A subscription was started to raise the price of a balloon and all prominent citizens contributed.

Benjamin Franklin was, of course, a prime mover in all such undertakings. In order to stimulate public curiosity a letter from Franklin was published, stating that he had seen in France the balloon in which Professor Charles and the Robert brothers had ascended. Carnes failed to put in an appearance on the Fourth, but on July 17 he attempted the ascent, not from the field as announced, but from the prison yard.

The aerostat was of silk, thirty-five feet in diameter, and was inflated with heated air, the furnace weighing 150 pounds. Carnes attempted the ascent, but when the aerostat had reached a height of ten or twelve feet it struck against the wall which inclosed the yard

and he was thrown out. Thus lightened, the balloon shot up with great rapidity. Thousands of persons had gathered in Potter's Field, now Washington Square, and on the appearance of the balloon floating above them at a great height sent up a tremendous shout. Most of them were much more edified than we were at sight of our first aeroplanes.

But soon a hush fell over the multitude. It was seen that the basket was dangling empty in the air and it was supposed that Carnes had been flung thence from midair. Later it appeared that Carnes got off easy, in being thrown out at the start, with a few bruises. For when the balloon had traveled southward until it seemed no larger than a