

EXPLOITS IN THE AIR.

Jeffries the First to Make Balloon Ascensions for Science.

THE ENGLISH CHANNEL CROSSED.

The Greatest Height Ever Soared by Airship is Seven Miles.

FIRST FATAL ACCIDENT WAS IN 1785

Ballooning at the public expense has received a serious set-back in Boston, as a result of the fatal ascension on the Fourth of July. The city fathers have, one by one, in the privacy of their castles, resolved that they never again will give their consent to any exhibition or any form of rapid transit, especially aerial, that puts human lives in jeopardy, says a writer in the Boston Herald.

Possibly their sensibilities, or those of their successors, if such be chosen, may be less acute next year, when the question of the Fourth of July programme comes up, than they are now, but if not the crowds who gather on the Common in 1893 will strain their eyes in vain for the awfully airy and its venturesome pilot.

As much as the death of the veteran aeronaut and his unfortunate assistant is to be regretted, the accident, in face of its obvious and preventable causes, ought not to be given too great weight in computing the risks of aerial navigation.

Lives Lost in All Other Ventures. A public that has learned to read the disasters that follow in the train of excursion steamers, misplaced switches and the electric motor, and still retains a liberal measure of charity for those who are dealing with the problems of transportation on land and water, ought not to be too censorious now and then a life is lost by those who are experimenting with locomotion in another element.

Aeronautics have had an interest for Bostonians for more than a century. It was a Boston man, Dr. John Jeffries, grandnephew of Dr. B. J. Jeffries, of this city, who, in January, 1785, crossed the English channel in a balloon. This was the first ascent ever made for scientific purposes.

Dr. Jeffries wished to see the following points more clearly determined: First, the power of ascending or descending at pleasure while suspended and floating in the air; second, the effect which airs or winds might be made to produce toward the purpose, and in directing the course of the balloon; third, the state and temperature of the atmosphere at different heights from the earth; fourth, by observing the varying course of the currents of air or winds at certain elevations, to throw some new light on the theory of winds in general.

Dr. Jeffries Makes His Preparations. Dr. Jeffries took with him a thermometer, a barometer, a hydrometer, a pocket electrometer, a mariner's compass and other appliances. The barometer was new, made for the purpose by Jones, of London, and graduated down to 18 inches. The refreshments included wine, one bottle of which was brought to Boston, where Queen Victoria's father helped to drink it under interesting circumstances. At the residence of Kent he was visiting in Boston and attended the wedding of Nancy von Geyer, a celebrated beauty, and Mr. Rufus Greene Armory. The Duke, by virtue of his rank, was first to kiss the bride, and afterward nuptial of the wine his physician, Dr. Jeffries, had sent to honor the occasion. Afterward Dr. Jeffries' son, Dr. John Jeffries, married the daughter of Mr. Armory, the mother of the present Dr. B. J. Jeffries.

It was this Dr. Jeffries whom the Herald reporter found yesterday at No. 15 Chestnut street, where the sign, "Dr. Jeffries," has remained for more than a century. The house is full of the relics of Dr. Jeffries' eventful voyage across the channel.

"My grandfather's diary," said Dr. Jeffries, "notes that he started from Dover, England, across the channel with M. Blanchard as a companion at 1 o'clock January 7, 1785.

The First Fatal Accident the Same Year. "They had a very successful voyage, and at 3:35 the same afternoon landed in the wood of Guines in France, about 12 miles from the sea. A monument has since been erected to mark the spot. A banquet was given to the aeronauts in honor of the event, and 100 years later the aerial voyage was again celebrated in the same hall where Dr. Jeffries died.

It is remarkable that, following close upon this successful achievement of Dr. Jeffries, in the very same year, came the first fatal accident connected with ballooning. Plaitre de Rodier and Romaine Laine attempted to cross from France to England in a hydrogen balloon under which a basket, balloon was suspended. At the height of 3,000 feet both balloons got afire, and the aeronauts fell upon the rocks near the French coast.

These two ascensions in 1785, one conducted with care and successful, and the other without proper precautions and fatal, are an epitome of all the events that the subsequent century has seen.

It cannot be denied, however, that even with all the precautions that science and experience can suggest, ballooning is a dangerous pastime. It very generally followed, life insurance companies would find it necessary to put a balloon clause in their policies.

A Big Record of Successful Ascents. M. Blanchard, Dr. Jeffries' companion, made 66 successful ascents, one being in New York in 1796. M. Blanchard, however, was not so fortunate. She attempted an ascent alone from Paris in 1819 with some fireworks, when her balloon burst and she was dashed to pieces in the rue de Provence.

Mr. Green, the English aeronaut, presumably a relative of Trowbridge's "Darius Gorge," whose song "were of Luther or something or nothing," was in the balloon business 36 years, and during that time he made nearly 1,400 ascents, crossing the channel three times and falling into the sea twice. His last journey was from London to Weiburg on the continent, a distance of 600 miles, covered in 18 hours.

Although this beats anything done by his American namesake of "flying machine" fame, it is still true that another American, Mr. John Wise, has done even better. In July, 1859, in company with Mr. John La Mountain and Mr. Hyde, a St. Louis newspaper reporter, he traveled 1,150 miles, from St. Louis to Henderson, N. Y., in 19 hours 20 minutes, or at an average speed of nearly a mile per minute. This balloon was of oiled silk of about 90,000 cubic feet capacity.

It is painful to record that both Mr. Wise and Mr. La Mountain, the heroes of this aerial voyage, met an unhappy fate at a subsequent venture. La Mountain was dashed in pieces. Wise rose from St. Louis in company with a reporter named Burr.

lake, and were lost to view. They were never seen alive again. A terrific storm arose that night, and both were lost. The boat of Grimwood with a torn life preserver about it, told all that will be known of their fate.

It is probable that Donaldson, like Wise and Prof. Rogers, remained with the car until it struck the water and went down with it. The reporters Burr and Grimwood, in both cases, like Goldsmith the other day, struck out for life away from the vehicle that had come to seem to them the engine of destruction.

Lost in the Wilds of Maine. In 1872, two experienced voyagers rose from Plymouth, N. H., and crossing the White Mountains, they found themselves at nightfall over the wilds of Maine. During the night they floated over the Canadian wilderness, and in the morning floated out over the Gulf of St. Lawrence. By good fortune a counter current set in, where they made a landing, 250 miles below Quebec.

A company of five persons from Buffalo were up 13 hours and descended safely. They floated across the State of Pennsylvania, over the Allegheny Mountains into Maryland, and finally were wafted back to New Jersey, where they landed.

Seven persons went up from Cleveland one September afternoon, and floated down Lake Erie for 150 miles. After eight hours over the lake they left it on the Canadian side and floated westward over Lake St. Clair and Lake Huron, finally landing at midnight at Port Huron.

Two voyagers from Chicago were up 19 hours, and then landed, after cruising 60 miles, in a dense wilderness. They were five days without food, but finally reached Chippewa Falls, where they could telegraph home.

The highest ascent is claimed by Cogswell, the English aeronaut, and Glaisher, the meteorologist, who went up seven miles and were almost frozen to death, as well as prostrated by the rarity of the atmosphere. Mr. Glaisher became insensible, and Cogswell lost the use of his hands and was obliged to pull the valve cord for their descent with his teeth.

Balloons Used During the Civil War. Early in our Civil War a balloon corps was organized by the United States War Department, with La Mountain, Lour and other experienced aeronauts associated. Mr. Lour first performed the feat of telegraphing 600 feet above the earth, and at the battle of Fair Oaks, which he watched from the altitude of 2,000 feet, was the first to announce the enemy's retreat to Richmond.

On one occasion, while General Fitz-John Porter was watching the enemy from a captive balloon the rope broke and he was carried to the Confederate lines. By pulling the valve string he caused the balloon to descend, when it struck another current of air that landed him in the Union lines.

The history of the ascents from Boston Common during the past ten years shows that the aeronauts have hardly an even chance of landing on terra firma. In 1883, 1888, 1889, 1891 and 1892 the voyagers have been precipitated into the water off the coast of Massachusetts, to throw some light on the theory of winds in general.

In 1883 the party landed in the harbor off Point Shirley, in 1888, with the late Prof. Rogers as aeronaut, the party were rescued off Deer Island in 1890 by Prof. Allen and Ed. O. Stickle, of the Herald were blown into the harbor near Fort Winthrop, and last year Ezra S. Allen, of Providence, and John A. Fyfe, a reporter, were carried out to sea and ducked again and again, and finally rescued near Massachusetts.

A Disaster Caused by Parsimony. Under ordinary conditions, with the craft that are sailing in Boston harbor on the Fourth of July, all aeronauts say they had rather land in the water than anywhere else.

"These men in the Governor Russell," said an experienced balloonist yesterday, "were not drowned, they were smothered. They were half asphyxiated by the gas before the balloon struck the water.

"The economy was the real cause of the disaster. The man in charge was, poor 'Gus' Rogers was out of money, and the contract was awarded him so late that he found himself in a corner. He had to assign his contract in order to raise money to buy the cloth. He purchased the very poorest quality of cotton cloth, and he did not have time to oil it enough to keep the gas in.

"If he could have given it one or two more coats of oil and spread it out to dry for awhile it might have helped some, but the cloth was too thin, anyway.

"Prof. Rogers had a good net, but that was all. It is a wonder the balloon did not burst before it left the Common.

"Just before it started said to Prof. Rogers: 'At your old tricks, I see—going off with no life preservers.'

"What do I want of life preservers," he replied, 'I'm an old sailor and can swim.'

WILL REMAIN A CONVENT.

Part of the Ursuline Property Sold for Building Lots—The Debt Thereby Reduced to \$25,000 and the Buildings Are Retained—A Big Deal.

The Ursuline Convent at Oakland yesterday relieved itself of the distressing debt which has been hanging over it for the past four years by selling nearly the entire Fifth avenue frontage of the grounds to William Hawley and William Loeffler. The consideration was \$100 per front foot for 327 feet on the west end of the property, and \$90 for the balance. According to Mr. Hawley, who furnished the information, he and Mr. Loeffler have bought nearly 800 feet. They intend to begin at once the erection of a row of 14 handsome dwellings on their property. The lots have a depth of 231 feet, the same as that portion of the property on the western limit which has been graded down to the street level. The upper or eastern part is to be graded down to the same level at a cost of \$15,000, part of which will be borne by parties on 25th street whose property lies in a hollow.

Mr. Hawley says the work of building will be commenced to-day or to-morrow. The purchase has been made on easy terms, though at a figure proportionately in advance of what the property had been previously held for the whole tract, including buildings and improvements.

By the sale of yesterday, with the income it will bring to the convent trustees, the debt has been reduced to \$25,000, which it is expected they will have little difficulty in removing. There has been considerable talk about this property ever since the disagreement over its ownership three years ago which resulted in its being transferred from the French nuns who erected it to Bishop Phelan. After the destruction of the Pittsburgh Female College, about a year ago, there were negotiations pending by which the M. E. Church was to buy the convent for college purposes. An offer was made on each side, but for some time nothing has been done, and the convent trustees, taking it for granted the convent trustees had decided not to buy, made a sale yesterday. Real estate men consider the price very reasonable.

ETHA ANGRIER THAN EVER. Fugitive Inhabitants of One Town Are Substituting on Soup.

CATANIA, July 21.—The terror of the people living in the vicinity of Mount Etna is increasing in consequence of the renewed violence of the eruptions from the different craters and the prolonged subterranean rumblings, which are becoming more and more frequent.

The poorer inhabitants of Nicolosi, who have been driven from their customary field work by the advance of the lava, are being supplied with free bread and soup. The houses of the town were severely shaken to-night, many windows being shattered.

Three Tramps Killed in a Wreck. PLATTSBURGH, N.E.R., July 21.—A Burlington freight train was wrecked at the east end of the Missouri river bridge yesterday. Three tramps were killed and 12 cars filled with grain were demolished. The accident was caused by the train breaking in two.

Must Use Automatic Couplers. WASHINGTON, July 21.—The Interstate Commerce Commission to-day reported to the Senate a bill requiring the use of automatic couplers on cars and power brakes on locomotives engaged in interstate traffic. The companies are to be given sufficient time in which to make the change.

COOL SUMMER DRINKS. ICE CREAM SODA, BEST IN THE CITY, ONLY 5 CENTS A GLASS.

Galvin's Root Beer, per bottle..... 10c
Hires' Root Beer, per bottle..... 15c
Horsford's Acid Phosphate (small)..... 37c
Horsford's Acid Phosphate (large)..... 75c
Moxie Beverage..... 22c
Moxie XX..... 40c
Moxie Syrup..... 63c

DRESS SHIELDS
Good Stockinet Dress Shields, worth 8c... 5c
Good Stockinet Dress Shields, large size, worth 12c..... 8c
Fine Rubber Dress Shields, worth 15c..... 10c
"Gem" Dress Shields, worth 15c..... 12c
"Canfield" Dress Shields, worth 25c..... 20c
"Lily" Silk Dress Shields, worth 35c..... 25c

Ladies' Waists.
AT REDUCED PRICES.
White Lawn Waists, sizes 38 and 40, reduced from \$1.38 to..... 88
Striped Sateen Waists, sizes 38 and 40, reduced from 75c to..... 58
Calico Waists, 3 plaits back and front, reduced from 50c to..... 38
Laundered Waists, in white and colors, reduced from \$1.50 to..... 98
White Lawn Waists, extra fine quality, in size 38 only, reduced from \$2.75 to..... \$1.62 1/2
Children's White P. K. Sun Bonnets, reduced from 25c to..... 19
Ladies' Gingham Sun Bonnets, reduced from 25c to..... 19
Infants' White Mull Caps, regular price 15c..... 5
Children's White Mull Hats, reduced from 38c to..... 25

TRY SKIN FOOD
For your wrinkles and become youthful, fresh and rosy again. This is the only skin food that has been found to be so effective. It feeds the very pores and the active tissues which are indispensable to a good skin. The flabby flesh becomes firm; the ravine of the forehead and worry lines disappear; lines and wrinkles become smooth; the skin is again soft and refined and beautiful. Skin Food is a fragrant, delicate, soothing and refreshing. By its use

WRINKLES VANISH!!
PRICE \$3 PER JAR.
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.
MADAME M. YALE COMPANY,
87 West Fourteenth st., New York,
146 State Street, Chicago.

A complete list of Madame Yale's toilet requisites can be found in her "Beauty and Complexion Book." Free at all druggists. Sent by mail on receipt of 4c postage.
A full line of Mme. Yale's preparations can be had in Pittsburgh at

W.T. ESPY'S CRYSTAL PHARMACY,
Corner Market and Liberty streets,
And at Joseph Fleming & Son's Drug Store, 413 Market street; Curtis's drug store, corner Smithfield street and Fourth avenue; E. C. Steffel & Co., successors to J. Kimmel & Co., Penn avenue and 14th street; W. F. Marsolf Drug Company, corner Penn avenue and Sixth street; S. & Holland, drug store, corner Smithfield and Liberty streets.

IN ALLEGHENY CITY
At E. Holden & Co.'s, Druggists, 28 Federal street; G. Eisenbiss, 113 Federal street; and Kaestner's, 28 Federal street. 1718-1720

FRIDAY * AND * SATURDAY.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS



FRIDAY * AND * SATURDAY.



CLEARANCE SALE -OF- BABY CARRIAGES

We have sold thousands of Baby Carriages this season, in most cases at a fair profit. We can, therefore, well afford to slaughter the prices of the few Baby Carriages we have left. We shall reduce

All Our \$6 Baby Carriages to \$4.35.
All Our \$7.50 Baby Carriages to \$5.
All Our \$10 Baby Carriages to \$7.89.
All Our \$12 Baby Carriages to \$8.89.
All Our \$14 Baby Carriages to \$10.
All Our \$17 Baby Carriages to \$12.50.
All Our \$20 Baby Carriages to \$14.
All Our \$25 Baby Carriages to \$16.

We have also a few extra fine Baby Carriages ranging in price from \$30 to \$75. These will be reduced in proportion.

Nothing Like This Sale Ever Known! WILL ASTONISH YOU.

Satin and Gros Grain Ribbons at..... 5
Moire Ribbons at..... 5
Gauze Ribbons at..... 10
Gros Grain Ribbons at..... 10
Imported Gauze Ribbons at..... 15
Watered Ribbons at..... 15
Gros Grain, extra wide, at..... 20
Imported Finest Gauze at..... 20
Moire, wide and handsome..... 25
The very best Striped Ribbons, formerly sold at \$1, will go for..... 25

LADIES' AND MISSES' STRAW HATS.
1,000 Untrimmed Hats, ranging in price from 50c to 75c, reduced to..... 10
One lot Sailor Hats in black and white; clean, fresh goods..... 10
5,000 Untrimmed Hats, including all of this season's shapes, that have sold at 75c to \$1, all reduced to..... 25
Open work Sailor Hats, all colors, your choice for..... 25
Union Milan Sailor Hats, All colors..... 50
Fine Milan Straw Sailor Hats, in white and navy..... \$1
Trimmed Sailor Hats, Very good value..... \$1
Fine Trimmed Sailor Hats, a beautiful line..... \$1

ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.
Wreaths and Sprays, all our odds and ends, reduced from 25c to..... 10
100 cartons of fine Flowers, including Moutures, Wreaths and Sprays, formerly sold at 50c and \$1.25, now reduced to 30 cartons extra fine Flowers, reduced from \$1, \$1.25 and \$1.50 to..... 25
50

Belts, Pocketbooks, Fans, Clocks.

Black Silk Belts, with jet trimmings, former prices \$2.38 and \$2.90, reduced to..... \$1.25
Black Velvet Belts, with jet trimmings, former price 75c, reduced to..... 48
Black Leather Belts, with steel trimmings, former price \$1.75, reduced to..... 98
Fancy Leather Belts, in black and colors, former price 60c, reduced to..... 45
Plush, Silk and Leather Belts, in all colors, former price 68c, reduced to..... 25
Plain Leather Belts, black and colors, former price 15c, reduced to..... 9
Fancy Oxidized Belts, former price \$1, reduced to..... 50
Fancy Metal Belts, Reduced from 75c to..... 25
Fancy Silver and Gilt Belts, reduced from \$1.25 to..... 75
Gilt Woven Wire Belts, Reduced from \$1.25 to..... 75
Fancy Silk and Moire Ribbon Belts, with bow-knot buckles, former price 75c and 90c, reduced to..... 50
Black Silk Bodice Belts, Reduced from 68c to..... 25
Fancy Silk Belts, all colors, Reduced from 25c to..... 12
Boys' Baseball Belts, Reduced from 10c to..... 5
Black Imitation Leather Pocketbooks, with steel trimmings, reduced from 20c to..... 10
Card Case to match Pocketbook, reduced from 25c to..... 15
Ladies' Black Leather Purses, large size, reduced from 15c to..... 10
Child's Cloth Purses, Reduced from 10c to..... 5
Fancy Decorated Fans, Reduced from 38c to..... 25
Telescope Fans, nickel and celluloid cases, reduced from 35c to..... 19
Nickel Alarm Clocks, Reduced from 90c to..... 69

GIVEN AWAY To All Visitors—Free of Charge. A SAMPLE GLASS OF THOMPSON'S CHERRY PHOSPHATE!

We do this to introduce to the people of Pittsburgh and Allegheny this most delicious and healthful of summer drinks.

PRICE 25c A BOTTLE. Come and try it.

We also call attention to our other COOL SUMMER DRINKS. ICE CREAM SODA, BEST IN THE CITY, ONLY 5 CENTS A GLASS.

Galvin's Root Beer, per bottle..... 10c
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LADIES' HOSIERY.
One lot fancy Hose, regular made, extra quality Lisle, small sizes only, namely, 8, 8 1/2 and 9, goods that have sold at 50c, 65c, 80c and \$1, reduced to 35c, or three pairs for..... \$1.00
One lot Ladies' Fine Lise Richelieu Hose, in plain, tan or slates, reduced from 75c to..... 48
One lot Ladies' Plaited Silk Hose, plain and fancy colors, reduced from \$1.25 to..... 75
One lot Ladies' Onyx Black Ingrain Spun Silk Hose, guaranteed stainless, reduced from \$1.50 to..... \$1.15
One lot Ladies' Ribbed Silk Hose, colored tops, black boots, warranted absolutely stainless, reduced from \$1.50 to..... \$1.15
Ladies' Black Pure Silk Hose, a superior article, reduced from \$2.25 to..... \$1.50
One lot Plain, Fancy Silk Hose, Richelieu Ribbs, reduced from \$1.25 to..... 85
Ladies' Fancy Hose, extra fine gauge, reduced from 38c to..... 25
Ladies' Balbriggan Ribbed Hose, reduced from 35c to..... 25

FOR MEN AND BOYS.
1,000 Nickel Watches, stem-winders and stem-setters; the best value in Watches ever offered; they are worth \$5, but on Friday and Saturday the price will be \$1.75.

FLEISHMAN & CO., 504, 506 and 508 Market Street, MAIL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO. WE CLOSE AT 5, EXCEPT SATURDAYS.