

THE
AIRSHIP
CHRONICLE

by

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DEDICATION

This book is gratefully dedicated to my wife, Bonnie, and my children, Dawn, Heather, and Bobby, who reluctantly, though unselfishly, sacrificed our valuable time together on vacations, days off, and evenings so that I could spend the necessary long hours in libraries.

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And to all the librarians and library aides who tolerated my requests for microfilm and bound volumes of newspapers and special appreciation to the staff of Decatur Public Library and Rolling Praries Library System for their invaluable assistance and bending of rules.

The existence of the airship wave is nothing new. Of course, the newspapers and magazines of 1896/1897 carried thousands of articles about it. For some reason, it faded into complete oblivion until the 1930's. A WPA project in Nebraska was the first compilation of airship reports. This compilation was from the major daily and a few weekly Nebraska newspapers. Numerous articles have been based on this compilation. The first of these appeared in the Prairie Schooner, Winter 1938, Vol. XII, # 4. It again faded into oblivion, only to resurface in 1947. On June 24, 1947, Kenneth Arnold saw 9 disc like objects, while flying near Mt. Rainier, Washington. This marked the beginning of the modern UFO era. UFO reports began appearing in newspapers across the country. Many of the early articles made references back to the airship reports of 1897. It is now very seldom that a UFO book does not devote several pages, in most cases a chapter, to the airship reports. In the flurry of newsstand UFO magazines and paranormal magazines of the 1970's, many articles were published concerning the airship.

Since the mid-1960's, several researchers have accomplished local and limited studies of the newspapers of the airship era. A few researchers did extensive, but not complete studies of their home state. George Eberhardt published his study of most Ohio papers in the Winter, 1977, issue of Pursuit. In 1974 Loren Gross published his study of California papers in a booklet titled "The UFO Wave of 1896."

This brings us to my study. Shortly after reading Loren Gross' booklet, I became interested in doing the same with the Illinois papers. My findings were published in Vol. 1, No. 1 issue of The Journal of UFO Studies. While doing this research, I noted the many references to reports from adjoining states. I began a study of newspapers from these states. Before I knew it, I was obsessed with the airship and was viewing newspapers from all over the country. This was being done through interlibrary loan of newspaper microfilms. This process is very time consuming and, at times, frustrating. I realized that for me to see all available copies of newspapers from the airship era, it would take more years than I have to devote to it. I received a grant from the Fund for UFO Research which enabled me to make trips to the libraries that held large collections of 1896/1897 newspapers. By the end of this 3 year study, 4,935 different newspapers were viewed. Rather than list all of the newspapers viewed, a listing of the number of papers seen per state is below:

ALABAMA	57	ARIZONA	18
ARKANSAS	50	CALIFORNIA	68
COLORADO	91	CONNECTICUT	27
DELAWARE	8	D.C.	6
FLORIDA	10	GEORGIA	65
IDAHO	36	ILLINOIS	280
INDIANA	201	IOWA	279
KANSAS	368	KENTUCKY	62
MAINE	31	MARYLAND	24
MASSACHUSETTS	121	MICHIGAN	173
MINNESOTA	339	MISSISSIPPI	40
MISSOURI	195	MONTANA	30
NEBRASKA	480	NEVADA	26
NEW HAMPSHIRE	43	NEW JERSEY	66
NEW MEXICO	14	NEW YORK	172

NORTH CAROLINA	88	NORTH DAKOTA	44
OHIO	235	OKLAHOMA	65
OREGON	70	PENNSYLVANIA	178
RHODE ISLAND	28	SOUTH CAROLINA	33
TENNESSEE	55	TEXAS	63
UTAH	30	VERMONT	38
VIRGINIA	50	WASHINGTON	52
WEST VIRGINIA	55	WISCONSIN	319
WYOMING	14	CANADA	12

I would like to say that I had seen all of the above papers. However, I did view at least 4,400 of them. The rest were viewed by those researchers mentioned in the acknowledgements and copies of their findings were sent to me. It would be virtually impossible to see all of the newspapers published during the airship era. The greatest problem is locating the papers. Most states have a central depository where the papers are located. This is evident from the above listing where large numbers of papers were seen from one state. Several states, such as New York and Texas, do not have a central depository and the papers are literally scattered all over the state in various libraries. It would be very time consuming and expensive to make a trip to each of these libraries. There has been a sudden interest in creating even larger central depositories in many states. For instance, I first completed my study of Illinois papers in 1978, having seen all that were at the Illinois State Historical Society. In 1985, I had learned that they had located an additional 35 newspapers and had microfilmed them. It is entirely probable that states that were completed early in my research have added new titles to their collection. However, I can safely say that between 90% and 95% of the papers have been viewed. And the amount of data astounded me. I had amassed 27 large 3 ring binders full of clippings.

We are now ready for a journey backwards through the files of the newspapers. Unfortunately, you are going to miss the long hours on the road and those spent viewing microfilm. You will miss the musty odor of original copies of the bound volumes of newspapers that have set undisturbed for many years. And most of all, the overwhelming frustration of arranging the vast material into a usable form.

August 1896-Tamalpais Mountains, California-William Jordan came upon 6 men in a machinshop working on an airship. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 23, 1896)

Fall 1896-Orchard, Iowa-At 2000, a man saw a bright light to the north. It was not very high up and moving slowly south. (Osage [Ia] News, April 22, 1897)

Fall 1896-Hastings, Nebraska-An airship was seen to hover for 30 minutes at a 500 foot altitude, then it began to circle about. It went north for 2 miles, returned to its starting point, and disappeared. (Juniata [Nb] Herald, February 10, 1897)

October 22, 1896-Nevada, California-At 1810, 3 balls of fire in a row were seen to the north for 30 seconds. They were like a train of cars with a long, fiery tail. (San Francisco [Ca] Examiner, October 23, 1896)

October 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 1815, a strange light was seen from Cliff house and appeared to be 10 miles out to sea. It was a vivid bright object moving at great rapidity at 500 feet up. It was seen a few minutes as it moved in a straight, horizontal path. (San Francisco Examiner, October 23, 1896)

October 25, 1896-Bowman, California-C. T. Musse saw 3 bright lights moving east. They moved horizontally at 100 mph. (Gross)

October 25, 1896-Bowman, California-A. H. Thompson saw 3 bright lights and a larger light moving horizontally east. They were 8 feet apart and the forward one was largest and brightest. (Gross)

October 31, 1896-Bolinas Ridge, San Francisco, California-A man saw a large dark mass at dawn. It was 100 yards away and just above trees. (San Francisco Call, November 19, 1896)

October 1896-Oakland, California-A woman saw a strange looking object that carried a powerful headlight. It was gradually descending to the west. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 22, 1896)

October 1896-San Francisco, California-At dusk a woman named Hagstrom saw a glowing light in the sky. (San Francisco Call, November 22, 1896)

November 14, 1896-Mount Tamalpais, California-A strange light was seen but it was identified as a signal light from a new hotel. (San Rafael [Ca] Tocsin, November 21, 1896)

November 15, 1896-San Andreas, California-During the evening Hannah Harney and Ella Porter saw a bright light to the north. It was the size of a saucer and was seen for 10 minutes before it faded away to the east. (San Andreas Calaveras Prospect, November 21, 1896)

November 15, 1896-Suisun, California-Residents saw the airship or similar phenomenon at 2100. (Gross)

(H)

November 16, 1896-Sacramento, California-At 0100, several saw a cigar shaped object and heard voices coming from it. (Menzel)

November 16, 1896-Alameda, California-George Plummer and his wife saw a brilliant white light at 2100. (San Francisco [CA] Examiner, November 24, 1896)

(H)

November 16, 1896-Winnemucca, Nevada-About midnight, a man saw a ball of fire and heard a voice say, "Lower the ship." A hand protruded from it and took the Chinese Masonic flag from a mast. The object flapped its wings and left west. It was seen by others as a light in the sky. (Winnemucca Silver State, November 23, 1896)

November 16, 1896-Oak Park, California-Something was seen circling high and leaving a smoke trail. (Gross)

November 17, 1896-Eureka, California-At 1800, a man saw a small white light going south-southeast. It wavered, paled, shone brighter, grew larger, and disappeared. (Eureka Humboldt Times, November 28, 1896)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-At 1850. G. C. Snyder saw a white light moving southwest. It rose and fell and swayed side to side as it moved against the wind. (Sacramento Bee, November 18, 1896)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-Many saw a huge and powerful searchlight at 1830. It was followed by a cigar shaped craft with 4 large wings. It seemed to be made of aluminum and hovered for 30 minutes. It rose quickly and left toward San Francisco. (Lore/Deneault)

(H)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-Between 1800 and 1900, many saw what appeared to be an electric arc lamp propelled by some mysterious force. It came from the east and sailed unevenly to the southwest. Some heard voices and laughter coming from it. When it came dangerously near the roof-tops, a voice said, "Lift her up quick! You are making directly for that steeple!" and it ascended to a considerable height. (Sacramento Bee, November 18, 1896)

(H)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-R. L. Lowrey said he saw 4 men pushing the airship along like riding a bicycle. A man standing near Lowrey said he shouted to the occupants asking their destination. A voice replied that they wanted to be in San Francisco by midnight. J. H. Vogel was in the same area and said he heard voices and that the object was egg shaped. (Lore/Deneault) Lowrey was standing near the brewery and heard a voice call out, "Throw her up higher; she'll hit the steeple." Then he saw a light and 2 men seated as if on a bicycle frame beneath the light. They were working with a bicycle movement. He heard one of them say, "We will get to San Francisco about half-past 12." Above these 2 men was a mezzanine box capable of holding 2 or more people. Above this was a cigar shaped body with wheels like a Fulton steamship on the side. (Gross) The Sacramento Bee of November 18, 1896, reported that Lowrey saw an object directly overhead. It had a wheel that was going around and was moving southwest against a heavy wind. There was no mention of the conversation as indicated in the previous 2 references.

The San Francisco Call of November 19, 1896, reported that the above conversation was not verified.

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-J. H. Vogel saw a light and above it a dimly outlined egg shaped body with the small end forward. He heard the muffled buzzing of machinery. (Gross) The San Francisco Call of November 19, 1896, reported that he heard voices and that after 30 minutes it left southwest. (H)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-F. Wenzel corroborated the story of Lowery and Vogel by saying he heard a "merry chorus" coming from the object. Another witness reported he heard a discussion on whether the craft should rise. It rose on a slant. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 19, 1896) (H)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-David Carl saw the airship and heard voice say, "We are too low down here. Send her up higher." This was followed by a discussion on feasibility of taking her higher. (Lore/Deneault) The Sacramento Bee of November 18, 1896, reported that his name was David Curl and that he heard voices. There was no mention of the above. (H)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-Charles Lusk saw a bright light moving west at night. It was 1,000 feet up and appeared to have a faint shape behind the light. (Gross) The Sacramento Bee of November 18, 1896, reported that he found some carmen who saw it and heard music and voices. One voice said, "Well, we ought to get to San Francisco by tomorrow noon." (H)

November 17, 1896-San Francisco, California-Deputy Sheriff Walter Mallory saw a strong white light moving slowly. A dark body was seen above the light. (San Francisco Call, November 23, 1896)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-Michael Shelley saw a cigar shaped object with a dark wall above it. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 19, 1896)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-George Scott and 3 others saw a light in the sky. From the Capitol building dome, they saw a dim outline of a dark body with 3 lights on it. (Gross)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-Frank Ross saw a light moving southwest in an undulating manner. It moved diagonally across the direction of the wind. (San Francisco [Ca] Chronicle, November 19, 1896)

November 17, 1896-near Sacramento, California-Two men heard singing and saw a bright light high in the sky. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 23, 1896) (H)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-F. E. Briggs saw the airship and heard voices and singing from it. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 19, 1896) (H)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-T. P. Long saw a brilliant light moving against the wind. He could not distinguish a shape, but did hear singing from it. It was several hundred feet up. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 19, 1896)

November 17, 1896-Sacramento, California-Mayor Hubbards daughter saw a bright white light at great elevation. It moved east to southwest in a slow and uneven motion. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 19, 1896)

November 18, 1896-San Francisco, California- At 2350, Max Roberts saw the airship. (Sacramento [Ca] Bee, November 23, 1896)

November 18, 1896-Petaluma, California-The airship was seen but it was a known balloon hoax. (Petaluma Courier, November 20, 1896)

→ November 18, 1896-Stockton, California-The airship was reported to have been seen. The next morning, a letter was found which said that the authors were up in a balloon on September 17th and were caught by a meteor. They were now hurtling around the earth. The names of the men were "Mate O. Roid and Al. Lafake." (Stockton Evening Mail, November 19, 1896)

November 19, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 0200, over 50 people, including night clerk McGovern, saw 2 white lights moving slowly to west. It was like 2 stars joined together and at intervals a red light appeared between them. In the 30 minutes it was seen, it crossed 1/10 of the sky. (San Francisco Examiner, November 23, 1896) The San Francisco Chronicle of November 22, 1896, reported that it was seen for 3 hours and was going south.

November 19, 1896-Eureka, California-At 1830, a light was seen high up and descending slowly. It settled slowly to near the water, ascended, settled again, and went behind a fog bank. It seemed under control as it moved up and down and sideways. It was very bright and powerful and was seen for 35 minutes. (Eureka Western Watchman, November 21, 1896)

November 19, 1896-Oakland, California-During the night, Justice Morris saw a light like a huge star low in the sky. (Alameda [Ca] Daily Argus, November 24, 1896)

November 19, 1896-Tacoma, Washington-A bright and wobbling light was seen at night. (Tacoma Daily News, November 26, 1896)

November 20, 1896-Tagus, California-At 1400, S. H. Rison and another saw something like a canvas sheet spread out. It floated to the northeast at 2,000 feet. (Gross) The Visalia [Ca] Tulare County Times of November 26, 1896, said it was seen at 1300. According to the San Francisco [Ca] Call of November 22, 1896, it moved against the wind and went northwest.

November 20, 1896-Oakland, California-The crew and passengers of a trolley saw the airship near St. Mary's College at 1730. Shelby Yost, the motor man, said it was seen 5 minutes and was a moving object with a very bright light. It seemed to lower as it passed over the city and was going toward San Francisco. C. H. Ellis was a passenger and said he

could make out the movement of wings or propellers and that it came from the north. (San Francisco [Ca] Chronicle, November 22, 1896) The San Francisco Call of November 22, 1896, reported that Ellis said it came from the east and was 1,000 feet up. It was a dark object with a bright light and wings before and after the light. As it passed over St. Mary's College, it descended gradually toward San Francisco. This report now becomes a little confusing. It was dated November 22, 1896, seen by Ellis, Miss Wilson, and others, it moved in an undulating fashion, and emitted a stream of light from the forward part. (Gross) The Oakland Tribune of November 23, 1896, indicated that at 1900, on the 22nd, Miss Wilson and Miss Hunter were waiting for the streetcar and saw a bird-like body and the light. It followed the same course as described by the passengers on the Alameda car. It also referred to a report by the passengers of the Alameda car and the data was a combination of all of the above.

November 20, 1896-Oakland, California-A little after 1700, a crowded car going to Piedmont saw a peculiar contrivance high in the air. It had a powerful headlight and another light on the bottom. It came from the east and passed over Piedmont. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 22, 1896)

November 20, 1896-San Francisco, California-Shortly after the Oakland sighting, Mr. Tyler, his sister, and Mrs. Philbrook saw the airship. (Sacramento [Ca] Bee, November 23, 1896)

November 20, 1896-San Francisco, California-Many people of the Mission saw a light near Twin Peaks at dusk. A Valencia street car stopped so that passengers could see it. It was like an immense arc light surrounded by a long, dark body with a bright edge. It was very bright and after moving slowly over Twin Peaks, it disappeared. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 22, 1896)

November 20, 1896-Oakland, California-During the early evening, 2 men saw a brilliant light in the sky. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 22, 1896)

November 20, 1896-Oakland, California-Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Rodda saw a bright light. As it passed over, it angled down. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 22, 1896) The San Francisco Chronicle of November 22, 1896, said it was to the north and larger and longer than a balloon.

November 20, 1896-Sacramento, California-A strange light was seen at great height to the north and going northeast. Once it moved directly into the wind. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 21, 1896)

November 21, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 1600, many at the Mission saw a huge bird like machine high to the south. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 22, 1896)

November 21, 1896-Nevada City, California-Several saw a strong light to the east and it was going south. (Grass Valley [Ca] Morning Union, November 24, 1896)

November 21, 1896-Santa Rosa, California-Just before midnight, several saw a light moving southwest. When first seen, it was 2 miles southeast of the city. It moved swiftly and was seen by Charles Winters, Wm. Rober, and others. It was identified as a balloon hoax. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 25, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Oakland, California-During the afternoon, C. B. Morgan and others saw an object going west for 20 minutes. It rose higher and left west. They felt that it was a balloon. (San Francisco [Ca] Examiner, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Sacramento, California-Hundreds saw a light moving southwest at 1730. It was at 40 degree elevation and moved with a wavering motion. During the hour it was seen, it would disappear then flash out again. (Sacramento Bee, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Folsom, California-At about 1800, several saw the airship moving south, then southwest. (Gross)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-Bus Riechers and passengers on his trolley saw a light for 30 minutes, at about 1800. (San Francisco Examiner, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-Shortly after 1800, John Bagley saw a peculiar light almost overhead. It was moving west in a slow, steady manner. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 1830, Dr. J. H. O'Brien saw a light attached to a dark object. It was going south, but when it changed course, he saw 3 lights. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 24, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 1830, H. J. Pyle saw a light more powerful than an ordinary street light. It left to the southwest. It was also seen by Policemen De Guire, M. Drury, D. Ryan, John Frillalove, and others. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Sacramento, California-Between 1800 and 1900, Edward Carragher of the Saddle Rock Restaurant saw a large dark body with a pair of field glasses. It seemed to be carrying an arc light. He pointed it out to Dr. Amiel Morris, who saw a ball of fire 600 feet up and to the southeast of Washington. It was seen over an hour. (Sacramento Bee, November 23, 1896, and Woodland [Ca] Democrat, November 23, 1896) The San Francisco Examiner of November 24, 1896, indicated that Dr. Morris was in Woodland, and saw the object at 1900. It was a pale ball of fire, 4-500 feet up, and southwest of Broderick.

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-Policeman Neil Rearden saw a bright red and white light moving rapidly at 1845. It was also seen by Sgt. Monahan, Cpl. Heggerty, Ptl. Montanya, and Ptl. Folsom. The white light was the largest and the smaller red one was beneath. It moved at a lively rate to the southwest. (San Francisco Examiner, November 23, 1896)


November 22, 1896-Ocean View, California-At 1850, Phil Murrey, Frank Page, and passengers on a trolley saw lights in the sky. (San Francisco [Ca] Examiner, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-Before 1900, Ptl. Morarity saw the airship float by. (San Francisco Examiner, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-Dr. James F. Kearney saw a light at 1900. It would dim and then regain brilliance. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 24, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 1905, N. H. Cohen saw an object that was 3-400 feet up. It emitted periodic flashes of light as it headed for the Golden Gate. He saw it again at 1951. (San Francisco Call, November 24, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-Col. W. H. Menton saw 3 very bright lights close together at 2020. Two of the rays were horizontal and one perpendicular. They were 2-300 feet up, moved slowly to the south, and was seen by 200 others. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 24, 1896) The San Francisco Call of November 24, 1896, reported that it was 1940 and it was seen going west for 15 minutes.

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 2000, A. T. Cooper saw the airship through a telescope as it was going west. It was shaped like a cartridge with a light at the rear. The end was flat and it had 2 propellers at the back and 2 on the bottom. He saw 2 men walking about in it. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 24, 1896) 

November 22, 1896-Capay, California-Several saw the airship to the southeast, moving slowly south, at 2100. (Woodland [Ca] Democrat, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Redwood City, California-At 2200, Henry Smith and F. Becker saw a brilliant light high up. It was a large headlight that threw out rays of light. Above the light was a cigar shaped object with ponderous wings. It was moving south at a terrific rate and was seen for 10 minutes. (Redwood City Times Gazette, November 28, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Jose, California-Frank Everett, H. Erich, and a crowd of others saw a bright light at 2300. It passed in the direction of Mount Hamilton. Several said they saw paddles being used at propellers. (San Jose Mercury, November 23, 1896) It was at Santa Clara, California, and the light was moving southeast. (Gross)

November 22, 1896-Haywards, California-At 2300, B. Taffelmine, George Silva, and Wm. Umhoff saw a long, narrow object shaped like an outrigger racing boat. It had a headlight and side lights. It was going toward Sunol. (San Francisco [Ca] Chronicle, November 24, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Oroville, California-In the evening, a moving light was seen and identified as a balloon. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 24, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Haywards, California-During the night Ed Davis, Tim O'Neill, and R. B. Hartnell saw the lights of the airship 400 feet up. They chased it as it was moving at 4 mph. After 5 minutes, O'Neill saw a head peer out over the side and it left at 20 mph. (San Francisco [Cal] Chronicle, November 24, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-Asst. Police Surgeon Thompson saw a light through field glasses. It moved in a waving motion and at times would dim. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 24, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Sacramento, California-Mr. Haines and Mr. Fleetwood saw a dark and misty object pass over and leave northwest. (Gross)

November 22, 1896-Fruitvale, California-Several on the Alameda line saw the airship. It had a powerful headlight and several smaller lights. (San Francisco [Cal] Call, November 24, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Oakland, California-Brother Walter and others at St. Mary's College saw the light of the airship. (Gross)

November 22, 1896-Sacramento, California-A group of lawyers and state officials saw the airship and were amazed by its quickness. (Gross)

November 22, 1896-Sacramento, California-A weatherman saw a clear white light that would often dim to a hazy glow then resumed its definition and brightness. It moved in a rising and falling path. (Flammonde)

November 22, 1896-Sacramento, California-Nick White, city editor of the Record Union, saw the airship. It had more than one light on it. (San Francisco [Cal] Chronicle, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Sacramento, California-Isaac Gough and others saw the airship. (Gross)

November 22, 1896-Sacramento, California-Jacob Zemansky saw a light through a telescope. It was like a very intense arc light and rose and fell as it moved. It was only a mass of a mist-like substance to which a light seemed to be attached. (San Francisco [Cal] Call, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Sebastopol, California-J. B. Loser saw a brilliant light that left east. (San Francisco [Cal] Call, November 25, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Knights Ferry, California-Rev. H. Copland and Rev. John Kirby saw a ball of fire rise slowly and fly low for 100 yards. It began a shallow climb in their direction. It made a semi-circle maneuver. When at 200 yards, they saw a couple of intense white lights on the nose at right angles to the body and a red light on the rear. It soon sped out of sight. (San Francisco [Cal] Call, December 5, 1896)

November 22, 1896-Mount Hamilton, California-The airship was seen. (Oakland [Cal] Times, November 24, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Leandro, California-A brilliant shaft of light was seen. (Gross)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-At an early hour, E. A. Lankin saw the airship going towards Sacramento. (Sacramento [Ca] Bee, November 23, 1896)

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-Mayor Adoph Sutro and household saw a strange object shortly after dark. It was a brilliant light that came from the direction of the sea and was 500 feet up. It moved swiftly with a slight undulating motion. It had 2 lights, 1 below a misty mass and one behind it. It threw out a 500 foot long stream of light. (Lore/Deneault) It was the first week of November of 1896, just over Seal Rock, had a row of lights down the side, and left west. (Gross) It was November 19, 1896, was Mayor Suro, it came from Oakland, and the squeals of the seals was heard. (Beyond) The San Francisco Chronicle of November 24, 1896, reported that it was in early November and the San Francisco Call of November 24, 1896, gave no indication of date, but that it left north.

November 22, 1896-San Francisco, California-Moments after the sighting at Mayor Sutro's house, it was seen over Cliff House. It projected a beam on Seal Rock that caused the seals to dive into the water. (Lore/Deneault)

November 23, 1896-Chico, California-At 1900, many saw a bright, sparkling light to the west, going rapidly to the northwest. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 25, 1896)

November 23, 1896-San Francisco, California-Attorney James A. Hill saw a light at 1900. It seemed to be attached to a dark object and hovered over the area of Cliff House before leaving east. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 24, 1896)

November 23, 1896-Santa Rosa, California-At 1930, a light was seen moving east. It occasionally disappeared with a dull red glow. (Gross)

November 23, 1896-Antioch, California-Col. Byrnes saw the airship pass over at 2113, during a heavy rain. It hovered over the residence of John Chase for a few minutes and threw out signals for Frank Wills. Pat McGuire said that when it halted, a terrible gust of wind descended upon the town. Henry Dahnken said it stopped and supplied wind where it was most needed. Chase and Wills both declared that they did not see it. (Antioch Ledger, November 28, 1896)

November 23, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 2115, C. H. Murphy and hundreds of others saw an electric light that was 4,000 feet up and moving at a mile a minute. It was one light with a vibration. (San Francisco Call, November 24, 1896)

November 23, 1896-San Francisco, California-Samuel Foltz saw a light moving toward Berkeley for 4 minutes at 2115. It was like an ordinary lamp, 300 feet up, and moving with tremendous velocity. (San Francisco Call, November 24, 1896)

November 23, 1896-San Francisco, California-Between 2100 and 2130, many saw a large, round, steadily burning light of reddish hue. It was first seen in the direction of Potrero and passed over the city at several hundred feet altitude. At 2125, it was seen at the St. Nicholas Hotel. Mrs. A. M. Gardner saw it rise slowly and steadily in the rainy sky. It had a definite wavering motion. It was also seen by Dr. J. A. Black, J. S. McDonnell, Charles Barbee, James Kennedy, and James McDonald. (San Francisco Examiner, November 24, 1896)

November 23, 1896-Stockton, California-Several reported a bright, swift moving light in the rain at 2200. (Gross) According to the Stockton Record of November 24, 1896, this was an electric wire short.

November 23, 1896-Oakland, California-At 2230, a teacher and another saw the airship and its powerful searchlight. (Lore/Deneault) The San Francisco [Ca] Examiner of November 24, 1896, reported that this was a kite with red lanterns attached to the tail.

November 23, 1896-San Francisco, California-Dan Daugherty and others saw a strange light near Cliff House. It hovered for 10 to 15 minutes, then left east. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 24, 1896)

November 23, 1896-San Francisco, California-Policeman Clarence Coogan saw an unusually brilliant light moving toward Oakland. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 24, 1896)

November 23, 1896-Lathrop, California-Mr. Saginette saw a light which grew brighter as it approached from the north. (Gross)

November 23, 1896-Lathrop, California-A nightwatchman saw a cigar shaped silhouette with smoke coming from both ends. It dipped low near a building near the Lathrop State Insane Asylum. (Gross)

November 23, 1896-Berkeley, California-At night, a fire balloon was thought to have been the airship. (Oakland [Ca] Times, November 24, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Fresno, California-At 1800, several saw a bright light going northwest. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 26, 1896) The San Francisco Examiner of November 26, 1896, reported that it was identified as Venus.

November 24, 1896-East Oakland, California-Several saw a light at 1815. Then it was an egg shaped body moving quickly across the sky. Charles White said it raced a ferry across the Bay. When the ferry had docked, it was hovering over Alameda. (Fate) The Oakland Tribune of November 25, 1896, made no mention of the egg shaped body.

November 24, 1896-Placerville, California-A bright aerial light was seen moving north to south at 1830. It was seen for 5 minutes and moved against the wind with a rocking motion. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Oakland, California-When a train from San Francisco arrived at 1830, several passengers said they had seen a strange light moving about over the Bay. It was then seen in Oakland. It was seen by thousands including Col. Garrity, George Hatton, Melvin Holmes, Fred Gattee, and Jesse Halsted. The light crossed the Bay, hovered over San Francisco, and then returned. Witnesses at Gabindo Hotel saw smaller lights and a dark body. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Haywards, California-At 1830, C. S. Long, C. W. Everett, and H. Liedel saw a bright light moving rapidly in the direction of the Bay. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 29, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Red Bluff, California-Many saw a light to the west at 1845. It was moving rapidly to the southwest. It was seen for 20 minutes. (San Francisco [Ca] Chronicle, November 26, 1896) The Los Angeles Times of November 25, 1896, reported that it was egg shaped and moved with a rocking motion. Gross recorded that after the light had passed from view, W. H. Hughes climbed to the top of City Hall. He saw the light make several turns over the mountains, return to Red Bluff, and pass over.

November 24, 1896-Chico, California-At about 1900, many saw a light to the south. It moved north with an irregular pattern. It was ball sized and threw out rays of light from 4-5 different directions. (Los Angeles [Ca] Times, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Visalia, California-Mrs. E. M. Jefferds and the E. O. Larkin family saw a mysterious light to the west at 1900. It moved northwest in straight line but up and down and side to side at the speed of a train. It passed out of sight toward San Francisco. It would sometimes disappear and then reappear as bright as ever. (Visalia Weekly Delta, November 26, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Oakland, California-At 1900, many saw a light moving gracefully with a westerly wind. It was 1,000 feet up and left toward the foothills. (Oakland Times, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 1900, the airship was seen and some saw a stoker shoveling in coal. It was identified as Mars. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 25, 1896) H

November 24, 1896-South of Oakland, California-Mr. Hooson and 2 others saw a powerful light moving toward the Bay at 1900. The light flickered from red to blue. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 29, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Santa Rosa, California-At 1930, hundreds saw a bright light going east. It would often go out and then come back on. It had huge wings. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Stockton, California-Nightwatchman Moxey saw a flash to the northeast at 2000. He pointed it out to Coroner Fred Clark, Supervisor Lorenz, Mr. Turner and Mr. Anderson. It left southeast on a horizontal path. (Stockton Record, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Hayward, California-At 2130, Mr. Webb and his family saw a light moving to the east. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 29, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Oakland, California-Mrs. E. H. Crawford and Kate Basett saw a light to the south for 15 minutes at 2230. They saw it again at 2315 and it was going east slowly. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-San Jose, California-At 2300, W. E. Watts saw the airship. It was a few hundred feet up and they saw the reflection of light on some large, wing shaped object. (San Jose Mercury, November 26, 1896)

November 24, 1896-San Jose, California-At 2245, Eugene Barre received a call from San Francisco that the airship was coming toward San Jose. He, Dan Manning, and Jerre Sullivan saw it at 2300. It was 50 feet above the electric tower and was moving slowly to the south. It was carrot shaped and the bottom of the car was very bright metal. It was seen for 15 minutes. (San Jose Mercury, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 2330, the airship was seen but it was a balloon with a light at the base that went up 300 feet and headed for Alameda. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Tacoma, Washington-About midnight, Mrs. George St. John saw a strange light, high and to the east of Mt. Tacoma. It was seen moving southeast for over an hour. It had red, green, blue, and white lights that shot in all directions. It sometimes moved with a waving and a swaying motion. (Tacoma Daily Ledger, November 27, 1896)

November 24, 1896-San Jose, California-Residents saw a light moving northeast about midnight. (Gross)

November 24, 1896-Lathrop, California-A steamboat captain and a cook saw a cigar shaped object about midnight. It was moving rapidly and was surrounded by a shifting light and made dull thuds. (Gross)

November 24, 1896-Alameda, California-The airship was seen to perform aerial gymnastics and move toward Piedmont. (Lore/Deneault)

November 24, 1896-San Francisco, California-The airship was seen and it was identified as Venus. (San Francisco Chronicle, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Vacaville, California-The airship was seen to come from the direction of Red Bluff. It made a few turns and left in the direction it came from. (Los Angeles [Ca] Times, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Hanford, California-On the cloudy night, Will Matthewson and Mont Hornbeck saw a great light at a 45 degree elevation. It was surrounded by a halo of dazzling light. The true form was obscured, but its flapping wings were seen. (Fresno [Ca] Semi-Weekly Expositor, November 30, 1896)

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November 24, 1896-San Leandro, California-Many saw a light in the sky. (Lore/Deneault)

November 24, 1896-Leesville, California-A light was seen over the city. Some said it was an egg shaped object. (Reno [Nv] Gazette, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-Berkeley, California-Many saw a big light moving from the direction of San Pablo. (San Francisco [Cal] Call, November 25, 1896)

November 24, 1896-McMinnville, Oregon-Several saw the Sacramento airship pass over the city. At least they saw lights in the sky. (McMinnville Telephone Register, November 26, 1896)

November 25, 1896-Sacramento, California-At 0200, several saw an object rushing to the northwest. (Gross)

November 25, 1896-Sacramento, California-Two men saw the airship going northeast before 1600. It was a dark, misty object at enormous height. (San Francisco [Cal] Call, November 26, 1896)

November 25, 1896-Grass Valley, California-At 1800, several saw a strange light to the west. It was very bright, oblong, and rose and fell occasionally. It was seen by Justice Holbrooke, Sheriff Getchell, Deputy Neagle, and others. (Grass Valley Morning Union, November 26, 1896)

November 25, 1896-Auburn, California-Several saw a brilliant barrel shaped object pass over. It moved with a rapid and sinuous motion. (Auburn Placer Herald, November 28, 1896) The San Francisco Call of November 26, 1896, reported that it was round and yellowish. It was seen at 1600 by John Walsh, Dave Chamberlain, and Henry Hart.

(H)

November 25, 1896-near Lodi, California-Col. H. G. Shaw and another were riding when the horses suddenly stopped and snorted. They saw 3 human like beings that were 7 feet tall and slender. Shaw attempted to speak to them but they did not understand. They spoke among themselves in a monotonous, guttural chant. The beings were very interested in observing them and the horse and buggy. The beings had very delicate, small hands and the fingers had no nails. Their feet were twice the size of a normal mans feet and the toes were long and slender. He was able to raise one from the ground by gently pressing upward on his elbow, the being barely weighed an ounce. He attempted to grab the ground with his toes. They wore no clothing, but were covered with a soft, silky growth. Their face and heads were hairless, ears very small, a nose like ivory, and large, lustrous eyes. Their mouths were very small and toothless. Each carried, under the left arm, a bag with a nozzle attached. Every now and then, they would put the nozzle in their mouths and he heard the sound of escaping gas. Each carried an object the size of an egg in one hand. When they slightly opened this hand, the object emitted a very intense and penetrating light. The beings tried to lift him and the other man but they could not. They then flashed their lights toward a bridge over the Woodbridge canal and they saw the airship. It was hovering 20 feet up, 150 feet long, and 20 feet wide. It was pointed at both ends and had



a rudder. They moved toward it touching the earth at 15 foot intervals. They sprang to the airship, opened a door, and went inside. He threw a rock at it and it made no sound. It rose and moved rapidly with an expanding and contracting motion. (Stockton [Ca] Mail, November 27, 1896)

November 25, 1896-Fresno, California-At 1830, a light was seen high in the west and going northwest. It was seen for 2-7 minutes and seemed to be several miles away. It rose and fell as it moved. It seemed to have a light in the front and one on the rear. (Gross) The San Francisco [Ca] Examiner of November 26, 1896, said it was Venus.

November 25, 1896-Petaluma, California-Many saw a brilliant light moving horizontally to the south at 1930. A telescope revealed a dark, cigar shaped body. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 27, 1896) The Petaluma Courier of November 27th said it was Venus and that balloons were sent up in the evening.

November 25, 1896-East Oakland, California-At 2000, Dr. Paulin and Judge Horburgh saw a group of 4-8 lights. Above them, was something which had the form of a whale. It moved toward the city, changed course toward Sausalito, and then swerved toward the city. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 26, 1896)

November 25, 1896-San Francisco, California-At 2130, fire balloons were mistaken for the airship. (San Francisco Call, November 26, 1896)

November 25, 1896-Sacramento, California-During the evening, many saw a floating light. It was 3 times as large as Venus, which was also seen. It first appeared to the northeast and was going southwest. When it was near the south part of the city, it turned west and after passing the city went south. It was seen for 20 minutes by E. D. McCabe, Att. Frank Ryan, George McCalvy, J. A. Danlon, Prof. Dodge, Judge Henry, and others. Later in the evening, it was seen to approach from the west and leave northeast. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 26, 1896)

November 25, 1896-Pasadena, California-At night, George Smith, Walt Parker, and Bob Kern saw the airship. (Los Angeles [Ca] Record, November 26, 1896)

November 25, 1896-Robinson's Ferry, California-P. F. Perryman and 5 others saw 2 lights at night. One light was ahead of the other and the kept the same distance apart. One would die out and the other seemed to be more orange. Both of them oscillated up and down. They were seen for just a few minutes. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, December 2, 1896)

November 25, 1896-Riverside, California-An aerial object was seen. (Lore/Deneault)

November 25, 1896-Oakland, California-An aerial object was seen at the same time as one seen in Riverside. (Lore/Deneault)

November 25, 1896-Los Angeles, California-Three men saw 3 lights moving in a zigzag fashion toward Riverside. (Lore/Deneault)

November 25, 1896-Liedel Place, California-Fred Hoyt chased a light on foot to San Lorenzo. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 29, 1896)

November 25, 1896-San Fernando Valley, California-Frank Smith saw strange lights moving in parallel lines. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 27, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Stockton, California-A package was found in one of the scales of a statue of the goddess of justice. The package contained a letter addressed to the Mail. It stated that neither of the men mentioned in the letter found on November 19, 1896, (see report for Stockton, California, of November 18, 1896) had been on the airship. In order to prove this, the author said to have a reporter on top of the Imperial Hotel about midnight on November 26 and they would take him for a ride. He should bring 2-3 overcoats as it is very chilly up in the air and he should bring a clothespin as the rarified air causes nosebleeds. It was signed, "A. Flyman, Esq., and Partner." (Stockton Evening Mail, November 26, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Oakland, California-During the afternoon, a 77 inch box kite was mistaken for the airship. (San Francisco [Ca] Chronicle, November 27, 1896)

November 26, 1896-East San Jose, California-Prof. H. Worcester saw a bright light approaching from Santa Clara at 1900. Prof. M. Cross and others came out after it had changed course from east to southwest, then west, then south, then southeast. There were 2 lights, 1 behind the other and they were the size of engine headlights. They were moving at 60-100 mph and their motion suggested flapping wings. (Lore/Deneault) The San Jose Mercury of November 29, 1896, added that they were 1,500 feet up, seen 2-3 minutes, and were a ball of light, 6 inches in diameter.

November 26, 1896-San Jose, California-At the same time as the previous sighting, John Bawl saw the airship approach from the northwest. It veered from side to side and he saw a pair of wings flapping forward and downward. A red light hung several feet below the object and there was a cone like projection in front. (Lore/Deneault) The San Jose Mercury of November 28, 1896, added that it was 150 yards away, 20 feet long, and going west.

November 26, 1896-San Jose, California-Also, at 1900, Robert Shields, S. S. Farley, George Brasted, and others saw the airship. It was 900 feet up and described as a bright light moving rapidly west. After it sank to the west, they saw a light rise and go south. Now it was 1 light behind another light. (San Jose Mercury, November 27, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Haywards, California-Carl Mohr saw the airship rise from a canyon at 1900 and go toward San Francisco. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 29, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Bakersfield, California-At 2000, Mr. Goade and others saw the airship over Tejon. It was a very large red light and some said

that something encased the light. (Bakersfield Daily Californian, November 27, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Oakland, California-In a clear sky, Case Gilson and several others saw the airship 2000. It was moving rapidly southeast to north, inspite of a strong northwest wind. No light was seen, merely a peculiar body silhouetted against the sky. It was 1,200 to 1,500 feet up and looked like a great black cigar that was 100 feet long. It had a triangular tail with 1 apex attached to the body. Its surface was like tarnished aluminum. As it neared Lorin, it turned quickly and left toward San Francisco at tremendous speed. It was seen again at 2030 following the same course. (Oakland Tribune, December 1, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Modesto, California-At 2230, J. Ward, W. B. Bell, C. P. Schafer, W. A. Downer, and L. J. Maddux saw the airship at a high altitude to the northwest. It moved steadily and evenly. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 28, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Arno, California-During the evening, Edward McGuirk saw the airship and heard voices coming from it. (Sacramento [Ca] Bee, November 27, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Monterey, California-Several saw the airship in the evening. (Monterey Cypress, November 28, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Ferndale, California-During the evening, a bright light was seen to the northeast and going slowly west. It changed to the southeast and left in an undulating path. (Ferndale Enterprise, December 1, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Petaluma, California-A star was mistaken for the airship. (Petaluma Courier, November 27, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Oak Park, California-During the evening, N. A. Bruce and his family saw the airship. It was 3 miles away and 100 feet up. It had a red and a white light and they saw flapping wings. (Sacramento [Ca] Bee, November 27 and 28, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Tacoma, Washington-In the night, several saw a bright wobbling light. There was a cigar shaped superstructure above the light and voices came from it. (Tacoma News, November 28, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Hanford, California-Will Mathewson and Mort Hornbeck saw a light at 45 degree elevation. It was reddish and seemed to be surrounded by a halo. It came from Bald Mountain and went northeast toward King and Fresno counties. (Fresno [Ca] Semi-Weekly Expositor, November 30, 1896)

November 26, 1896-Tulare, California-Hundreds saw the airship going toward Hanford. It rose and fell as it moved and seemed to be under perfect control. It had red, green, and blue lights on it. (Visalia [Ca] Times Delta, October 11, 1974)

November 26, 1896-San Francisco, California-John Horen said he met the airship inventor and was taken to the ship. It was made of thin aluminum plates, 163 feet long and 56 feet wide. He took a trip on it to Honolulu, Hawaii, and back at the speed of 138 mph. (San Jose [Ca] Mercury, December 1, 1896) The San Francisco (Ca) Call of December 2, 1896, printed the story and the statement by his wife, that Horen was at home asleep at the time he said it happened. (H)

November 26, 1896-Stockton, California-W. Bruce Harrison saw lights over the northwest part of the city. (Gross) The Stockton Mail of November 27th said it was a fire balloon.

November 26, 1896-between Poso and Bakersfield, California-Mrs. Webster saw the airship with blue and white lights going south. A telescope revealed that it was like a balloon. (Gross)

November 27, 1896-Los Angeles, California-At about 1800, many saw a bright light near the south horizon. At 1830, Capt. Frank Taylor saw a light at 20 to 25 degrees elevation and moving southwest. A pair of field glasses revealed that it was about 15-20 miles away and pear shaped with the apex tilted a little to the left. About 1/5 of its surface was dark and the rest was very bright and spotted at regular intervals with even brighter spots. It was seen for 10 to 15 minutes. (Los Angeles Times, December 1, 1896)

November 27, 1896-Antioch, California-At 1850, C. F. Merrill, Nat Cleaves, T. Uren, C. Sweeny, and others saw a bright light to the south and moving west. It slowly ascended and disappeared behind Mount Diablo in the direction of Oakland. (San Francisco [Ca] Chronicle, November 28, 1896)

November 27, 1896-Bakersfield, California-W. Sanford and Robert Blodge saw a light low in the southwest at 1930. It was very large and moved with undulating movements. (Gross)

November 27, 1896-Winnemucca, Nevada-At 2100, several saw a luminous object to the south. (Winnemucca Silver State, November 28, 1896)

November 27, 1896-Woodland, California-Residents saw bright lights going southwest at 2200. They were 500-600 feet up, moving at 25 mph, and seen 1 hour. (Woodland Democrat, November 28, 1896)

November 27, 1896-Bakersfield, California-In the early evening, A. Hughes saw a great white light moving slowly south. (Gross)

November 27, 1896-Visalia, California-Dave and Jim Carter, and Charley Bahwell saw a light at night. It jumped about and gradually disappeared to the northwest. (Visalia Times Delta, October 11, 1974)

November 27, 1896-National City, California-A meteor was seen and thought to have been the airship. (National City News, December 3, 1896)

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November 27, 1896-Visalia, California-M. J. Byrnes and many others saw a wavering light to the southwest. (Visalia Times Delta, October 11, 1974)

November 28, 1896-Potter Valley, California-At 1930, R. G. Case and Wm. Held saw a cigar shaped airship that was evidently suspended from a balloon. It passed so close to them, that their horses panicked. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 29, 1896)

November 28, 1896-Anderson, California-Residents saw a peculiar light to the west at 2020. It was large, brilliant, and moved in a steady course to the south. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 30, 1896)

November 28, 1896-Salinas, California-During the evening, Fred Howe and others saw an airship for 20 minutes as it moved toward Monterey. (Salinas Democrat, December 5, 1896)

November 28, 1896-Eureka, California-At night, the airship was seen for 20 minutes. (Eureka Standard, November 30, 1896)

November 28, 1896-Oakland, California-Percy Drew saw the airship with a red light. It was 100 feet long and moved with usual quickness. (Oakland Tribune, December 1, 1896) The same source of November 30, 1896, said it was Mars.

November 28, 1896-Alameda, California-A family saw a big white light suddenly appear to the south. It flared out in a second, rose and went south. It stopped, turned south and left. It was the size of a man's head and was seen for 20 minutes. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, November 30, 1896)

November 29, 1896-Tulare, California-At 1500, hundreds including Mr. and Mrs. Schoermer, Mrs. Castle, Nellie Wilson, and Frank Gable, saw the airship going southwest. At 2030, it came back, descended, ascended, then shot away toward Hanford. (Visalia [Ca] Tulare County Times, December 3, 1896)

November 29, 1896-Watertown, California-At 2045, R. McQuarrie, C. Hurlbut, and others saw the light of the airship to the south. It passed over the city, 400 feet up. It was intensely brilliant and the shape and propelling apparatus seen. It was moving at 15 mph and human forms were seen. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, December 3, 1896)

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November 29, 1896-Swanger, California-At night, the airship was seen. (Ferndale [Ca] Enterprise, December 14, 1896)

November 29, 1896-Pennington, California-A bright light was seen at night and it moved in a wave like manner. (Yuba City [Ca] Farmer, December 4, 1896)

November 29, 1896-Fresno, California-A man saw the airship hovering to the west. (Fresno Semi-Weekly Expositor, November 30, 1896)

November 29, 1896-Waukens, California-A man saw the airship. (Visalia [Ca] Weekly Delta, December 3, 1896)

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November 29, 1896-Delano, California-Residents saw a mysterious object floating in the sky. (Gross)

November 30, 1896-Merced, California-At 2015, T. Edmunds, J. Olase and others saw a bright red light to the west. It grew larger, came from the west, circled to the north over the city, and paused over the center of the city. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, December 2, 1896)

November 30, 1896-Redlands, California-Residents saw a bright light in the sky. (Gross)

November 30, 1896-Stanford, California-Fire balloons were thought to have been the airship. (San Francisco [Ca] Examiner, December 4, 1896)

November 30, 1896-Los Angeles, California-Residents saw 2 fixed lights pass over at a high speed and altitude. A searchlight was seen as they moved northwest to southeast. Two hours later, they returned moving southeast to northwest. (Gross) The Los Angeles Times of December 1, 1896, indicated that they were possibly Venus and Mars and known balloons were sent up.

November 1896-Stockton, California-Many saw an object with double lights that moved parallel with the earth. (Stockton Record, November 27, 1896)

November 1896-Arcata, California-At 0630, several students saw a large, bright light to the northwest. (Eureka [Ca] Daily Humboldt Times, November 29, 1896)

November 1896-San Mateo County, California-A former resident now working for one of the San Francisco papers wrote that he met the inventor of the airship in San Mateo county ten days ago. He reported that he even flew in it. "The airship in which I made my ascent is 22 feet long, 7 feet of beam, as we would term it in nautical parlance, and 7 1/2 feet high from the ground. It is merely a rough model for experimental purposes, devoid of all the elegant and comfortable interior fittings later airships planned after this model will contain." He claimed they flew over Los Angeles at an altitude of five miles. (Portland [Or] Telegram, December 2, 1896)

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November 1896-Oroville, California-Several reports of strange moving lights. (San Francisco [Ca] Chronicle, November 24, 1896)

November 1896-Ferndale, California-The airship was seen but it proved to be a fire balloon. (Contra Costa [Ca] Gazette, November 28, 1896)

November 1896-Pescadero, California-A fire balloon was mistaken for the airship. (Redwood City [Ca] Gazette, December 5, 1896)

November 1896-Blue Lake, California-The airship was seen but it was a fire balloon. (Ferndale [Ca] Enterprise, December 4, 1896)

November 1896-Woodland, California-Between 2000 and 2100, L. Charmah and another saw a moving light, or lights, to the southwest and going northeast. When it slowed down, they saw 3 distinct lights which kept a

uniform distance apart. They were followed by a white train. (Woodland Daily Democrat, November 24, 1896)

December 1, 1896-San Bernardino, California-At 1900, a cigar shaped object with a 30 foot wide membrane, triangular wings, and a searchlight was seen. (Riverside [Cal] Press, December 2, 1896)

December 1, 1896-Merced, California-At 2030, several saw a very bright red light come from the west. It grew larger, brighter, and became 3 lights. When it was over the city, it described a large circle, then left north. (Merced Star, December 3, 1896)

December 2, 1896-Sutter City, California-E. T. Schellenger saw a ball of red light moving slowly at 1800. He thought he could see wheels moving on it. The light was continually changing from red to blue and it had several other lights. It left in the direction of Knights Landing. (Marysville, [Cal] Daily Appeal, December 4, 1896)

December 2, 1896-Reno, Nevada-Several saw a strange light to the west at 1900. Prof. Wilson said it was as large as an electric arc light. It was over Mackey and Fair Mountain to the southwest. It seemed to be moving toward the city. It was also seen by his wife, Harry Martin, and Mr. Brown. (Reno Gazette, December 3, 1896)

December 2, 1896-Salinas, California-Many saw a large spherical body with scintillating lights at 1900. It was very high and seen for 15 minutes. (Salinas Index, December 3, 1896)

December 2, 1896-Marysville, California-At 2200, several saw moving lights. (Marysville Appeal, December 4, 1896)

December 2, 1896-Bakersfield, California-The airship was seen by 200 people at night. (Bakersfield Daily Californian, December 3, 1896)

(H) December 2, 1896-Eureka, California-At night, the airship was seen and some thought they saw men in it. It proved to be a red lantern suspended from a flagpole. (Eureka Humboldt Times, December 5, 1896)

December 2, 1896-Visalia, California-A light was seen to the west and going north at night. (Visalia Tulare County Times, December 3, 1896)

December 2, 1896-Rio Bonita, California-Several saw a bright light that seemed to pass over Butte mountains to the southwest. (Marysville [Cal] Appeal, December 4, 1896)

(H) December 2, 1896-15 miles south of Pacific Grove, California-Two fishermen saw the airship land on the water and move at a moderate speed until it reached the beach. Three men got out and carried it into the woods. One of the men came back and took the fishermen to the airship. It was 60 feet long, cigar shaped, and the steering apparatus was being repaired. It was made of aluminum and the wings folded close to the body. (San Francisco [Cal] Call, December 3, 1896) The San Francisco Examiner of December 4th reported that no woods existed there and no one knew or heard of the 2 fishermen.

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December 3, 1896-Fresno, California-George Jennings said that an old friend arrived at his hotel about noon. The friend was one of the airship inventors and they had been flying around Contra Costa County when a current of wind caught the airship. The wind was so strong that they could not control the airship until it arrived at Fresno. It was made a aluminum, used an improved system of aeroplanes for lift, and electricity as a motive power. Its only problem was that at times they could not control it. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, December 5, 1896)

December 3, 1896-Selma, California-At 2100, I. M. Steward saw a strange light moving rapidly to the southeast. It was 150 feet up and resembled a train headlight. It was seen by several other people. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, December 5, 1896)

December 3, 1896-Indio, California-At 2100, William Gordon was approached by a stranger looking for someone to splice a rope. Gordon went with him to a cigar shaped object that was 80 feet long and 25 feet wide. It stood on projections and beneath the body was 2 15 foot across, 5 bladed propellers. A tiller rope on its rudder had parted, which he spliced. The craft was metallic, had 2 doors, a number of windows, and the interior was divided into compartments. The captain said that it was operated by compressed air. Gordon took a ride on it and even took the controls. After 2 hours, they passed over Los Angeles, Ventura, and Santa Barbara. It returned about 8 miles southeast of San Luis Obispo at 0300. The stranger was of swarthy appearance and spoke Spanish to his single companion, a woman. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, December 5, 1896)

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December 3, 1896-Phoenix, Arizona-At 2130, George Bullard, Sen. W. A. Freeze, Maurice Fleishman, and George Fifield saw the airship. It carried 2 searchlights and a car that contained several passengers. (Phoenix Arizona Gazette, December 4 and 6, 1896)

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December 3, 1896-Healdsburg, California-A man saw an object pass over rapidly and 300 feet up. It had a brilliant light that came from a deep cut aperture in the rear. (Santa Rosa [Ca] Press Democrat, May 28, 1978)

December 3, 1896-San Francisco, California-The people of Minion Hills saw the airship sail over Twin Peaks then crash into a gulch. Two men were inside it, and they were badly bruised, while the airship was badly wrecked. It was made of galvanized sheet steel, and 40 feet long. A hole in its side permitted the escape of a sickening gas. One of the men was J. D. DeGear of San Francisco and he related that he and the inventor was on a trial trip when it crashed. (San Francisco Call, December 4, 1896) The San Francisco Chronicle of December 4 reported that the alleged inventor admitted that it never flew and that it was hauled to the spot by a wagon and dragged into place. The paint on it had not even dried and the propellor could be bent with a touch. It was a definite fake.

(H)

December 4, 1896-Davisville, California-Shortly after 1800, George Little and his wife saw something like that seen by the train crew. (Marysville [Ca] Appeal, December 9, 1896)

December 4, 1896-Lodi, California-Between 1800 and 1900, several saw the airship going south. Some of them saw a body above and below the light. It left to the northwest. (San Francisco [Ca] Chronicle, December 5, 1896)

December 4, 1896-Reno, Nevada-At 1830, a reporter saw a very bright light over Mackey and Fair Mountain. He felt that it was Venus. (Reno Gazette, December 5, 1896)

December 4, 1896-between Dixon and Elmira, California-Conductor Corbell, Mr. Ryans, and others on a train saw 2 bright lights between 1830 and 1900. They were 1,000 feet up and moving parallel with the train. Their speed was greater than the train and they left southwest. (Marysville [Ca] Appeal, December 9, 1896)

December 4, 1896-Browns Valley, California-At 1930, the airship was seen to the west and going towards San Francisco. It was 5 miles up, the size of a lantern, and like a bright electric light. (Marysville [Ca] Appeal, December 5, 1896)

December 4, 1896-Woodville, California-C. D. Smith saw a strange light toward the mountains. It was seen by others several minutes later. (Visalia [Ca] Tulare County Times, December 10, 1896)

December 4, 1896-North Bloomfield, California-Four people saw the airship at night. (Grass Valley [Ca] Morning Union, December 6, 1896)

December 5, 1896-Carson City, Nevada-Several people including Lyman Frisbie, Mike Digeney, Jake Muller, Jr., and Ed Billennourt saw a flickering light moving east to west in an easy course. It was seen several minutes. (Carson City Weekly, December 7, 1896) The Carson City Morning Appeal of December 8, 1896, said that it was a fire balloon.

December 6, 1896-Milwaukee, Wisconsin-At 1600, a kite was sent up and described as a flying machine moving against the wind and a man was seen working the wings. (Chicago [Ill] Tribune, December 7, 1896)

December 6, 1896-Monterey, California-Several saw the airship about midnight. (Monterey Cypress, December 12, 1896)

December 6, 1896-Glendale, California-The airship was seen in the evening. (Ferndale [Ca] Enterprise, December 4, 1896)

(H) December 7, 1896-Camptonville, California-At 2100, several saw the airship to the northwest, going north. It descended and landed on Ramm's Hill, 2 miles away. It was found with one occupant who could not speak or hear. They communicated by writing back and forth. He came from the Montezuma mountains in his airship, having left his family in care of the postmaster. He rose and left at 1600 on December 8, 1896. (Marysville [Ca] Appeal, December 9, 1896)

December 7, 1896-Empire, Nevada-Jack Garrity saw a flying machine during the evening. (Carson City [Nv] Morning Appeal, December 11, 1896)

December 7, 1896-Graniteville, California-A fire balloon was mistaken for the airship. (Grass Valley [Ca] Morning Union, December 9, 1896)

December 7, 1896-Visalia, California-The airship was seen to pass over at great speed. It moved north to south and moved in an undulating fashion. It seemed to veer from east to west. It was seen by Charles Abbott, Herbert Riley, Officer Hayes, and others. (Visalia Weekly Delta, December 10, 1896)

December 8, 1896-Carson City, Nevada-The airship was seen to the west and it caught fire and exploded. It was actually a fire balloon that did just that. (Carson City Morning Appeal, December 9, 1896)

December 10, 1896-Riverside, California-At noon, the airship was seen moving rapidly. Some saw smoke coming from a funnel and some saw wings and a propeller. It was a 6 feet wide hot air paper balloon. (Riverside Press, December 10, 1896)

December 11, 1896-Bronson, Kansas-At 1700, several saw an object come from the west at a swift and steady motion. It stopped directly over the city for 5 minutes, then left east. (Bronson Record, December 17, 1896)

December 14, 1896-Yankee Jims, California-Ten people saw the airship in the evening. (Colfax [Ca] Sentinel, December 25, 1896)

December 14, 1896-Live Oak, California-The airship passed over a family in a cart. The horse became frightened and upset the cart. (Yuba City [Ca] Farmer, December 18, 1896)

December 17, 1896-Biggs, California-At 1830, 50 people saw lights 1 mile to the southwest. It moved in a waving motion and left toward Colusa. (San Francisco [Ca] Call, December 18, 1896)

December 1896-Long Valley, Nevada-Local Indians claimed to have seen the airship. (Reno [NV] Gazette, December 17, 1896)

December 1896-San Jose, California-At 2300, residents saw a bright light moving rapidly in the sky. (Antioch [Ca] Ledger, December 12, 1896)

December 1896-Knox's Butte, Albany, Oregon-A strange light was seen hovering. (Albany State Rights Democrat, December 11, 1896)

December 1896-Blalock, Oregon-At night, the crew of a train saw a large and very bright light falling from the sky. When it was apparently 1 mile up, it seemed to stand suspended for a moment, then leave north. It was like an immense ball of fire and was seen for 5 minutes. (Montesano [Wa] Vidette, December 18, 1896)

December 1896-20 miles north of Reno, Nevada-Scott Hart saw an object passing over at 500 feet up. Then 2 lights flashed out and he heard a voice say, "We are 4 degrees too far north, change the course." (Carson City [NV] Morning Appeal, December 6, 1896) (H)

December 1896-Elko, Nevada-Fifty people saw a strange light rise above the northern horizon and rise far into the air. It left to the west in 2 hours. (Elko Independent, December 13, 1896)

December 1896-Battle Mountain, Nevada-During the evening, a strange light was seen to the north, going west. It rose straight up from the earth. (Battle Mountain Central Nevadan, December 10, 1896)

December 1896-Nicolaus, California-The airship was seen but it was actually a light of some kind and not a flying machine. (Yuba City [Ca] Framer, December 4, 1896)

January 25, 1897-Florence, Arizona-Between 2030 and 2300, several saw a star to the south that moved east in a zigzag manner. It moved thousands of miles in less than 2 minutes. It retraced its path, moving west, then up and east, and sideways. It changed its brilliance from a 4th magnitude to a 2nd magnitude star. It was said to have been Algol or Canopus. (Phoenix [Az] Herald, February 4, 1897)

January 31, 1897-Hastings, Nebraska-At 2130, a large glaring light was seen at an altitude of 800 feet. It circled around for a few minutes then went north for 3 miles. It hovered for 5 minutes, ascended 200 feet straight up, and hovered for 8 minutes. Then it descended 200 feet in a spiraling fashion. It then went west at a remarkable speed for 2 miles, slowed down, and circled for 15 minutes. It then lowered and disappeared. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, February 2, 1897) According to the Juniata (Nb) Herald of February 10, 1897, this sighting was dated February 8, 1897.

January 1897-Montreal, Canada-For about a week, people saw a strange light between 1700 and 1900. It was claimed that it came from a balloon sent up 8 miles above Syracuse for military purposes. (Chicago [Ill] Chronicle, February 2, 1897)

January 1897-Acampo, California-During the day several saw an airship as big as a small house. It seemed to be made of canvas and was under perfect control. It left to the southeast. (Reno [Nv] Gazette, January 22, 1897)

January 1897-Delaware-A mysterious light had been seen by farmers. (St. Louis [Mo] Star, April 13, 1897)

February 2, 1897-Ellinwood, Kansas-At night, many saw the airship going south at 40 mph. It was 50 feet long, 20 feet wide, and had 2 immense wings or propellers on each side. It had some sort of contrivance attached to the rear, was seen 10 minutes, and was a blaze of light from stem to stern. (Great Bend [Ks] Evening News, February 5, 1897) The Ellinwood Leader of February 11, 1897, stated that no one could be found who saw the airship. It was claimed that the story was made up in Great Bend. (It should be pointed out that by reading papers from both cities it was evident that there existed a form of inter-city bitterness between Great Bend and Ellinwood. The papers from Ellinwood contained several degrading comments about Great Bend and vice versa.)

February 3, 1897-Bloomfield, Nebraska-An airship was seen and it was built of a material like aluminum. It could be propelled in any direction by means of electricity. The occupants were like human beings and their language could not be understood. They were able to converse by signs and gestures and found that they were more advanced in the arts and sciences and it took 1 year to get to the earth. They left after 2 days and took 2 of Bloomfield's most prominent citizens with them. (Bloomfield Monitor, February 17, 1897) (H)

February 5, 1897-Inavale, Nebraska-A very bright light had been seen by 10-12 people. It was like a big headlight with several smaller lights at regular intervals. It was at a considerable height and left. Ten minutes later it returned and was lower. It was conical shaped, 30-40 feet long, had 3 lights on each side, 2 sets of wings, and a large fan shaped rudder. They heard voices and laughter from it. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, February 8, 1897) (H)

February 5, 1897-Niobrara, Nebraska-At 2230, Mayor Bayha and Clerk Harris saw a strange light. It changed colors and circled to the west for a couple of hours. (Niobrara Pioneer, February 12, 1897)

February 7, 1897-York, Nebraska-George Cook, his daughter, and George Jerome saw a bright light to the west at 2100. It was 2 miles away, very high, and very intense. It would suddenly disappear and then reappear. It soon left to the northwest. Jerome saw it dropped suddenly, moved south, and then north. (York Times, February 8, 1897)

February 7, 1897-Hastings, Nebraska-The airship was seen hovering 800 feet up. It was powerfully illuminated by an artificial light. (Juniata [Nb] Herald, February 10, 1897)

February 13, 1897-Orangeville, Illinois-A strange object was seen in the sky. It was like a large mansion with lights in many windows. At times the lights were gone. It left with a rocking motion. (Orangeville Courier, April 19, 1897)

February 15, 1897-Beatrice, Nebraska-Will Miller, Walt Scott, Charley Dempster, Frank Talbot, and Dick Grant saw the airship. Grant said it had a tail, Scott saw 2 eyes, and Dempster saw only 1 eye. It was bright and moved slowly west. (Beatrice Express, February 16, 1897) The Beatrice Times of February 16, 1897, reported that Talbot said it was going south and was the size of a small balloon.

February 16, 1897-South Omaha, Nebraska-At 2130, Thomas Hazel and many children saw a long dark object moving rapidly north. It had a headlight that flashed in all directions. It was 400-500 feet up and was seen by others. (Omaha Bee, February 18, 1897)

February 16, 1897-North Platte, Nebraska-Hy Smith, Chas. Sreternitz, and Harry Reese saw the airship. It was a light the size of a barrel. It would rise straight up 200 feet and then descend very rapidly. When descending, sparks were sent out. This action was repeated. (Kearney [Nb] Hub, February 18, 1897)

February 17, 1897-Kearney, Nebraska-Between 2100 and 2200, Charley Prescott and the Peter O'Brien family saw a light in the west. It was a great distance away and the size of a wooden water bucket. (Kearney Hub, February 19 and 20, 1897)

February 19, 1897-Kearney, Nebraska-Frank Schmidt and others saw a large, bright light to the west. It would dim and brighten and moved with an undulating and uncertain motion. (Kearney Hub, February 20, 1897)

February 19, 1897-Beatrice, Nebraska-Between 2000 and 2200, several saw a bright light near the western horizon. It was vibrating and appeared like a greatly magnified star. It had luminous rays shooting out unevenly from it. The suggestion was made that it was Venus. (Beatrice Express, February 25, 1897)

February 23, 1897-Bowling Green, Ohio-A bright light was seen swaying side to side to the northwest at 2300. At midnight, a spark shot from it to the west. (Bowling Green Sentinel, February 24, 1897)

February 23, 1897-Omaha, Nebraska-Ex-councilman Corly and his wife, and others, saw moving colored lights at night. It seemed to be attached to an oblong object. It moved gracefully with a little dipping and swaying. (Omaha World Herald, February 25, 1897)

February 23, 1897-Lexington, Nebraska-Al Abel saw the airship with a brilliant headlight. Just before it sank to the west, its headlight swung back and forth several times. (Lexington Dawson County Pioneer, February 27, 1897)

February 24, 1897-Pawnee, Nebraska-At 2100, several saw the airship. During the 1 1/2 hours it was seen, it would dart about. (South Auburn [Nb] Nemaha County Herald, March 12, 1897)

February 24, 1897-Wymore, Nebraska-Millard Merkle saw the airship. (Wymore Arbor State, March 5, 1897)

February 25, 1897-Wymore, Nebraska-During the evening, Joe Litty and a hundred others saw the airship. The light was so brilliant that it dazzled the eyes and was in constant motion. It went north for 20 degrees at a terrific rate, turned west, then south, and made a circuit of the city. It came down to 1/2 mile up, rose back to 1 mile up, and left at 2135. (Wymore Arbor State, March 5, 1897)

February 25, 1897-Beatrice, Nebraska-At 2240, a strange light was seen 1/2 mile up. It was kite shaped and the color of a lantern. It would recede then appear again more plainly at some other point. It eventually left north. (Lincoln [Nb] Nebraska State Journal, February 26, 1897)

February 25, 1897-Hastings, Nebraska-Bert Armitage and others saw the airship at 2335. It was moving east in an oscillating motion. It was visible for 5 hours. (Hastings Tribune, March 5, 1897)

February 25, 1897-Grand Island, Nebraska-Several saw the airship for over an hour. The light plainly moved up and down and would approach and recede. (Grand Island Independent, February 26, 1897)

February 26, 1897-Falls City, Nebraska-At 0200, Emmett Sallerwiter saw an immense ball of fire floating to the west. It was white and changed to a dull red. (Falls City Journal, March 5, 1897) The Falls City News of March 5, 1897, reported that it was 2 miles up, to the southwest, and left west.

February 26, 1897-Tecumseh, Nebraska-Between 2100 and 2200, many saw the airship approach from the northwest. It changed colors from red to white to red. It left to the northwest. (Crab Orchard [Nb] Herald, March 5, 1897)

February 26, 1897-Falls City, Nebraska-The Missouri Pacific operator saw a red light going northwest at 2200. (Atchison [Ks] Globe, March 30, 1897) The Stella (Nb) Press of March 5, 1897, stated that it was moving west at 60 mph. It was like a big searchlight and a red light was in the area.

February 26, 1897-Blue Hill, Nebraska-A strange looking object was seen to the west. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, February 28, 1897)

February 26, 1897-Stella, Nebraska-The operator saw a bright light to the southwest. (Stella Press, March 5, 1897)

February 1897-Marcellus, Michigan-A woman said she heard a dog making a disturbance. She saw a bright red light that made a hissing sound. It was seen for 1/2 hour. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Telegraph, April 15, 1897)

February 1897-Kearney, Nebraska-During the evening, superintendent Weston and Lawrence Ketchen saw 2 strange lights which kept a relative position to the north and south. They seemed to have a positive movement and their colors changed from dark yellow to white. (Kearney Hub, March 1, 1897)

February/March 1897-Farnum, Nebraska-W. A. Gorden, Dave Hanna, and E. B. Dunham saw a bright light moving northwest to southwest. (Lexington Dawson County Pioneer, March 6, 1897)

February 1897-Sterling, Kansas-The airship was seen. (Turon [Ks] Weekly Press, February 11, 1897)

February 1897-Hatings, Nebraska-A kite with a lantern tied to the tail was seen as the airship. (Kennard [Nb] Enterprise, February 20, 1897)

February 1897-Elwood, Kansas-Several saw the airship pass over. (Fall City [Nb] Journal, February 12, 1897)

February 1897-Englewood, Kansas-Several saw the airship. (Alma [Ks] Signal, February 27, 1897)

February 1897-Kearney, Nebraska-For 3 or 4 days, a mysterious light was seen to the west between 1900 and 2200. Its intensity varied and on 2 occasions it remained stationary for over an hour. It then would take an undulating motion and disappear to the north. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, February 23, 1897)

February/March 1897-Litchfield, Nebraska-On 3 or 4 occasions during a 2 week period, a strange light was seen between 2100 and 2200. It was to the west and moved about slowly. (Litchfield Monitor, March 4, 1897)

February 1897-The Kearney (NB) Daily Hub of March 1, 1897, reprinted an article which appeared in the Woman's Gazette of Beatrice, Nb. It was in the form of a letter written by Anton Pallardy, an alleged scientist from the Black Hills. He stated that the airship was built in a country known as "Mauvais Terres" which was northwest of Nebraska. He and three companions were flying the ship in order that the people beneath its path would become familiar with it. The ship was described as "something like a very large umbrella with a transparent covering. This large umbrella is immediately above the car, which also contains the little motor for operating the large wings immediately above the umbrella. These wings are expanded and contracted at the pleasure of the engineer. Suspended above and attached to these wings are two very thin, aluminum balloons containing the new gas, helium. Immediately between the wings is another smaller umbrella-like affair that can be made to revolve very rapidly, for a purpose I dare not disclose to you."

March 3, 1897-Wood River, Nebraska-At 0117, the airship was seen to pass over. It was 1 mile or so up and the outline was plainly visible. (Wood River Interest, March 5, 1897)

March 3, 1897-Pawnee City, Nebraska-Between 2200 and 2300, Mr. Marion Potter and Rolla Huntley saw the airship to the west. It moved and circled as if guided by human hands. (Steinauer [Nb] Star, March 5, 1897)

March 4, 1897-Kearney, Nebraska-C. W. Hodges saw a very large and bright light pass over at 0607. It was about a mile up, moved rapidly to the northwest, was very bright white, and 12 to 16 feet long. (Kearney Hub, March 11, 1897)

March 4, 1897-Litchfield, Nebraska-At 2230, the airship was seen. (Broken Bow [Nb] Custer County Beacon, March 11, 1897)

March 4, 1897-Ansley, Nebraska-Mr. Clark and others saw an object at 2230. It was like a huge 36 foot long fish. It was about a mile up and going so fast that it left a streak of light 300 yards long. It made a noise like a thousand prairie chickens taking flight. There were 3 persons seen in it. (Broken Bow [Nb] Custer County Chief, March 5, 1897)

March 5, 1897-Wymore, Nebraska-At 2000, hundreds saw the airship pass over going south to northwest against a strong wind. (Wymore Arbor State, March 12, 1897) The Diller (Nb) Jefferson County Record of March 12, 1897, reported that it was 1945, moving up and down at 15 mph, 2,000

feet up, and seen 10 minutes. This was said to be taken from the Wymore Wymorean.

March 7, 1897-South Omaha, Nebraska-The light of the airship was seen at 2145. (Kearney [Nb] Hub, March 15, 1897)

March 7, 1897-Chalco, Nebraska-At 2225, the operator saw a light moving southeast to northwest. (Kearney [Nb] Hub, March 15, 1897)

March 9, 1897-Kearney, Nebraska-C. J. Stroud and family saw a light come from the southwest at 2115. It was very brilliant, very high, and left northwest at 2200 at great speed. (Kearney Hub, March 10, 1897)

March 9, 1897-Missouri-A strange light was seen going northwest. (Skylook)

March 12, 1897-Downs, Kansas-At 2200, several saw the airship pass over. It was 8 feet long, had a light at each end, and left toward Osborne. (Alton [Ks] Empire, March 18, 1897)

March 13, 1897-Portal, Nebraska-Clara O'Canion and Lola Hassett saw a huge black oblong mass to the east at 2100. It had a graceful rocking motion and lights that swung from either end. (Papillion [Nb] Times, March 18, 1897)

March 13, 1897-North Loup, Nebraska-Many saw a brilliant ball of fire to the west. Its intensity varied and its course was irregular and erratic. It frequently threw out dazzling sheets of light and streaks of sparks. (Lincoln [Nb] Nebraskas State Journal, March 16, 1897)

March 14, 1897-South Omaha, Nebraska-At 2130, the airship was seen to approach from the southeast. It was like an engine headlight and floated to the west and north. During the 30 minutes it was seen, it went out of view behind buildings. It was 1 foot in diameter and some saw a dark body below the light. (Omaha Bee, March 16, 1897)

March 14, 1897-Fremont, Nebraska-The airship was seen going north. (Fremont Herald, March 16, 1897)

March 15, 1897-Omaha, Nebraska-A large light was seen to pass over in a manner that indicated control by human agency. (Stevensville [Mt] Ravalli Republican, March 31, 1897)

March 18, 1897-Wilsey, Kansas-At 2200, several saw a light going northwest in the heavily overcast sky. It was as large as a quart dipper and bobbed up and down. (Council Grove [Ks] Guard, April 2, 1897)

March 22, 1897-Byron, Wisconsin-A large and brilliant light was seen. (Fond du Lac [Wi] Commonwealth, March 25, 1897)

March 23, 1897-Bruning, Nebraska-At 2200, many saw the airship going northwest. It was 300-400 feet up and was a dark body the size of the depot. It carried 1 large yellow light, a smaller one, and was seen for 10 minutes. (Hebron [Nb] Republican, March 26, 1897)

March 26, 1897-Sioux City, Iowa-The airship was seen, but soon identified as Veuns. (Sioux City Journal, March 24, 1897)

March 24, 1897-Sedgewick, Kansas-Several saw a straight bar of light going east at 2000 on a cloudless night. It was narrow at the top and gradually widened as it extended toward the earth. It left east, but was seen to reappear an hour or so later going southeast to southwest. (Sedgewick Pantagraph, April 1, 1897)

March 24, 1897-Fairbury, Kansas-At 2030, the airship was seen high in the northwest. It was like a bright star with rays of light extending up and down from it. It would remain stationary for some time then move northwest, swaying side to side. It would often fade in and out. By 2130, it had left to the northwest. It reappeared and again disappeared at 2200. (Phillipsburg [Ks] Herald, April 1, 1897, taken from the Fairbury Gazette of March 27)

March 24, 1897-Elsie, Nebraska-Mr. and Mrs. Fagenstecker saw a light as large as the moon going west and north. (Elsie Leader, April 15, 1897)

March 24, 1897-Belleville, Kansas-Thirteen people saw a light for 30 minutes as it moved north against the wind. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, March 29, 1897)

March 24, 1897-Jefferson, Michigan-In the morning, several saw a beautiful ball of fire in the clouds. It was very bright for a short time then appeared to go down. (Hudson [Mi] Post, April 2, 1897)

March 25, 1897-Marquette, Kansas-During the evening, many saw a bright light going south to northwest. It came from Wichita and left toward Colby. (Lindsborg [Ks] Record, April 2, 1897) The Marquette Tribune of April 2, 1897, reported that it was a hoax.

March 26, 1897-Belleville, Kansas-Telegraph operator, J. A. Rea, saw a light hovering over the city for 3/4 hour. It had a bluish tint and was 1/2 size of train headlight. It left rapidly. (Chicago [Ill] Tribune, March 29, 1897)

March 26, 1897-Kansas City, Kansas-At 2130, Mrs. B. R. Hogan saw a light to the northwest. It would disappear and reappear at 10-20 minute intervals and each time it seemed to be in a different direction. (Kansas City Star, March 28, 1897)

March 27, 1897-Portage, Wisconsin-In the daylight, Mr. Ridgeway and Mr. Pilcher saw the airship over City Hall. It was white, the size of a bushel basket, and 3 miles up. Every once in awhile, it would wobble and a cloud of smoke would belch from 1 end. It was revealed that a balloon had been sent up about the same time. (Portage Register, April 12, 1897)

March 27, 1897-Osage City, Kansas-At 2000, a light was seen to the northwest and 8-10 miles away. It rapidly grew brighter until it was as large as a train headlight, reddish, and oval. After 15 minutes, it began to grow narrower and became a narrow streak of light that soon

disappeared. The outline of an object was seen behind the light. (Osage City Free Press, April 1, 1897)

March 27, 1897-Diller, Nebraska-D. R. Calley saw the airship to the northwest at 2100. During the 1/2 hour it was seen, it was at first stationary and then moved in various directions. It was possibly Venus. (Diller Jefferson County Record, April 2, 1897)

March 27, 1897-Topeka, Kansas-At 2100, a dispatch was recieved stating that the airship would arrive at 2130. It was seen, at 2130, by thousands to the west. It was too red and too large to be a star and would disappear and reappear at times. (Topeka Capital, March 28, 1897) The Topeka State Journal of March 29, 1897, said it was Venus.

March 27, 1897-Belleville, Kansas-At 2200, hundreds of people saw a light that was so strong that it reflected brightly through windows. At times it would disappear and then flare out suddenly. It had an erratic course and after 30 minutes it darted off to the north. Several saw it with strong glasses and said they saw the outlines of an airship. (Chicago [Ill] Tribune, March 29, 1897)

March 27, 1897-Hiawatha, Kansas-Several saw a light to the west. It was a brilliant light with a circle of light around it and would repeatedly beam bright then disappear. (Hiawatha Kansas Democrat, April 1, 1897)

March 27, 1897-Valley Falls, Kansas-An airship as big as the moon was seen by several people. (Oskalocsa [Ks] Times, April 2, 1897)

March 27, 1897-Stockton, Kansas-Alex Low saw a moving light in the sky. (Stockton Rooks County Record, April 2, 1897)

March 28, 1897-Belleville, Kansas-The airship was seen at 0200 going south. (Mt. Morris [Ill] News, April 7, 1897)

March 28, 1897-Belleville, Kansas-At 0500, the airship was seen going north. (Mt. Morris [Ill] News, April 7, 1897)

March 28, 1897-Omaha, Nebraska-Many saw the airship for 30 minutes. It came from the southeast and left slowly to the northwest. It was a big bright light that glowed steadily and was too big for a balloon. (Omaha Bee, March 30, 1897)

March 28, 1897-Junction City, Kansas-Mr. and Mrs. Jim Durbin and Mr. H. Pickering saw the skylight. (Junction City Union, April 2, 1897)

March 28, 1897-Stockton, Kansas-Frank McNulty saw a moving light. (Stockton Rooks County Record, April 2, 1897)

March 29, 1897-Stockton, Kansas-At 2230, many saw a large light. It was too large to be a star and it moved in a manner which indicated it was not a star. (Stockton Western News, April 1, 1897)

March 29, 1897-Chanute, Kansas-A bright light saw seen moving slowly northeast to southwest. It was 1,000 feet up and seen 10-15 minutes. (Chanute Tribune, April 1, 1897)

March 29, 1897-Glen Elder, Kansas-Grandpa Gansell saw a bright red light to the east. It was a long distance away and going west. It passed directly over the city and was seen by Mayor Proctor and others. (Osborne [Ks] Osborne County Farmer, April 8, 1897)

March 29, 1897-Loyal, Wisconsin-John Jones saw the airship moving west to east. It was high and carried 3 lights. (Wausau [Wi] Semi-Weekly Record, April 6, 1897)

March 29, 1897-Wichita, Kansas-Police Judge Hatton, Signal Service Officer Johnson, and 20 others saw a 4 inch diameter light to the northeast. It was moving rapidly to the north. (Topeka [Ks] State Journal, March 30, 1897)

March 29, 1897-Belleplaine, Kansas-George Howard and Barney Doyle saw a mysterious light. (Belleplaine News, April 1, 1897)

March 30, 1897-Chanute, Kansas-At 2200, a man saw an extremely bright light overhead. It was going at a good rate southwest to northeast. The lower part was like a big boat and the upper part was shaped like a balloon. There was a white light on one side and he saw a man in the boat who looked like John Becker. (Chanute Tribune, April 3, 1897)

March 30, 1897-Dodge City, Kansas-The airship was seen at night. (Larned [Ks] Eagle Optic, April 2, 1897)

March 30, 1897-Denver, Colorado-The airship was seen. (Menzel)

March 31, 1897-Zanesville, Ohio-At 0130, Dennis Carl and Ed Neff saw a strange light moving rapidly across the sky, disappearing to the west. They went back to bed, but could not sleep. After about an hour, they heard a sound like a foghorn. They again saw the light approaching from the northwest, but lower. It was a huge cigar shaped object under which was suspended a caboose like affair from which shone an electric light. They saw 3 men in the cab of the airship (Dennis was ready to swear he saw 300). The pilot asked the firemen for a supply of water. Neff passed a section of hose to Carl who climbed the steeple of the hose house. The aeronauts were given a plentiful supply of the best that Muskingum affords, and then went on their way rejoicing." (Zanesville Sunday Times Reporter, April 5, 1897)

March 31, 1897-Lindsborg, Kansas-At 2030, many saw a large light to the west. It sent down some bright rays upon some buildings. It disappeared into a hovering, dark cloud and when it emerged, it left west. (Lindsborg Record, April 2, 1897)

March 31, 1897-St. Mary's, Kansas-An extremely bright light was seen at 2100 on the western horizon. It moved about rapidly and was seen for 2 hours. (St. Mary's Star, April 1, 1897)

March 31, 1897-Galesburg, Michigan-At 2200, many saw a brilliant white light suddenly appear accompanied by a sharp, crackling sound. One person saw a huge black object tipped with flame. Another said she heard human voices. (Detroit [Mi] Evening News, April 1, 1897) (H)

March 31, 1897-Penn Township, Kansas-A man saw a red light northwest of Osborne that disappeared below the horizon. It seemed to be under the control of a human agency. (Osborne [Ks] Osborne County Farmer, April 8, 1897)

March 31, 1897-Albia, Iowa-The airship was seen to pass over. (Ottumwa [Ia] Courier, April 3, 1897)

March 1897-Nanticoke, New York-A strange red light was seen, but was found to be a kite with a lantern attached. (Atlanta [Ga] Constitution, April 5, 1897)

March 1897-Harlan, Iowa-At 2000, many saw a bright light for 30 minutes. (Harlan Tribune, April 14, 1897)

March 1897-Clarks, Nebraska-At 2100, Miss Viola Daniels saw a light coming from the north. It was very swift, very large, and like a giant ball of fire. When it was almost opposite her, it went partly to pieces. Two large pieces went downwards, brightly illuminating the earth, and the main body went south. (Pierce [Nb] County Call, March 19, 1897)

March 1897-Jewell City, Kansas-A kite with a lantern on the tail was thought to be the airship. (Jewell City Jewell County Republican, April 2, 1897)

March 1897-Oxford, Nebraska-Between 2100 and 2200, many saw a light come from the southwest and pass to the west of town. It was like a bright star and was 2-3 miles to 1/2 mile away. (Arapahoe [Nb] Public Mirror, April 8, 1897)

March 1897-Kearney, Nebraska-Charlie Bessie saw a moving light. (Kearney Hub, March 15, 1897)

March 1897-Holland, Michigan-For 1 hour, residents saw a ball of fire in the clouds. One moment it was brilliant, then it dimmed as if covered by a veil. (Grand Traverse [Mi] Herald, April 1, 1897)

March 1897-Junction City, Kansas-The airship was seen but it was "too high for any of the passengers to be recognized, but it is thought that Chester I. Long was among them looking for a soft spot to fall when his premature gubernatorial boon burst." (Junction City Weekly Tribune, April 1, 1897)

March 1897-Edgar, Nebraska-The airship was seen but was only a kite with a lantern attached to the tail. (Edgar Post, April 2, 1897)

March 1897-Hillsdale, Michigan-Mrs. John Wilson saw her room suddenly fill with light, then disappear. (Hillsdale Standard, April 6, 1897)

March 1897-Bloomington, Nebraska-Several saw the airship. (Bloomington Echo, March 12, 1897)

March 1897-Silver Creek, Nebraska-The airship was seen. (Doniphan Index, March 13, 1897)

March 1897-Sioux City, Iowa-The airship was seen by some trainmen. (Port Huron [Mi] Daily Times, April 7, 1897)

March 1897-Oasis, Iowa-Fred Cutler saw the airship for 1 1/2 hours. It was a very bright light, a little smaller than a train headlight. (Clinton [Ia] Morning Age, April 11, 1897)

March 1897-Stanton, Nebraska-For several days, an unusually bright star was seen to the west. It usually sank at 2200. (Stanton Weekly Picket, March 18, 1897)

(H) March 1897-Newton, Kansas-The airship was seen hovering low at 0300. The engineer of the craft was seen to stoop over, examine the buds of a peach tree, turn a lever, and the craft left. (Wichita [Ks] Eagle, April 2, 1897)

March 1897-Caseville, Michigan-Strange moving lights or fires were seen on Saginaw Bay during a week. Some believed them to be the ghosts of those lost on the steamer Oconto which was wrecked on Big Charitz Island a few years ago. (Benton Harbor [Mi] Evening News, April 1, 1897)

March 1897-McCook, Nebraska-For the past week, a strange light was seen to the west. It was 1/4 mile up, the size of a train headlight, and going northwest. (McCook Courier, March 11, 1897)

March/April 1897-Merrill, Wisconsin-A strange light was seen to the northwest on several nights. It was surrounded by a halo and once it was seen in spite of an overcast. (Wausau [Wi] Semi Weekly Record, April 6, 1897)

April 1, 1897-St. Joseph, Missouri-At 0107, S. F. McEwen, a train dispatcher, saw the airship. A rocket went up and he could see that it had white sides (covered with milk since it went through the Milky Way). It was 80 feet long, very slender, and stood in the sky under perfect control. It had bat wings that could be drawn in and extended. It circled about, descended, ascended, darted 20-30 miles, and returned. Dynamite guns could be seen on the quarter deck. After 1/2 hour, it dropped a red ball of fire and left north with the faint whirr of a revolving wheel. The ball of fire descended and was found to be a small asbestos pouch with a burned rocket attached. Inside was a note that said: "Jules Verne, April 1." (St. Joseph Daily News, April 1, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Newton, Kansas-T. C. Fite saw the airship at 0100. It was spherical or torpedo shaped and carried a light like a big ball of fire. It was going southwest and circled the city a few times, veering down at times. (Newton Kansan, April 1, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Muscatine, Iowa-The airship had been seen by two men at the bridge at 0330. They saw a strange light in the southwest that changed course as it approached. It changed its colors to red, purple, blue, and back to white. As it got closer, they saw a large, dark, conical shaped craft which moved in an undulating fashion. It came up the Illinois side of the river, at times dipping down in the trees with a crash and they saw sails above it. It passed (the bridge) about 100 feet above the earth, and with a thunderous roar, it crashed into the trees and disappeared. They heard a faint cry for help, and then another, still fainter, and they went to the place where the light was still seen. They found a pointed boat with sails badly wrecked, with a man beneath it, groaning in great pain. He was carried to the cabin boat near by, inhabited by Henry Atwald, from Fairport, and made as comfortable as possible, he suffering such agony as to have it deemed unadvisable to remove him to town. A physician was brought to the site and he was able to ascertain that the man was Prof. De Barre, of Tucson, Arizona, and that the strange craft was his own invention, he being on his way to Chicago and that his accident was due to a failure in the steering apparatus. (Muscatine Daily News Tribune, April 1, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Carrollton, Missouri-At 2030, Nell Heitz and family saw a peculiar light to the northwest. It would disappear and reappear at times and moved in a zigzag and undulatory fashion. (Carrollton Democrat, April 2, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Kansas City, Missouri-A bright light was seen low in the west at 2015. It moved north to south, would ascend and descend, and varied from white to red. It was the size of a big electric street light and shot out beams like a searchlight. It would fade out and then return as bright as ever. It was generally going northwest, but would reverse and go southeast for a distance. A. A. Phillips saw it for over an hour and said that it would move in all directions despite the wind. It was also seen by J. H. C. Rudd, Fred Pinkston, C. A. Kelsner, and Charley Purvis. Purvis said that it was cross shaped, blue in center, red around this, and would flare up as all white. He felt that it was a star. (Kansas City Times, April 2, 1897) This report was very widely circulated and appeared in an extremely large number of newspapers all over the country. As would be expected, some papers added details not mentioned in the initial article. The Juniata (Nb) Herald of April 7, 1897, said it was 30 feet long, a combination of a boat and balloons with fans or wings on either side. The Wilmington (NC) Messenger of April 6, 1897, reported that it would dim when it rose and brighten when descending, hovering, or moving horizontally. The St. Louis (Mo) Globe Dispatch of April 2, 1897, said it was seen by 10,000 people and was a red light with a black object behind it. The Kansas City Journal of April 2, 1897, revealed that it was a balloon hoax!

April 1, 1897-Girard, Kansas-At 2100, a great red light was seen to the northwest and it came from the southeast. It was moving at a good speed and when a mile or so from the city it stopped, hovered, descended considerably, moved side to side, and hovered. At 2145, it began to recede at a terrific speed and left northwest. (Girard Press, April 8, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Ottawa, Kansas-John Bollwood pointed out a bright light to many other people at 2100. It was low in the west and moved at a considerable speed to the south. It then reversed course, went north, and sank below the trees. It was in view for 1/2 hour. (Ottawa Daily Republican, April 2, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Everest, Kansas-At 2106, a brilliant light was seen to the southeast. It moved about and even changed course. It was seen plainly and the car was 25-30 feet long and canoe shaped. It had 4 wings that extended from the sides and these ended in a triangular attachment. A large, dark hull was seen above the car and the light was a greenish blue. It came from the southwest, going northeast and was 200-300 yards up. It hovered for 10 minutes and left west. It then returned and left north. It was in view for 1 hour and 20 minutes. It could not have been Venus, as she was seen at the same time. (Kansas City [Mo] Times, April 2, 1897) Since this report appeared in the same article as the report of the April 1st sighting at Kansas City at 2015, it too was very widely circulated. It also had some variations. Lore/Deneault reported that the light dimmed when it moved, glowed brightly when stationary, and some witnesses heard a hissing sound. The St. Louis (Mo) Globe Democrat of April 2, 1897, reported that it was at 2100 and seen only 30 minutes. The Harper (Ks) Sentinel of April 16, 1897, revealed that it was a balloon hoax and this was said to have been disclosed in an Everest newspaper. Unfortunately, none of the Everest newspapers could be located in the research, thus the claim could not be confirmed. The hoax statement did appear in other Kansas newspapers for April of 1897.

April 1, 1897-Kansas City, Kansas-At 2130, many saw a bright light which moved slowly and steadily. It would ~~fade~~, brighten, and change colors. S. A. Shaw said it was at 40 degree elevation to the northwest and it left west. (Kansas City Times, April 2, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Kansas City, Missouri-Prof. Greenwood saw the airship in the evening and identified it as Venus. (Kansas City Journal, April 3, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Cottonwood Falls, Kansas-A man informed Col. Whitley that the airship had been seen to the southwest. The next day, it was discovered wrecked in the top of a large sycamore tree. Two men were found lying on the ground, one was dead and the other unconscious. He came to, and told of his thrilling experience on board the ship and when it was wrecked. It was found that he was from Topeka. (Chanute [KS] Tribune, April 3, 1897) "Everybody, of course, knows by this time of Col. Whitley's ruse about the airship." (Emporia [KS] Republican, April 2, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Larned, Kansas-A kite with lighted chemicals on the tail was seen as the airship that was seen to hover for 5 minutes then leave north. (Larned Eagle Optic, April 9, 1897)

April 1, 1897-McLouth, Kansas-George Briner claimed to have seen the airship, but he was lying. (McLouth Times, April 9, 1897)

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April 1, 1897-New Orleans, Louisiana-A man saw a bright light in the sky. (New Orleans Times Picayune, April 21, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Stockton, Kansas-The airship was seen, but proved to be a balloon. (Stockton Rooks County Record, April 9, 1897)

April 1, 1897-Sioux City, Iowa-Two boys said they had seen the airship when they had not. (Sioux City Journal, April 2, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Everest, Kansas-At 0226, several saw a brilliant and powerful light to the north. It came at a steady rate and was 400 yards up. It stopped over the city, rose, maneuvered, descended to 200-300 yards up and left northwest at 0255. (Kansas City [Mo] Times, April 3, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Atchison, Kansas-Several saw a red light oscillating to the west at 0300. It would disappear and then reappear. (Atchison Daily Champion, April 2, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Zanesville, Ohio-During the daylight, Superintendent J. B. Rhodes of the B.C. & C. and several shopmen saw the airship. It was several hundred feet up and moving rapidly to the southwest. (Zanesville Sunday Times Reporter, April 5, 1897) The Zanesville Daily Courier of April 27, 1897, reported that the airship had not been seen and it was a joke played upon Rhodes.

April 2, 1897-Ottawa, Kansas-At 2000, John Davenport saw a light to the west just above the trees. It oscillated slowly from side to side. When it was going north it was descending and when going south it was ascending. It was like an arc light surrounded by an aureola of green. On one side was an effulgent protuberance like lights cast by a headlight and on the exact opposite side was a tail like a stream of light. Occasionally, lances of light would shoot out and sometimes there were red dots. It was also seen by Walter Swift, John Halloren, John Grimsley, and J. N. Harrison. The latter 2 men saw a cluster of 3 lights a little west of north. These were receding and left north. (Ottawa Daily Republican, April 3, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Independence, Kansas-Dr. N. A. Thrall and his daughter saw the headlight of the airship at 2030 to the northwest. It seemed to tack like a ship sailing against the wind and left northwest after 15 minutes. (Independence Reporter, April 4, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Leavenworth, Kansas-At 2040, E. W. Snyder saw the airship at 30 degrees elevation to the northwest. Several others saw a light surrounded by a circular halo of hazy, smoky appearance. (Leavenworth Times, April 3, 1897) The Leavenworth Standard of April 3rd said it was Venus.

April 2, 1897-Liberty, Missouri-Billie George and family saw a light moving northwest at 2100. (Liberty Tribune, April 9, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Ellsworth, Kansas-The sky was starless at 2130 when a couple saw a large searchlight up the sky. (Ellsworth Messenger, April 8, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Leavenworth, Kansas-At 2300, Dr. Orchard saw 2 blazing lights. When they were closer, he saw the outlines of a globular shaped mass of machinery with 2 propellers that rotated rapidly. It passed 50 feet away with a faint hum as it went east at 130 mph. When it was near the city, its lights went out. (Leavenworth Times, April 3, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Olivet, Kansas-A brilliant light was seen for 1 hour before it left northwest. It was the size of a loaf of chaff and seen 30 minutes. (Osage City [Ks] Free Press, April 8, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Disco, Illinois-A kite with a lantern flying at 500-600 feet was seen as the airship. (Monticello [Ill] Piatt County Republican, April 8, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Tipton, Missouri-The airship was seen at night. (California [Mo] Dispatch, April 8, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Muscataine, Iowa-The airship was seen, but identified as a kite with a red light attached to it. (Muscataine Daily News Tribune, April 3, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Oneida, Kansas-The airship was seen 3 miles to the southwest. It was like the headlight of a train with the dim outlines of a vast object belching flame and smoke. It was a few hundred feet up and as it darted about the light grew brighter. (Seneca [Ks] Tribune, April 8, 1897)

April 2, 1897-Wesley, Iowa-Residents saw the airship going northwest. It was cone shaped with windows in the sides through which bright lights shone. It was not as fast as a meteor. Some thought they heard a noise, some thought voices, and some thought sound of machinery. (Algona [Ia] Republican, April 7, 1897) The Marshalltown (Ia) Times Republican of April 13, 1897, added that it was at 2000, 20-30 feet long, red light came from windows and it was going northeast.

April 3, 1897-Falls City, Nebraska-At 0100, Jennie Ewalt saw the airship moving slowly north. It was an oblong ball of fire the size of 2 full moons. It was white with a bluish tint, lit up the area, and went out like a lamp. (Falls City Journal, April 9, 1897)

April 3, 1897-Rochelle, Illinois-Hundreds saw a bright object coming from the southwest at 1930. It was a few hundred feet up and left east. (Sycamore City [Ill] Weekly, April 8, 1897) The Chicago (Ill) Record of April 10, 1897, revealed that it was a hoax.

April 3, 1897-Lawrence, Kansas-A strange red light was seen in the sky at 2000. It turned out to be the reflection of a fire. (Lawrence Journal, April 5, 1897)

April 3, 1897-Independence, Kansas-At 2000, many saw the airship appear in the southeast. It gradually came closer and grew in brilliance. It

did not move in a straight line, but darted this way then that but on the same course. It was low when first seen but rose higher and higher as it approached. It veered south, turned, passed over the city going north, then returned, and passed over again. It descended and hovered for 5 minutes. It then darted about again and left northwest. It was seen for 30 minutes. (Indianapolis [In] Journal, April 5, 1897)

(H)

April 3, 1897-Olivet, Kansas-The airship was seen at 2030, but closer and brighter than on April 2nd. It was moving east, veered, and left west. At times, the lower part appeared heart shaped with an opaque center. It had rays of light extending obliquely downward to the right and left. At times the light would almost go out and a dark shape was seen below the light. Its movements indicated human control and some thought they heard strains of music. It was seen for 40 minutes. (Osage City [Ks] Free Press, April 8, 1897)

April 3, 1897-Evanston, Illinois-At 2040, a mysterious light was seen to pass over rapidly to the northwest. It was a very bright light and gave out a curious sort of flash at intervals. It was 1/4 mile up and was gone by 2055. The witness declined to give his name for fear of being laughed at. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 4, 1897)

(H)

April 3, 1897-Vinton, Iowa-Many including Judge Lot Thomas and wife saw the airship at 2100. George Steig saw it and heard machinery and voices as it went northwest. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 7 and 13, 1897) The Cedar Rapids (Ia) Republican of April 9, 1897, added that it moved with a swaying manner like a bird flying against a wind. It was seen for 30 minutes. The Chicago (Ill) Times Herald of April 8, 1897, indicated the date as April 6th and the Toledo (O) Blade of April 12th indicated April 7th.

April 3, 1897-Albia, Iowa-At 2200, many saw a reddish light moving west to north in an erratic manner. (Chicago [Ill] Tribune, April 5, 1897) The Ottumwa (Ia) Courier of April 9, 1897, added that it was quite large, moved up and down, and would often disappear then reappear.

April 3, 1897-Keosauqua, Iowa-Many saw the airship in the west moving rapidly north at 2200. It was a large, brilliant red light that moved up and down and would often disappear and reappear. (Keosauqua Republican, April 8, 1897)

April 3, 1897-Sedan, Kansas-At 2215, several saw the airship to the southwest and going north. It was very fast, red, larger than Venus, and seen for 15 minutes. (Sedan Lance, April 8, 1897) The Wichita (Ks) Beacon of April 5, 1897, reported that it was seen by A. E. Howe and others as a brilliant electric light. It shifted a little north of west and hovered for a few minutes. It then went west rapidly, changed course, hovered for a few minutes, and left north. When it was moving it was reddish, but when stationary it flashed up like a large electric light. It was seen for 30 minutes.

April 3, 1897-Monticello, Indiana-About dusk, Capt. B. F. Price saw a strange light and after supper he went to investigate. He went to John Ward's house and found Ward watching it. They and Milt Goslee went to

find it. They soon found that it was moving toward them. It rose occasionally from the ground and swung to and fro. They felt that it was a man carrying a lantern. It approached by going around a pond. Suddenly it seemed to be further away. They returned to Ward's house and read up on Jack-o'-Lanterns, they now believed that this is what it was. Mrs. Ward said she watched it until 0200 when it began to rain and the light left. (Monticello Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 3, 1897-Hollenberg, Kansas-R. T. Kerr saw the airship over the city. "He may have seen the 'stars' but we believe his eyes were in an eclipse." (Washington [Ks] Post Register, April 9, 1897).

April 3, 1897-Emporia, Kansas-A light was seen dodging about and bobbing up and down. It was identified as Venus. (Clinton [Mo] Democrat, April 5, 1897)

April 3, 1897-Phillipsburg, Kansas-Clovis Johnson, Mel Strain, and Clyde Smith saw a bright light that left northwest. (Phillipsburg Herald, April 8, 1897)

April 3, 1897-Herington, Kansas-George Simmons and Charlie Barton saw the airship. It was first in one place, then in another. (Herington Times, April 8, 1897)

April 3, 1897-Tipton, Missouri-The airship was seen at night. (California [Mo] Dispatch, April 8, 1897)

April 4, 1897-St. Louis, Missouri-At 1430, Mr. Joseph Joslin was walking in Forest Park when he suddenly felt as if being stuck with a thousand needles. He passed out from the pain and when he came to he saw a very strange animal on the ground. It was like a Chinese dragon, 100 foot long, dull red color and had 2 great bat like wings. It had 2 white eyes, 2 red eyes, and 2 green eyes. It had a huge mouth and horns. On top of this were creatures, shorter than the average man, and also red. They had black heads and seemed to have no eyes. Against his will, he was forced to climb onto the dragon and it flew away. He was on it for nearly 3 weeks and was frequently tortured by the over 1,000 beings. The next thing he knew, he was in the City Hospital and his case was diagnosed as alcoholism. (St Louis Post Dispatch, April 12, 1897)

April 4, 1897-Winona, Minnesota-The airship was seen at 2000 and it was southwest of the Evening Star. It seemed to sway slightly and would turn around and show a red and a green light. It left southwest at 2130. It was seen by Harry Friday, C. G. Robertson, W. Stewart, and others. (Winona Daily Herald, April 9, 1897)

April 4, 1897-Troy, Kansas-At 2130, many saw what resembled a train headlight pass directly over the city. It slowly went west, maneuvering as it did. (Troy-White Cloud Weekly Kansas Chief, April 8, 1897).

April 4, 1897-Bethany, Missouri-The airship was seen at 10:30 p.m., coming from the southwest at 35 mph, and 1/2 mile high. It stopped over the court house and left northeast. "This morning two men, John Leib and Ira Davis, living six miles east, brought word to town that an airship

had fallen on J. D. Sims' farm and a man was found dead. The coroner has gone to hold an inquest." (St. Joseph [Mo] Herald, April 6, 1897) On April 8, the Herald printed a letter from Bethany, dated April 7, and signed "Truthful Jones." The man had "died of congestion of the brain from an overflow of gas, the motive power of the ship." He must have died happy, as he was smiling, and the name of the ship was the Eureka. It was spherical and surrounded by a ballustrade, all made of wicker-work and asbestos. "It was sailing with ballast of silver for the redemption of silver certificates after 1900. The mast, standing erect in the center of the ship served as an anchor to a huge balloon, below which was a simple apparatus for manufacturing its own gas." The April 9 issue of the Herald printed another letter from Bethany, dated April 8 and signed "A True Fakir." It reported that there were two dead men and from letters in their pockets they came from either San Francisco or Omaha. It seemed that the accident was caused when the rigging of the airship became tangled in a flag pole. "The ship resembles a cigar in shape, and has three propellers on either side, all of which were broken in the fall. A large hole was torn in the lower side, which revealed a large number of cells for the gas." The remains of the ship were transported into town. (H)

April 4, 1897-Darlington, Wisconsin-The airship was seen in the evening. (Elkhorn [Wisc] Independent, April 15, 1897)

April 4, 1897-Minneapolis, Minnesota-Several people saw the airship. It was shaped like a boat with a large, bright light at the bow. It had red and green lights on the sides and a pale light at the stern. They saw men, women, and children moving about on it as if very busy. (Winona [Mn] Herald, April 9, 1897) (H)

April 4, 1897-Wilsonville, Nebraska-The airship was seen and caused a general panic. When it was close enough to be seen clearly, they saw 2 sets of wings which moved alternately and a large wheel at the stern. It stopped in front of the Review office and descended to 50 feet. A man appeared at the railing. He was extremely handsome and of intelligent appearance. He said "Weiver eht Rof EBIRCSBUS" and the object left. (Wilsonville Review, April 9, 1897) Reading what the man said backwards it says "Subscribe for the review." (H)

April 5, 1897-South McAlester, Oklahoma-At 0300, James Coughlin saw the airship going northwest. It was moving at 50 mph, brilliantly illuminated, 1/4 mile up, and made a swishing sound as it left north. (Kansas City [Mo] Times, April 6, 1897)

April 5, 1897-Sycamore, Kansas-At 1730, a strange light was seen at 18 degrees to the southeast and it left smoke and steam. It was identified as a hot air balloon ascension made at Cherryvale and the balloon had a leak in it. (Independence [Ks] Star and Kansan, April 9, 1897)

April 5, 1897-Nashville, Illinois-At 2000, many saw a large red light to the northwest. As it approached, a faint dark outline was seen. It came from the northwest despite a wind from the southeast. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 6, 1897)

April 5, 1897-Omaha, Nebraska-At 2130, many saw the airship including members of the Knights of Ak Sar Ben. It was 600 feet up, 90 feet long, and elliptical. On the forward and aft were large projections like large wings. There was a bright light in front and a red light at the rear. It hovered a few seconds and left toward Manaw at a rapid rate. (Omaha Bee, April 6, 1897) An article appearing in the Chicago (Il) Tribune of April 7, 1897, it was said to be a light 18 inches in diameter which reflected along a 12-30 foot long steel body. It was 3/4 mile up, 1 mile to west, and going south. When it reached the limits of South Omaha, it described a semi-circle to the east, went 1 mile, then turned north against a northeast wind. It went 1/2 mile, turned east, and was lost in the clouds. Later, it was seen to southwest going north against the wind and left. The initial story from the Omaha Bee was repeated in several newspapers, Chicago (Il) Journal of April 7th; Dillion (Mt) Tribune of April 9th; and Kewaunee (Wi) Enterprise of April 23rd, but dated the report as April 6th. Williamson reported that it was in Chicago, Illinois, and dated it April 6th. The Omaha World Herald of April 10, 1897, revealed that it was a balloon hoax.

April 5, 1897-Stockton, Kansas-J. W. O'Donnel saw a brilliant object at 2230. It was 15 degrees above the southwest horizon and was larger than a star. It vacillated and moved about in an eccentric manner. It was pointed out to Henry Blake and Mr. Neber. It was the size of a lantern and descended to about 10 feet. It left on a zigzag course. (Osborne [Ks] Osborne County Farmer, April 8, 1897)

April 5, 1897-Harmon, Nebraska-J. C. Bailey saw a bright light going north at 2300. He pointed it out to others. (Hermann [Nb] Review, April 10, 1897)

April 5, 1897-Burlingame, Kansas-At 2300, N. B. Raymond, Rev. N. D. Johnson, Fay Welch, Jeorgis Drew, Will Allison, and Will Chatfield saw a light the size of a man's head. It was yellowish green with other lights about it. It would raise and lower as if manipulated at will and left north. (Burlingame Osage County Chronicle, April 7, 1897) In the April 10th issue of the same newspaper, a letter to the editor from N. D. Johnson appeared in which he denied having seen or reported seeing an airship.

April 5, 1897-Bern, Kansas-A burning straw stack was mistaken for the airship. (Sabetha [Ks] Republican Herald, April 8, 1897)

April 5, 1897-Wilmington, North Carolina-Hundreds saw a brilliant mass floating rapidly to the west. Many saw a network about it and it had something like a searchlight facing the earth. It came from the east and went west. A pair of field glasses revealed wires, ropes, and rigging about it. To the naked eye it was just colored lights. (Wilmington Messenger, April 6, 1897)

April 5, 1897-Creighton, Nebraska-Jud Marsh saw the airship to the northwest. It was a white light like a train headlight and later changed to red. It was possibly the reflection of electric lights on the clouds. (Creighton Courier, April 8, 1897)

April 5, 1897-Ottawa, Kansas-A swinging light was seen in the sky. (Ottawa Daily Republican, April 6, 1897)

April 5, 1897-Cedar Falls, Iowa-The airship was seen. (Minneapolis [Mn] Journal, April 13, 1897)

April 6, 1897-north of Peru, Nebraska-James Southard had become lost while searching for some missing cattle. About 0200, he saw a light and went to it. He found the airship and several men moving about it. It was cigar shaped, 200 feet long, 50 feet wide, and narrowed at both ends. At each end was a snail shaped device, each of which was attached to a gas engine. These revolved rapidly and pulled or dragged the airship along. Two more of these devices was attached to the sides, near the rear and were used in steering. It was loaded with several tons of dynamite and was bound for Cuba where it was intended to bomb the Spanish camps and navy. They were repairing the searchlight and this was done by 0300. It then left for the Ozard mountains where the captain said it spent the days and experimented with at night. They expect to sail for Cuba later in the week. (Auburn [Nb] Granger, April 9, 1897) It is interesting to note that the Fort Worth [Tx] Register of April 18, 1897, printed a story concerning the experience of Patrick Byrnes. The Byrnes story was identical with the above Southard story, virtually word for word. The Byrnes account is not reproduced since it is felt to have been stolen from the above.

April 6, 1897-Denver, Colorado-During the afternoon, a weather forecaster's kite was seen as the airship with a man in it. (Denver Republican, April 8, 1897)

April 6, 1897-Waverly, Kansas-At 2130, several saw a red light the size of a baseball to the west. The night was cloudy and no stars were visible. It made various movements and slowly faded away. (Waverly Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 6, 1897-Goodland, Kansas-In a drizzling rain, William Walker and his family saw an object 1/4 mile up at 2230. It was a brilliant light that was moving rapidly to the west. At times it would fade away then flare up as brilliant as before. (Goodland Republic, April 9, 1897)

April 6, 1897-Guthrie, Oklahoma-At 2300, Mr. Trumbell saw a dark object moving over the city. A bright light was at the front and it was shone in different directions. He pointed it out to others. At times there were flashes of light along the sides. It moved swiftly back and forth and almost sank to the ground just north of the city. It then rose straight up at a great speed and left. There were outlines seen but they were indistinct. (Galveston [Tx] News, April 8, 1897)

April 6, 1897-Decatur, Nebraska-At dusk, an indefinable globe of light was seen going south. It was round, low, and its movements were quick and unsteady. It was seen until just after midnight. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 9, 1897)

April 6, 1897-Ravenna, Nebraska-A fire balloon was seen as the airship. (Ravenna News, April 9, 1897)

April 6, 1897-Harrison, Nebraska-During the night, many saw the airship going southeast at an extraordinary speed. It slowed down, circled, stopped, and hovered for several minutes. The lights would change from white to red, blue, and green. It was seen for 30 minutes by Judge Dartow, A. Habbiger, B. White, E. Daily, J. Porter, A. Agee, John Linnin and others. Habbiger said it was a large ellipse shaped body, like a whaleback with streamers, many lights, and several moving objects inside the ship. He even heard voices from it. Daily said it was shaped like a large box with an oval shape, 2 people on board, and a propeller at the stern. A pair of field glasses revealed that one of the people on it looked like Albert Whipple (who had disappeared from Crawford after robbing a bank). While in Crawford, Whipple told several people that he was working of inventing an airship. Linnin said it was like a big man with wings and voices. (Omaha [NB] World Herald, April 18, 1897)

April 7, 1897-Lake Mills, Wisconsin-At 0100, George Crump and George Everson saw the airship. It was like a great crescent with the horns down. It moved rapidly southeast to northwest and gave off long rays of light. (Lake Mills Leader, April 15, 1897)

April 7, 1897-20 miles south of Chadburn, North Carolina-A very powerful light was seen for 5 minutes at 0200. It was the size of a barrel, lit up the area, and left west at a moderate speed. (Wilmington [NC] Messenger, April 9, 1897)

April 7, 1897-Fairfield, Iowa-Several saw a bright light to the north at 2000. It was seen for 30 minutes as it moved rapidly to the west. Some said that it was like a star with peculiar red and green lights; some said it moved erratically up and down and side to side. (Fairfield Ledger, April 14, 1897)

April 7, 1897-Spring Grove, Minnesota-At 2050, several saw a large red star for 5 minutes. It sometimes changed to yellow and settled to the northwest. (Spring Grove Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 7, 1897-Aberdeen, South Dakota-A man saw a bright red light a short distance above the northwestern horizon between 2200 and 2300. It was half moon shaped and moved northwest rapidly. (Aberdeen Daily News, April 12, 1897)

April 7, 1897-Wolf Creek, Iowa-Richard Butler saw a light in a field and he stopped to investigate. It glowed like an electric light and he saw that it was a dark mass and the light came from windows. It was a long narrow car, 30-35 feet long, and 6-7 feet wide. Above the car was a cigar shaped bag horizontally placed, 30-35 feet long, and 8-10 feet at widest point. His horses bolted and he fell. The object left south at a 45 degree angle. (Springfield [IL] Illinois State Register, April 11, 1897)

April 7, 1897-Trenton, Missouri-Herman Crooks saw a strange light to the west. It was seen for 15 minutes and left west. (Trenton Republican, April 10, 1897)

April 7, 1897-Follettts, Iowa-The airship was seen. (Clinton [Ia] Morning Age, April 11, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Waterloo, Iowa-At 0100, Jack Casebeer and Will Ewald saw the airship. It came from the direction of Cedar Falls and went south. It was a dark cigar shaped object with a red light at the rear and a green light in front. (Waterloo Daily Courier, April 8, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Hermann, Nebraska-George McKarcher saw the airship going south at 0300. (Hermann Review, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Between West Liberty and Cedar Rapids, Iowa-At 1930, hundreds of people along the line of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids, and Northern Railroad saw the airship. Operators along the line would see it and report it to operators in the direction of its travel. It was described as having a large reflecting headlight, 2 feet in diameter, and giving off strong rays. It had a glistening body and dim wing-like projections on either side. It moved swiftly with a slight hissing sound. At times it seemed to be within 1,000 feet of the ground and at times it hovered. It was generally seen 20-30 minutes. (Quincy [Ill] Whig, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Independence, Iowa-At 2000, Dr. and Mrs. M. R. Brierly saw a light moving northwest with a slight swaying motion. It was in view for 15 minutes. (Independence Conservative, April 14, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Vinton, Iowa-An operator and others saw the airship to the northwest shortly after 2000. It was like an immense star and was twice the size of the largest and brightest star. (Cedar Rapids [Ia] Republican, April 9, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Solon, Iowa-At 2030, many saw the airship to the north and moving west. It was seen for 45 minutes and left west. (Quincy [Ill] Whig, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-New Richland, Minnesota-The airship was seen as a bright light at 2030. It left to the south. (New Richland Northstar, April 15, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Central City, Nebraska-At 2045, C. Jacobson saw a light to the west, moving north at 1 mile up. He pointed it out to others. It disappeared and reappeared to the northwest. It was beneath the clouds, very bright, green, and moved like a searchlight. (York [Nb] Times, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Sparta, Illinois-Several saw a strange light between 2000 and 2100. It moved too fast to be a star. (Sparta Plaindealer, April 16, 1897)

April 8, 1897-near Kansas City, Kansas-Postal Clerk Kincaid and his wife saw the airship to the southeast between 2000 and 2100. It was not very high and was seen for 25 minutes. The headlight was very bright and the hull could be seen above the light. It darted about as it left to the

south. At times the light was turned away from them. (Salina [Ks] Republican Journal, April 13, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Mt. Pleasant, Iowa-At 2100, many saw the airship float calmly and serenely along. W. J. Martin saw a bright light to the northwest between the zenith and horizon. It was a brilliant white and swayed a little side to side as it went slightly southwest. Once it changed from white to red. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Burlington, Iowa-James Dunn and others saw a light moving south to north at 2100. (Burlington Hawk-eye, April 11, 1897)

April 8, 1897-St. Edward, Nebraska-C. A. Gibson and others saw a very bright light to the east at 2100. It moved swiftly to the west. It passed over the city and left. Thirty minutes later, it was seen again 1 mile away. It quickly disappeared, then reappeared further to the south, came toward town, and disappeared again. It was 1/2 the size of the moon and took 15 minutes to cross the sky. (Lincoln [Nb] Nebraska State Journal, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Fairfield, Iowa-At 2100, hundreds saw the airship come from the southwest, pass over the city, and leave west. It had a large headlight the size of a hat and moved with a vacillating motion. Stanly Dubois saw it with field glasses and saw 2 smaller light of yellowish green. He also saw the outlines of a long dark object. It was in view for 20 minutes. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Lake Mills, Wisconsin-At 2100, W. F. Meyers, George Lusted, and many others saw a great red light to the west. It was moving up and down as it went west. It was seen for 10 minutes. (Madison [WI] Wisconsin State Journal, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Marshalltown, Iowa-A. S. Richards saw a deep red light to the northwest at 2100. (Marshalltown Times-Republican, April 10 and 13, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Tonganoxie, Kansas-At 2100, several saw the airship to the northwest at 1/2 to 3/4 mile altitude. It was a brilliant light that sailed to the northwest at considerable speed. (Tonganoxie Weekly Sentinel, April 9, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Cresco, Nebraska-Several saw the airship going southwest, then northwest, at 2100. (Cresco Courier, April 17, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Dixon, Illinois-James H. Clark saw a bright light to the northwest at 2100. It was moving at 75 mph to the northwest. Its brightness alternated, it was a cloudy night, and he felt that it was a searchlight. It was seen for several minutes before leaving toward Palmyra. (Dixon Telegraph, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Clarence, Iowa-At 2100, Aldus Lames and R. Dean saw the airship. (Clarence Sun, April 16, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Cedar Rapids, Iowa-At 2100, a light like an immense star was seen to the northwest at 35-40 degrees elevation. It was twice the size and brightness of a star and swayed side to side. It rapidly left northwest and was gone by 2200. (Cedar Rapids Republican, April 9, 1897) This report was widely circulated and recieved the usual alterations, mainly as to the time it was seen. The most interesting variation appeared in the Saginaw (Mi) Courier Herald of April 11, 1897. This paper reported that a glistening steel hull with dim wing like projections on each side was seen. It added that it made a hissing sound.

April 8, 1897-Milton, Iowa-Henry Bauch and others saw the airship to the northwest at 2130. It was seen a few seconds as it moved in different directions but generally northwest. It was as large as a train headlight. (Milton Herald, April 14, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Ottumwa, Iowa-At 2130, many saw the airship heading west. It was not very high up. (Ottumwa Courier, April 9, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Nebraska City, Nebraska-Several saw lights moving southeast to northwest at 2130. (Chicago [Il] Tribune, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Surprise, Nebraska-At 2147, Col. Shively saw a light to the northeast. It moved southwest and was gone in 20 minutes. (Surprise Herald, April 9, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Marinette, Wisconsin-Many saw the airship to the northwest at 2200. It seemed to veer up and down, then shot off to the west. (Marinette Daily Eagle, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Decatur, Nebraska-At 2200, a globe of light was seen moving south. It was round, moved quick and unsteady, and threw rays of light on the river. It was gone by midnight. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 8, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Wausau, Wisconsin-A large number of people saw the airship at 2200. It came from the southeast and passed over going northwest. A dim egg shaped outline was seen and lights were attached to the ship. (Milwaukee [Wi] Journal, April 9, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Northwood, Iowa-At 2230, residents saw an immense light like a star which swayed side to side. (Chicago [Il] Times Herald, April 9, 1897) The Cedar Rapids (Ia) Republican of April 9, 1897, said that it was to the west and going northwest.

April 8, 1897-Albert Lea, Minnesota-Residents saw the airship moving north at 2300, It was no larger than a star and displayed red and white lights. It seemed to be under perfect control. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 9, 1897) The Albert Lea Freeborn County Standard of April 14, 1897, said that it was 1 mile up and moving at 60 mph.

April 8, 1897-Atchison, Kansas-P. D. Bonebrake saw a peculiar light moving in a peculiar manner at 2300. It was like a Japanese lantern

attached to a kite tail and was seen several minutes. (Atchison Globe, April 9, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Waseca, Minnesota-A night operator saw the airship at 2310. It was drifting west and seen at intervals due to the clouds. (Waseca Radical, April 14, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Centerville, Iowa-Between 2300 and midnight, Bill Pealman, George Bryan, and Col. Haynes saw the airship approach from the northwest. It was 1/2 mile up and many lights were seen including the headlight. It had a 12 foot long steel frame and 4 studded top gallants that were set due southeast. Bryan got out a telescope and could hear the swish of wings and saw 13 people making merry in the cabin. (Ottumwa [Ia] Courier, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Waverly, Iowa-Frank Fortner saw a huge white light at midnight. It had smaller red and green lights on the sides and was to the northwest. It was seen by others as it went north in an irregular swaying manner. (Waverly Democrat, April 15, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Rock Creek, Nebraska-At midnight, several saw the airship. (Cresco [Nb] Courier, April 17, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Dayton, Iowa-Numa Leonard was awoken by a noise at the barn at midnight. He saw a very bright light coming from the south and it passed over his house with a loud noise. (Dayton Review, April 15, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Ironton, Ohio-During the evening, a woman saw a very strange light east of the zenith. It was 4 foot long, 22 foot wide, and tapered toward the ends. Its light was like the moon's but not as bright. It gradually went up and disappeared. It was seen again later. (Ironton Register, April 15, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Fayetteville, North Carolina-A big storm was going on in the evening when several saw a football sized ball of fire passed over. (Fayetteville Observer, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-East Carroll, Illinois-Mrs. W. H. Sliteley, Mrs. Gordon, and Mrs. Weldon saw the airship in the evening. It had 2 lights, 1 as large as the moon, and moved with a wavy motion. (Dixon [Ill] Telegraph, April 12, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Sterling, Illinois-At night, S. S. Greider saw the airship going east. (Sterling Gazette, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Paullina, Iowa-The airship was seen at night to the northeast. (Paullina Times, April 15, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Emmettsburg, Iowa-A moving light was seen going northwest. (Emmettsburg Democrat, April 14, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Rodman, Iowa-J. B. Martin saw strange light for 15 minutes at night. (Emmettsburg [Ia] Democrat, April 14, 1897) The Dubuque [Ia]

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Herald of April 10, 1897, reported that it was a large red light, 1,000 feet up, and going west.

April 8, 1897-Kirksville, Iowa-Several saw the airship at night. (Oskaloosa [Ia] Saturday Globe, April 17, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Eddyville, Iowa-At night the airship was seen by A. Terrell, N. B. McNees, and F. H. Glover. (Eddyville Tribune, April 16, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Waverly, Iowa-At night, a man saw the airship. It had wings and seemed to be a combination of a balloon and bicycle. It had a cow catcher, a green light on port, and a red on starboard. He heard a familiar voice from it say, "Say, boys, just boost her up a couple thousand feet higher till we get out of sight of town. You see she has got a revolver." He had seen a man from Waverly get into the airship. (Waverly Democrat, April 15, 1897) (H)

April 8, 1897-Harlem, Missouri-Conductor Clay Stevenson and crew of a train saw a strange moving light. It was 1 mile up and moved up and down and across the night sky. (Trenton [Mo] Republican, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Carrolton, Missouri-Jno. Warner and his wife saw a light to the west at night. It gradually climbed until it was directly overhead and passed slowly east. It was seen over an hour and often jumped about. (Carrolton Daily Democrat, April 9, 1897)

April 8, 1897-St. Johns, Kansas-A strange light was seen going northwest with a buzzing sound. The light was Venus and the sound was a windmill. (St. Johns News, April 16, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Alma, Kansas-Several saw the airship at night. One witness recognized Prof. McMillan as the pilot taking it southwest. (Alma Signal, April 15, 1897) (H)

April 8, 1897-Minneapolis, Minnesota-At night, James Gamery was walking home after having no "more than 5 whiskies" and "no one can charge me with being intoxicated." Near Lake and Spruce he heard a buzzing sound, saw lights flash all around him, and he was thrown to the ground. He saw a bright light like a cross between an arc light and Welsback burning. It was going south at 850 feet up and 19 1/2 mph. It was shaped like a beer schooner with the handle down. The light from the headlight was reflected enabling him to see the whole thing. It was painted electric blue and "looked to me about as big as a washtub at 60 feet. That would make it really about 45 feet long." He found several cuts in his clothes that were bleeding profusely and his body had not even been scratched. The ground all around him was torn and broken as if cutting harrows had been over it. He found the log book of the craft and it recorded all the points where it had passed in the last 2 weeks. It stated that a speed of 120 mph had been reached. The record was simply headed "Cruise of the Hermes, J. M. McMasters, 7613 Michigan Ave. Chicago, proprietor and master." He noted that today's stop would be just below Taylor's Fall on the St. Croix. (Minneapolis Journal, April 9, 1897) This was accompanied by a dispatch from Taylor's Fall from a correspondent who had gone to (H)

④ look for the airship after receiving the above bulletin. He found the airship and 2 men. One of them said that he was J. S. McMasters of Chicago and that he had invented the airship. He said that it operated on negative gravity. The wheels began to revolve, great wings unfolded, and the men were drawn into the ship. It rose and left down the St. Croix river. The correspondent stated that he was placed in jail for being crazy after repeating the above. He stated that he "never wrote a fake any more than Sioux City and Omaha reporters." He asked McMasters about the Wolf Creek incident and was told that it was a fake for the farmer was dead drunk.

April 8, 1897-Kansas City, Kansas-A light was seen at night and it seemed to waver. (Kansas City Journal, April 9, 1897) The article made comments about smoke in the sky being needed for the airship to be seen and said it was Venus seen through a smoke cloud.

April 8, 1897-Waupaca, Wisconsin-The airship was seen by Mr. and Mrs. E. Jeffers, M. Skinner, D. James, Tom Pipe, and F. Barnum. It was moving rapidly northwest and field glasses revealed different colored lights. (Waupaca Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Belle Plaine, Iowa-A huge light was seen to the west and it left north. (Marshalltown [Ia] Statesman-Press, April 13, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Ft. Dodge, Iowa-The airship was seen to the east. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 9, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Lucc, Wisconsin-For the past few nights, many saw a light over Lake Winnebago. It was seen by Capt. Lee and Mr. Mast. (Milwaukee [Wi] Sentinel, April 10, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Comanche, Iowa-The airship was seen. (Clinton [Ia] Morning Age, April 11, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Shell Rock, Iowa-The airship was seen. (Greene [Ia] Iowa Recorder, April 13, 1897)

April 8, 1897-Cisco, Illinois-Perry Nelson saw the airship to the north. There was a possibility that it was a kite with a lantern as some area boys had been flying one. (Monticello [Ill] Piatt County Republican, April 15, 1897)

④ April 8, 1897-Osco, Illinois-The airship had stopped for repairs "having dislocated a wing. August Anderson rubbed the fracture with 'dead shot' and it left for Cambridge to take something." (Cambridge [Ill] Chronicle, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Waseca, Minnesota-The airship was seen at 0030. (Berlin [Wi] Daily Journal, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Perry, Oklahoma-At 0100, J. B. Drake saw the airship, high to the southwest. It had a headlight and other lights. It moved up and down easily and seemed to be under perfect control. It had 2 sets of wings or sails, 1 set some distance above the other. The wings fanned

the air alternately: while one set was drawn in, the other set was expanded. It was also seen by Dock Miller. (Perry Enterprise Times, April 12, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Madison, South Dakota-The airship was seen going west at 0100. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 9, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Marion, Iowa-At 0205, the airship was seen moving south. It was 500 feet up and outlines were seen. It gave out 2 bright lights of an electric glow. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 10, 1897) The Marion Register of April 14, 1897, said this was a false report and that it was a meteor that was seen.

April 9, 1897-Anderson, Ohio-In the early morning, Deputy Clerk Fulton and many others saw the airship. (Cincinnati [O] Enquirer, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Joliet, Illinois-A conductor on the Rock Island Road saw the airship in the early morning. (Rock Island [Ill] Argus, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Rock Island, Illinois-In the early morning, a policeman heard a rustle in the air. He saw a "swift moving mass that seemed to have an eye like a ball of fire." It was 1/2 mile up and moving north to east. He heard a sound like the distant whiz of an electric motor car. It had a glittering steel hull, dim wing like fans on either side, and it moved with a gentle sway. (Rock Island Argus, April 9, 1897)

April 9, 1897-West Union, Iowa-A man and a boy saw the airship during the afternoon. It was 100 feet up and was rising with a wavering motion and veering side to side. It then descended slightly, then rose to 200-300 feet up. It was moving to the southwest. It was white with blotches of oblong, black but no red or blue lights. It was not very large and the shape dished from the upper surface. (Elgin [Ia] Echo, April 22, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Kewanee, Illinois-At 1900, several saw an object of unusual brightness moving northeast. It had peculiar movements and flashing lights. (Princeton [Ill] Bureau County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Clinton, Iowa-The airship was seen at 1930. (Clinton Morning Age, April 11, 1897) The Des Moines (Ia) Leader of April 11, 1897, reported that it was seen to the west at 2300. It was at a considerable altitude and gave for rays like a searchlight. It would become stationary and at times would disappear and reappear. It left northwest.

April 9, 1897-Salem, Missouri-At 1930, J. A. Cary and J. A. Holman saw a strange light going northwest. It was the size and brilliance of a train headlight, but reddish. (Cuba [Mo] Crawford County Telephone, April 23, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Maxwell, Iowa-Several saw the airship going east at 2000. When it was over the city, it turned and left north. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 13, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Marshalltown, Iowa-Shortly before 2000, Officer Jones, George Sieg, A. S. Richards, and others saw the airship to the northwest. It was too red to be a star and left northwest by 2100. (Marshalltown Times Republican, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Goodrich, Illinois-Between 2000 and 2100, a night operator saw a light moving northeast. (Streator [Ill] Free Press, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Des Moines, Iowa-Al Nichols saw a peculiar light moving at a rapid rate between 2000 and 2100. Police Sgts. Burns and Hayes saw the light to the northwest and going northwest. It was seen for 15 minutes and it was brighter than a star. A dark cloud was seen above the light. It rose and fell and would disappear and reappear. (Des Moines Iowa State Register, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Rockford, Illinois-At 2030, Capt. Elisha Thayer and Frank Thayer saw a strange light moving southwest. It seemed to be 4 lights, 2 green and 2 white. It sailed low and they heard "human voices" coming from the terrestrial regions in the direction of the airship. (Rockford Republic, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Sterling, Illinois-Residents saw the airship moving northwest at 2030. It was thousands of feet up and appeared like a large star. It made rapid progress and the working of wings or side propellers could be plainly seen. (Sterling Evening Gazette, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Mt. Carroll, Illinois-At 2030, hundreds saw the airship approach from the northeast. When opposite the city, it changed course and went west at a terrific rate. It was oblong, carried a great red light, 8-10 feet long, 2-3 feet high, and was seen for 10 minutes. Owen McGinnis saw it with field glasses. Part of the time the light was red, sometimes green, and sometimes white. (Sterling Evening Gazette, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Oshkosh, Wisconsin-John Thompson and C. Cleveland saw an object moving swiftly across the western sky at 2030. It was 2-3 miles up, cigar shaped, the rear part was box shaped, and the center part was sunk below the 2 ends. There was a red light on the port and a green on the starboard. It oscillated as it went toward Lake Paygun. It took on the form of a cross and flamed out at rare intervals in other obtruse mathematic symbols. (Oshkosh Northwestern, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Buckingham, Illinois-At 2030, H. Monteith saw a light going east. He pointed it out to others. It was reddish and moved in different directions. (Kankakee [Ill] Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Kankakee, Illinois-Several saw the airship moving northeast for several minutes. It was oblong, carried a great red light and was 8-10 feet long, and 2-3 feet high. (Streator [Ill] Monitor, April 10, 1897) The Chicago [Ill] Times Herald of April 10, 1897, reported that

it was at 2100, 1,000 feet, rapid, and had a headlight with smaller lights behind it.

April 9, 1897-Freeport, Illinois-At 2100, many saw a strangely acting white light to the northeast. After a few minutes, it shifted about in an uncertain way and approached the city, rising as it did. It suddenly shot off to the west in a partially overcast sky. (Freeport Weekly Democrat, April 16, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Evanston, Illinois-Over 800 people saw an object with vari-colored lights. The brightest light was white and all seemed to be backed by a reflector that could be turned and aim the beam. Some saw a red light just behind the large white one and all saw smaller white and green lights side by side. It was 400 feet up and moving erratically to the west. (Chicago [Ill] Tribune, April 10, 1897) The Chicago Times Herald of April 10, 1897, said that it was at 2100 and one of the witnesses said it seemed to be made of 2 cigar shaped bodies attached by girders. Robert Lowen saw it with field glasses which showed 4 lights a short distance apart and moving in unison.

April 9, 1897-Newport, Indiana-At 2100, many saw a red light larger than a star to the west. It moved rapidly to the northwest. (Newport Hoosier State, April 14, 1897) The Indianapolis (In) Journal of April 11, 1897, said it was low in the southwest, moving north, and seen for 20 minutes.

April 9, 1897-Britt, Iowa-Several hundred people saw a light at 2100. It moved southwest to northwest in an undulating course and was 25 miles away. It was seen for 2 hours, varied its speed and course. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 10 and 13, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Osage, Iowa-At 2100, several saw the airship to the west and going northwest at great speed. It was like a toy balloon with a great flaming red light. (Osage Mitchell County Press, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Roberts, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship to the west and going northwest at 2100. (Hammond [Wi] News, April 16, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Collins, Iowa-Henry Downs and others saw a bright light moving in the sky at 2100. (Collins Liberator, April 15, 1897) The Collins Clipper of April 15th reported that it was seen just after a shower, was like a train headlight, and twice it went out and reappeared. It was going to the northwest. It was felt to be Venus.

April 9, 1897-Newton, Iowa-At 2100, a farmer saw a bright reddish light moving slowly to the northwest. It was identified as Venus. (Newton Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Moweaqua, Illinois-Between 2100 and 2200, V. Snyder and others saw the airship to the northwest. It was flaming red and going west. (St. Louis [Mo] Post Dispatch, April 11, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Nassau, Iowa-Dr. J. Travis and others saw a strange light to the north between 2100 and 2200. It was to the north and going southwest rapidly. It was 800 yards up in an overcast sky. There were 3

lights of intense brilliancy the size of a train headlight. As it got closer, a faint outline was seen. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 13, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Grinnell, Iowa-At 2130, several saw a bright light. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times-Republican, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Aurora, Illinois-Many saw a bright light pass over at 2130. (Aurora Beacon, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Norman, Oklahoma-At 2130, T. J. Wiggins and 300-400 others saw a bright light. It was a long, dark object that was exceedingly bright and glittering. There were occasional flashes of red light along the sides. It followed a very erratic course to the northwest. (Enid [OK] Daily Wave, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Wausau, Wisconsin-At 2130, a bright light was seen to the northwest and going north. Field glasses revealed a dark object and one man said he had seen it since 2000. It was identified as Venus. (Wausau Record, April 13, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-Many saw an object approach from the lake at 2130. After reaching inland, it turned slowly to the northwest and faded into the night. Some with field glasses saw the outlines of the structure carrying the lights. It was 70 feet long, slender proportions, and had a movable headlight and other lights. Some saw 20 foot wide wings or sails a short distance above the body. (Chicago Tribune, April 10, 1897) The Chicago Times Herald of April 10th said it was like a balloon and a red light was plainly discernable.

April 9, 1897-Gilman, Iowa-Two people saw the airship going northwest at 2130. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 12, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Sycamore, Illinois-Between 2130 and 2200, many including Policeman Jack Connell, Frank Gabel, W. Gabel, George McGirk, and Charles Quinn, saw an object at the zenith. It was below and to the north of the moon and Venus was also nearby. It seemed to rise and fall slightly. The bright white light was seen for 20 minutes. (Sycamore True Republican, April 14, 1897) The Sycamore City Weekly of April 15, 1897, said it was moving northwest and that it altered its course several times.

April 9, 1897-Niles Center, Illinois-George Glen saw a light to the south moving west at 2200. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Kiowa, Kansas-At 2200, Dr. Downtain and 3 others saw an airship with several lights attached. It was 1/4 mile up and going southwest. It was 20 feet long, 10 feet wide, and encircled with 12-15 brilliant lights. There was a red light on port and a green on starboard. It took the form of a cross and flamed out at rare intervals in other obstruse mathematic symbols. (Kiowa Journal, April 15, 1897)

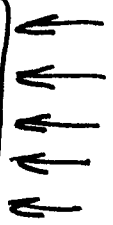
April 9, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-Some boys stole a hot air balloon that had a 6 foot car and sent it up. It was seen as the airship. (Danbury [Ct] Evening News, April 12, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Perry, Oklahoma-At 2215, a reporter saw a flash of light and a moving object. It was very high and circled around. The searchlight flashed on the city several times and it kept circling. It was 100 feet long, 25 feet wide, and had a number of fans or wings on each side which moved rapidly. There were smaller lights in different parts of the ship and moving objects were seen. (Perry Enterprise Times, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Prairie Hill, Kansas-Several saw the airship between 2200 and 2300. It was 12 inches long, quite high, and moved southwest to northeast. (Cottonwood Falls [Ks] Revielle, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Pella, Iowa-At 2300, a light was seen moving northeast to southwest, then northwest, and left west. (Pella Advertiser, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Rhodes, Iowa-Many saw a very bright light approaching rapidly from the southwest at 2300. It came so low that the sound of machinery was heard loudly. Then it took a sudden downward plunge and immersed in the reservoir of the C. M. and St. P. railway. It created a horrible hissing sound that was heard for miles and the water was so hot that the naked hand could not be placed in it. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 13, 1897)



April 9, 1897-Dubuque, Iowa-At 2330, a man saw a light at 30 degrees elevation to the south. It was reddish and approaching since it was getting larger and more distinct. He ran into his house, got his field glasses, and went to the roof. After 30 minutes, it had approached to 2000 feet distance and descended until 150 or 200 feet of the earth. It then reversed its course and ascended. Again, it reversed its course and passed directly over his head. "The machine, as it was thus brought into view, seemed to be about 40 to 50 feet long from north to south and about 6 feet wide-pointed at the ends, not unlike a huge canoe. Extending laterally from each side were two immense wings which were not in motion but which, as was later disclosed, were under the control of the pilot and were, so to speak, 'feathered' by him at will, so as to cause the ship to ascend or descend. The rift in the clouds kept pace with the ship as it moved northward, so that, after it had passed by, the observer was able to discern that the canoe shaped portion was suspended from what seemed to be an immense balloon which floated some 20 feet above it." After it had gone 500 feet further, he heard a "Now then", then a hissing, a movement of machinery, several electric sparks, the wings changed position, and it again ascended. As it did, he saw "sitting in the hind end of the car, was the pilot, mounted on an appliance rigged like a safety bicycle." The pedals moved a wheel which was evidently connected to a generator and the handlebars controlled the feathering of the wings. "Everytime it crossed a street the operator rang his bell like a law bidding bicycler, and once, when he saw a team approaching, he yelled, 'Tra-a-ack!' He had on a regulation cycler suit, sweater and knee breeches." At this time, the observer yelled and fired



his revolver. The object suddenly turned and moved very rapidly toward the witness and he retreated into the shuttle hole in the roof. The object also crashed into the shuttle hole. (Dubuque Herald, April 11, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Ridott, Illinois-At 2359, residents saw a bright light to the east. It moved about and came closer. When directly overhead, a white and 2 green lights appeared. The lights were at the ends and sides of a cigar shaped ship. There were wings on each side and a propeller at each end. It moved slowly to the west. (Freeport [Ill] Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Kenosha, Wisconsin-About midnight, several saw a green star traveling rapidly. (Kenosha Evening News, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Kansas City, Missouri-During the evening, J. W. Leslie and others saw the airship for an hour. It was 200 feet above the buildings and left slowly west. It carried a headlight and maneuvered about. (Kansas City Journal, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Odebolt, Iowa-The airship was seen in the evening. (Sac City [Ia] Sac Sun, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Kenosha, Wisconsin-The airship was seen in the evening and one could see the framework, cigar shaped body, and wings. (Kenosha Telegraph Courier, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Harmon, Illinois-At night, many saw a light at 45 degree elevation to the northwest. (Dixon [Ill] Telegraph, April 13, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Montezuma, Iowa-A fire balloon was seen as a brilliant light going west. (Montezuma Weekly Republican, April 14, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Dixon, Illinois-Joseph Cook and Alf Rickard saw a bright moving light to the west at night. (Dixon Telegraph, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Pittwood, Illinois-At night, several saw the airship to the northwest. (Watseka [Ill] Republican, April 14, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Lawrence, Kansas-The airship was seen and an anchor from it caught the clothing of a youngster. His family caught hold of him and held the ship. The ship, youngster, and family were on view in Raymond's windows and were the center of attraction to 300 or more rabbits, chickens, and child faces that gathered. (Lawrence Journal, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Holdrege, Nebraska-George Titus and family saw an object to the northwest at night. (Holdrege Weekly Progress, April 16, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Chokio, Minnesota-Several telegraph operators saw a light the size of a railroad lantern. It was going north at 60 mph in the night sky. (Chokio Times, April 14, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Minneapolis, Minnesota-A strange light and the body of an airship turned out to be a cigar shaped balloon sent up by a boy. (Minneapolis Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Goldsboro, North Carolina-At night, a great light was seen moving rapidly east to west. (Wilmington [NC] Messenger, April 11, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Boone, Iowa-At night, the airship was seen. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Morris, Illinois-Many saw the airship at night. (Morris Herald, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Evansville, Wisconsin-Charles Fuller saw the airship at night. (Janesville [Wi] Gazette, April 14, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Berlin, Wisconsin-The airship was seen at night. (Berlin Journal, April 11, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Lake Mills, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship at night. (Fort Atkinson [Wi] Jefferson County Union, April 16, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Moorland, Iowa-The airship was seen at night. (Fort Dodge [Ia] Evening Messenger, April 16, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Monroe, Iowa-At night, the airship was seen. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Guthrie Center, Iowa-The airship was seen to land near Fort Buck. The author went to the area and found the airship. It was 43 feet long, 13 feet wide, and 9 feet tall. It had wings, and the interior was fitted with staterooms for 8, a galley, and a dining room. There were 4 crewmen and the captain said they had sailed from St. Louis, north through Missouri, Iowa, southern Minnesota, west through Dakota, southeast through northeastern Nebraska, Iowa, south of Sioux City, and was headed for its starting point. The captain said they were making trial trips at night and after April 15th would make daytime trips. When the crew found that the county seat was going to be moved, they offered to be of help in moving records and fixtures. (Panora [Ia] Guthrie County Vedette, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Byron, Illinois-The airship was seen at night. (Byron Express, April 16, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Schermerville, Illinois-At night, the airship was seen. (Chicago [Ill] Tribune, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Joliet, Illinois-Residents saw a strange light moving high over the city at night. (Joliet News, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Elburn, Illinois-At night, many saw a bright spot moving across the sky. (DeKalb [Ill] Evening Chronicle, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Storm Lake, Iowa-Many saw a light that was not very high. In the night sky, they saw the outlines of it. (Dixon [Ill] Telegraph, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Robinson, Illinois-Col. Ike Cunningham, C. S. Jones, Kick Stiles, and others saw the airship swoop in and hover to the northwest. It carried white and green lights and left toward Melrose. (Robinson Argus, April 14, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Mason City, Iowa-The airship was seen (Marshalltown [Ia] Statesman-Press, April 13, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Elder, Iowa-Several saw the airship. (El Dora [Ia] Ledger, April 15, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Renwick, Iowa-The airship was seen. There was mention that it might have been Venus. (Renwick Times, April 16, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Vinton, Iowa-Hundreds saw the airship moving southwest to northwest. It was a brilliant red light, 8-10 miles, and varied between 20 and 40 degrees elevation. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 10, 1897)

April 9, 1897-Mausau, Wisconsin-Frank Barder saw the airship from a train. It was seen until train reached Marshfield. (Marshfield [Wis] News, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Racine, Wisconsin-At 0010, Silas Bilderback was walking home. The sky was heavily overcast and there were no stars or moon. Suddenly, he saw his shadow and saw several moving lights at a 45 degree elevation. The lights were red, blue, and yellow and some were fixed and some whirled about with an eccentric motion throwing off sparks. It slowly left northwest. He had to hold onto the fence to keep from falling. He went back to Mr. Smoger's place, where he had spent all evening, but it was closed. He thought he heard voices, but could not understand them. The voice was authoritative and commanding, as if a captain giving orders. He also heard, at intervals, what sounded like "Hic, hick, ugh" with a hissing and gurgling sound. These must have come from the airship as there was nobody else around. (Racine Journal, April 10, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Russell, Kansas-Between 0000 and 0200, a bright light was seen, but it was the reflection of a train headlight. (Russell Record, April 17, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Waterloo, Iowa-J. K. Joder saw the airship approach from the east at 0100. It was an immense black object with eyes of fire. It landed in the road and he approached to 100 feet of it. The men in the airship were probably Polanders, small in stature, and dressed in furs. They had apparently stopped for repairs and used signs to indicate that they were hungry but they felt it would be of no use to ask for a hand out in Waterloo, because Jack Casebeer didn't come down proper when they passed over a few nights ago. They made the repairs and left. (Waterloo Daily Courier, April 10, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Anderson, Indiana-At 0100, Mrs. William Marsh saw a light like a big headlight in the sky. It swooped down at her and she pointed it out to others. It made circles in the sky, would descend, ascend, and circle again. It rose straight up to a great height and left south. When it was low, she could hear the shuffling of the wings. It was seen by Mrs. Clarence Huggell and others in a different part of the city. (Indianapolis [In] Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-Several saw a bright object to the west at 0200. It was the size and color of an orange and hung there for a time. (Chicago Tribune, April 10, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Kewanee, Illinois-A telegraph operator saw the airship pass over in the early morning. He wired a report to the Galesburg operator. (Galesburg [Ill] Evening Mail, April 10, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Galesburg, Illinois-In the early morning, a C.B. & O. telegraph operator saw the airship pass over. (Galesburg Evening Mail, April 10, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Maxwell, Iowa-In the early morning, the airship was seen going northwest. It proved to be a fire balloon. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Danville, Iowa-At 1830, Wm. Speelman saw the airship pass over. It came from the east, was quite high, and was very small. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 11, 1897) The April 13th issue of the same paper said it was seen at 2100 and was thought to be a balloon sent up at Burlington.

April 10, 1897-Kankakee, Illinois-Residents saw a blazing light at a 40 degree elevation to the west at 1855. It sent out corruscations of lights with flashes of red and green. At 1930, it was either lower or further away. At 2000, 3 men said they saw a red light appear on the left circumference of the central illumination and it moved down to the lowest point and up the other side. At 2030, it began to grow dimmer. At 1930 on the following day, the light was not there, showing it was not Venus or a star. (Kankakee Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Shell Rock, Iowa-At 1900, a dark object was seen moving south. It was 20 feet long, had a large searchlight in front, a red light at rear, and green and white lights on the sides. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 11, 1897) The Cedar Rapids [Ia] Republican of April 11, 1897, reported that it was seen at 1920, it was low, came from the south, and that there was a green light on one side and a white light on the other side.

April 10, 1897-Eldon, Iowa-The airship was seen at 1925. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Galesburg, Illinois-At 1930, O. C. Lanphear saw a very bright white light to the north. It was like a train headlight. Mrs. H. L. Wilbur saw 2 green lights below the white one. A large crowd slowly gathered. (Galesburg Evening Mail, April 12, 1897) The St. Louis [Mo]

Post Dispatch of April 11, 1897, reported that it was seen for 1 hour and went west with a wobbling flight. The St. Louis (Mo) Republic of April 11, 1897, said it went northeast, was 2 miles up, and 16 feet long.

April 10, 1897-Ottumwa, Iowa-A red light was seen moving up and down and going northwest. It was seen by a large number of people between 1925 and 2010. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Kinmundy, Illinois-At 2000, the airship was seen (Moline [Ill] Dispatch, April 12, 1897) The East St. Louis (Mo) Journal of April 12, 1897, reported that it had a searchlight in front and 2 red lights at the rear.

April 10, 1897-Mt. Ayr, Iowa-H. G. Roberts, Arthur Harris, and others saw the airship at 2000. It was seen for 5 minutes as it moved north at 25-30 mph. (Grant City [Mo] Worth County Times, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-La Crosse, Wisconsin-At 2000, the airship was seen to the southwest going northwest. It was in view for 1 hour. Some saw just a bright light and some saw yellow and blue lights with it. One man saw it with a glass and said it there was an oblong object suspended beneath th light. (La Crosse Daily Press, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Eldora, Iowa-The airship was seen at 2000 and for 40 minutes. (Chambers) It was a gigantic airship of polished silver. (Beyond)

April 10, 1897-Clarion, Iowa-At 2000, many saw a square red light going northwest at a very rapid rate. It was the size of a common balloon and 3/4 mile up. It changed course and passed over again. It was seen for 15 minutes and left north. (Clarion Wright County Democrat, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Champaign, Illinois-Dr. J. H. Wood saw a long red light to the northwest, going northwest, at 2000. (Champaign Gazette, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Bunch, Iowa-At 2000, Capt. Mark Box and others saw a light to the northwest. It moved rapidly south. It was many times brighter and larger than a star. It swayed side to side and would change from bright white to bright red. (Ottumwa [Ia] Democrat, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Lake City, Iowa-J. D. McVay, A. Losee, J. McCrary, F. Williams, George Daviss, Jack Zane, and G. Shuster saw a very bright white light at 2000. It was to the northwest, very high, and rapidly going northwest. One man said it was only a star as he had seen it for several evenings. It moved side to side and became redder as it moved further away. It was seen 30-45 minutes. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 13, 1897) The Des Moines (Ia) Leader of April 11th suggested that it was Venus.

April 10, 1897-Waterloo, Iowa-At 2000, the lights of the airship was seen. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Newton, Iowa-At 2100, many saw the airship that was not very far from the zenith. It was like a very large dishpan and left northwest. (Newton Journal, April 14, 1897) The Newton Herald of April 16th reported that it was at 2000, deep red, most of the people thought it was a star and it was identified as Venus. The Cincinnati [O] Post of April 12, 1897, related that something like a parachute fell from it.

April 10, 1897-Pella, Iowa-The airship was seen at 2010. (Rock Island [I] Union, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Albia, Iowa-At 2010, residents saw the airship moving rapidly. It was a vascillating red light and was seen 1 hour. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 11, 1897) The Elkader [Ia] Register of April 16, 1897, reported that it was seen at 2200, came from the west, and moved north erratically.

April 10, 1897-Clarinda, Iowa-G. N. Mitchell saw a large flickering yellow light at 2015. It was at 45 degree elevation to the north and was as brilliant as a full moon. It moved at a great speed and in an undulating manner. It was also seen by Mrs. Cross and Mrs. Prof. Bell and for over 1/2 hour. The top appeared like a large ball from which radiated brilliant flashes. Beneath it was a car that was 15 inches long and 6-8 inches high. (Clarinda Page County Democrat, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Holstein, Iowa-At 2015, several saw a bright reddish light to the northwest. It was 1/3 of the way to the zenith. It was about 6 inches long at the bottom and of the same height. It was projecting upwards at the upper right side. It was also seen by Mr. Woodburn, Dr. Smith, and C. L. Wilson. It remained stationary for 30 minutes then left northwest. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Burlington, Iowa-At 2020, a fire balloon was seen as the airship. Two reporters sent up a 20 foot paper balloon that had a red, white, and a blue stripe, each being 6 foot wide. It was sent up and the wind carried it to the northeast. (Burlington Hawk-Eye, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Monmouth, Illinois-At 2020, many saw a bright light to the northwest. It was brighter than a star and was seen to move. It faded away and left northwest. It was seen by J. Diffenbaugh, Dudley Birdall, Robert Tresham, and others. Some said it looked like a paper balloon and disappeared the way they do when the oil burns out. (Monmouth Review, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Lowell, Indiana-Mr. Elliot and his family saw the airship at 2030. (Crown Point [In] Lake County Star, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-La Harpe, Illinois-At 2030, several saw a light float over the city going south. It was seen for 15-20 minutes and would fade and brighten. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Cerro Gordo, Illinois-George Moore and his wife saw a light hanging over the city at 2030. The sky was overcast and no stars were visible. It was at 20 degrees elevation, bright yellow, going

northwest, and seen by others. (Decatur [III] Herald Despatch, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Dakley, Iowa-At 2030, the airship was seen going west. (Rock Island [III] Union, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Audubon, Iowa-Several saw a light to the northwest at 2030. It was far more brilliant than a star and moving. (Audubon Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Villisca, Iowa-At 2030, a bright light was seen at the zenith. It was going rapidly northwest and seen for 15 minutes by A. Wycoff, C. Brelsford, N. Seargus, and others. (Villisca Review, April 15, 1897)

(H) April 10, 1897-Lancaster, Ohio-At 2035, the airship was seen as a butterfly like craft, huge wings, 50 feet long, hundreds of duck feet fans and some saw people on it and voices. It was merely a fire balloon. (Lancaster Grant County Herald, April 10, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Tampico, Iowa-Between 2000 and 2100, a bright light was seen. (Clinton [IIa] Morning Age, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Leavenworth, Kansas-Hundreds saw a ball of fire the size of a large apple to the west between 2000 and 2100. It occasionally threw out flashes of blue light as it moved slowly north. It was gone shortly after 2100. (Leavenworth Democratic Standard, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Fort Dodge, Iowa-Between 2000 and 2100, many saw a large bright light to the west. It was whiter and brighter than a star and left northwest. (Chicago [III] Record, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Near Hartsdale, Indiana-Three train crews saw a light moving rapidly southeast between 2000 and 2100. (Logansport [IN] Journal, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Panora, Iowa-At 2045, the airship was seen to pass over going toward Bayard. (Marshalltown [IIa] Times Republican, April 12, 1897) The Des Moines (Ia) Leader of April 11, 1897, reported that it was seen by a Western Union operator and came from the direction of Stuart.

(H) April 10, 1897-St. Charles, Illinois-At 2045, a balloon was sent up and was seen as the airship. It was described as cigar shaped, people on board, and throbbing of engines heard. (St. Charles Valley Chronicle, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Swea City, Iowa-At 2100, the airship was seen displaying white and red lights. It passed over town, very high, and kept a straight course toward Armstrong "just like people here do when they get very dry." (Algona [IIa] Republican, April 14, 1897) The Algona Courier of April 16, 1897, reported that a call from Bancroft was recieved that the airship was headed toward Swea City.

April 10, 1897-Menlo, Iowa-The airship was seen at 2100. (Mt. Ayr [Ia] Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Meriden, Kansas-At 2100, the airship was seen but it was only a fire balloon. (Meriden Tribune, April 17, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Keokuk, Iowa-At 2100, the airship was seen moving rapidly west. It was seen one hour and was deep red. It seemed to flicker and waver. (Keokuk Gate City, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Kent, Iowa-Several saw a bright light moving in the sky at 2100. Judge Hoke said he saw William Toy in it turning the crank that propelled it. (Creston [Ia] Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Stuart, Iowa-At 2100, the airship was seen to come from the southeast by a Western Union operator. It moved at 15 mph and was 1/4 to 1/2 mile up. It had a red light in front, green in rear, and a cigar shaped balloon. The car beneath it contained 3 people. (Des Moines [Ia] Leader, April 11, 1897) (H)

April 10, 1897-Oxford, Iowa-At 2100, R. Kelly, J. Floerhinger, and F. McDonough saw a light about 800-1,000 feet up and at 45 degree elevation. It came closer and they saw a large balloon with the hull and stern wheel of a boat suspended beneath. It landed and they went to the spot. They found Dr. J. S. Watson, of Downey, Iowa, a friend of Kelly's. Watson said that he was the owner and inventor of the airship, Cleto. They all entered the airship and flew around from 2200 to 0300. They flew over Burlington, Chicago, Davenport, Des Moines, Omaha, Lincoln, St. Joe, Kansas City, and other cities. At one time they were making 500 mph. Watson said they had to eat 17 meals in 24 hours when the ship was in motion. (Davenport [Ia] Leader, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-What Cheer, Iowa-A red light was seen going rapidly northwest at 2100. Its movements were like those of a paper balloon. (What Cheer Twice a Week Patriot, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Winterset, Iowa-At 2100, the airship was seen. It was a balloon shaped affair with a hanging appendage like a whale. It had lights and left north. (Winterset Semi-Weekly Madisonian, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Grinnell, Iowa-Several saw the airship come from the southwest and pass over going northwest. It kept swaying and undulating. There was a dark bulk above the bright red light. It was seen at 2100. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Waucoma, Iowa-At 2100, a few people saw a bright light 2000 feet up. Binoculars revealed a white light at the bow and a blue one at the stern. These were a short distance apart with a dimly discernable cigar shape between them. It left to the south. (Minneapolis [Mn] Journal, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Nora, Illinois-Charles Lutter saw a bright light that was half the size of the sun at 2100. It was to the west and slowly swung in

a semi-circle. He got his wife and they saw it moving west with great rapidity. It left a train of red light which changed to a pale blue. It was in view for 15 minutes. (Warren [Il] Sentinel, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Neenah, Wisconsin-At 2100, many saw a huge body moving north rapidly. It was 200 feet up, 60 feet long, and seen 3 minutes. It had a white light in front and a red light at the rear. (Neenah Daily Times, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Emporia, Kansas-Willie Puffer, his family, and others saw a very brilliant light at night. It was shaped like the letter A, overhead, was very high, and moving rapidly west. (Peoria [Il] Journal, April 15, 1897) The Kansas City (Mo) Times of April 14, 1897, said it was 2100 and moved against the wind.

April 10, 1897-Albert Lea, Minnesota-Residents saw the airship at 2100. It displayed a brilliant white light that continually moved in different directions. It was 1 mile up and after 25 minutes it left northwest at a terrific speed. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 11, 1897) The St. Paul (Mn) Pioneer Press of April 12, 1897, said it was seen at 2230, seen by Ex-Mayor Hillrup, and it moved up and down and side to side.

April 10, 1897-Jacksonville, Illinois-At 2100, many saw a bright light to the northwest. There were 4 lights; 2 white and 2 green. It was moving rapidly to the north. (Jacksonville Journal, April 11, 1897) The Quincy (Il) Whig of April 11, 1897, said that it sent out a beam of light several hundred feet long. The body was slender, metallic, and had 80-90 foot wings. Some heard voices coming from it.

April 10, 1897-Edwardsville, Illinois-At 2100, many saw a sphere of red light to the northwest. It moved steadily west veering side to side. (Edwardsville Intelligencer, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Davis, Illinois-Many saw the airship going northwest for 20 minutes at 2100. (Freeport [Il] Weekly Democrat, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Bancroft, Iowa-At 2100, several saw light to the northwest. Since they were growing dimmer and going toward Sioux City, the telephone operator there was called and warned about the airship. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 13, 1897) The Algona (Ia) Republican of April 14, 1897, said that it had a colored light at one end and a clear light for a headlight. The Algona Courier of April 16, 1897, related that it was seen at 2100 and going toward Swea City.

April 10, 1897-Estherville, Iowa-Several saw the airship to the west at 2100. It floated gently, soared majestically, and darted about. When it was going broadside, a red and a white light was seen. When seen on end, only 1 light seen. It was seen for 30 minutes and left to the southwest. (Estherville Emmett County Republican, April 15, 1897) The Estherville Northern Vindicator of April 15, 1897, said it was seen at 2230 and they were warned by a call from Armstrong. It was seen for 45 minutes and was possibly a balloon sent up from Armstrong.

April 10, 1897-Earlham, Iowa-At 2100, 30 people saw a bright light to the northwest. Some of them saw clouds pass between it and the sky. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Clarksville, Iowa-At 2100, a strange light was seen and found to be a kite with lanterns attached. (Waterloo [Ia] Daily Reporter, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Beacon, Iowa-Several saw the airship at 2100. It was quite distinct and had a vibrating motion. It came from the northwest and disappeared to the northwest. (Oskaloosa [Ia] Saturday Globe, April 17, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Brooklyn, Iowa-At 2100, the airship was seen to the northwest. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Tekamah, Nebraska-At 2100, a fire balloon was mistaken for the airship. (Tekamah Burtonian, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Bayard, Iowa-A bright light was seen at 2100 by Dr. Thompson, Prof. Boggs, and others. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 12 and 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Melbourne, Iowa-A. Miller and others saw a large blood red light going northwest at 2100. It was 200 feet up and moving very rapidly. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Webster City, Iowa-At 2100, the airship was seen to the northwest, but it was only Venus. (Webster City Freeman, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Reinbeck, Iowa-The airship was seen to the northwest at 2100. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Chilton, Wisconsin-Art Hipke and others saw the airship going northeast at 2100. (Chilton Times, April 17, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Mt. Ayr, Iowa-The airship was seen at 2100 and 2300. (Mt. Ayr Journal, April 15, 1897) The Mt. Ayr Ringgold Record of April 15th, said it was a balloon hoax.

April 10, 1897-Evans, Iowa-At 2110, the airship was seen. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Sioux City, Iowa-At 2115, the airship passed over. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Harcourt, Iowa-Several saw a strange light to the northwest at 2120. (Gowrie [Ia] News, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Merrian Junction, Minnesota-The airship was seen at 2125. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Minneapolis, Minnesota-At 2125, many people at the Guaranty Loan Restaurant saw a square shaped reddish light. It was 1/2

the size of the moon and seen in the direction of Hopkins. J. J. Barrett and Jasper Gibbs said it was blazing red and would gradually lose its redness and suddenly brightened. It moved in a diagonal line away from the city and slowly sank. Thirty minutes later, it was seen to rise from the place last seen and moved in the opposite direction. This time the light varied from a pale red to a flesh red and greenish. When it changed color, there was an associated change in course. It was 9 miles away and 1/4 mile up. Its movements were rapid and there were indications that the car contained people. Rev. Charles Brown and R. J. Dornby saw it for an hour from the roof. (Minneapolis Tribune, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Hopkins, Minnesota-The airship was seen going west at 2125. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Waterloo, Iowa-Between 2100 and 2130, some boys sent up a kite with lanterns attached to the crossbar. It was seen as the airship and described as 50 feet long. (Waterloo Daily Reporter, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Chillicothe, Iowa-At 2130, a man saw the airship pass over going northeast. (Ottumwa [Ia] Daily Democrat, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Ames, Iowa-The airship was seen to come from the southwest at 2130. It was brighter than a star and grew brighter as it approached. It constantly changed from red to green and it was 1 mile up. Some said they saw a dark cigar shaped object with wings behind the light. It left to the northwest. (Ames Times, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Armstrong, Iowa-At 2130, a call was recieved from Thompson about the airship. It was seen as a white light going west at a mile in 2 minutes. It suddenly turned and left northwest. (Armstrong Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Grundy Center, Iowa-Over 2,000 people saw the airship to the northwest at 2130. It passed over the city 2-3 times. At 2215, it landed to the south of the city. An inspector came out, oiled it and tested it. Two ladies and gentlemen came out, shook hands with the witnesses and asked where they could get a good meal. They were escorted to the hotel. After the ate, they boarded the ship and left northwest. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Meriden, Kansas-At 2130, Will Trachsel saw the airship. He gave an alarm and soon the streets were filled with people. It was 200 feet up and going west slowly. Many thought they saw Scheatler (the faith healer), ex-Senator Pfiffer, Hon. S. G. Crawford, St. Patrick, and other celebrities of the past on board it. A lame woman threw away her cane and Mayor Duncan fainted. (Meriden Leader, April 17, 1897) The Meriden Tribune of April 17th said it was a balloon hoax.

April 10, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-At 2145, many, including R. Allen, Dr. George Pierce, and others, saw the airship almost overhead. It had a "perceptible undulation in its motion and the dips succeeded one another at about the rythum of the pluse beat." It had red, white, and green lights and was seen for 1/2 hour. It left rapidly to the northwest. (Chicago Times Herald, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-St. Louis, Missouri-William Mudhall saw a bright light near the southwest horizon at 2200. Venus was a few degrees higher and to the north. It moved slowly to the north in a straight line. He pointed it out to George Miles and soon a crowd gathered. It suddenly disappeared after being seen for 30 minutes and moving across 45 degrees of the sky. It was seen by different people at different locations in the city and some said the back had a deep blue tint. (St. Louis Post Dispatch, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-East St. Louis, Illinois-At 2200, hundreds saw a large luminous body to the west moving slightly southeast (East St. Louis Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Algonia, Iowa-At 2200, an object was seen to the northwest. It was 7-8 miles away, 800-1000 feet up, and larger than a locomotive headlight. It was seen 40 minutes as it moved southwest at a good rate. It followed an irregular course with a dipping motion. Its lights changed to red, white, and green. Some people saw 2 smaller lights at the rear. Some said that it was like an electric trolley car and could see the sparks from it. It was said that voices could be heard singing "My Love is a Man in the Moon". Later some jokers sent up an immense paper balloon that went west. (Algonia Republican, April 14, 1897) (H)

April 10, 1897-Guthrie Center, Iowa-At 2200, several strange lights were seen but turned out to be balloons. (Des Moines [Ia] Leader, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Platte City, Missouri-At 2200, the airship was seen. It was 150 feet long, 20 feet wide, cast a pinkish glow, and made a whirring noise accompanied by the sound of bells. It was shaped like a bird without a head and legs, rocked side to side, and had wings that were 50 feet long and 20 feet wide. After 3 minutes, it left to the northeast. (Kansas City [Mo] World, April 12, 1897) The Platte City Landmark of April 16th reported that it was a complete lie.

April 10, 1897-Green Bay, Wisconsin-Judge S. Hastings, N. Kellogg, Attorney H. Fairchild, E. Carroll, and others saw the airship to the southeast and going north. It had red lights and a framework. It changed to an easterly course and left. Glasses showed 2 smaller lights and several saw a large cigar shaped body. This was seen at 2200. (Milwaukee [Wis] Sentinel, April 11, 1897) The Green Bay Gazette of April 12th said this was a balloon hoax.

April 10, 1897-Ottawa, Illinois-Between 2100 and 2200, Wm. Traburg and Charles Miller saw the airship overhead. It was very high and moving slowly to the west. It had a green light and a white light and they were about 25 feet apart. (Ottawa Republican Times, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Green Island, Iowa-A station agent saw a luminous aerial wonder going northwest at 2215. (Dubuque [Ia] Daily Telegraph, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Ottawa, Illinois-At 2215, J. Withrow saw a light moving rapidly to the southwest. It was very strong and below the clouds. (Ottawa Republican Times, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Ottawa, Illinois-Shortly after the preceding sighting, Walter Hood saw a strong red light moving rapidly to the southwest. It was seen a few minutes. (Ottawa Republican Times, April 15, 1897) The Ottawa Journal of April 13, 1897, said that 3 newspapermen sent up a green and white paper balloon between 2200 and 2300. This could account for the sightings in this time span.

April 10, 1897-Manitowoc, Wisconsin-At 2230, the airship was seen going east. (Green Bay [WI] Daily Advocate, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Lancaster, Missouri-E. Duckworth and Judge Fogle saw the airship moving northeast. It was seen at 2230 and through glasses for several minutes. (Ottumwa [Ia] Democrat, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Bloomfield, Iowa-At 2245, T. Dake, George Sowers, and Dr. J. Young saw a bright white light. It had 2 blue lights at the sides and a red light at the rear. (Ottumwa [Ia] Democrat, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Forest City, Iowa-At 2300, a man named Volmer saw what he thought was a meteor. It turned out to be the airship and soon landed. A man stepped out and seemed friendly. He said that they had been testing the airship for nearly two years. Volmer entered the ship and found comfortable apartments. The men on it were all ordinary Americans. The airship lifted off and after ten minutes of flight, the man said they were over Denver. He was told that the craft was operated by compressed air. In an hour, they had flown out over the Pacific and back to Forest City. (Des Moines [Ia] Register, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Floris, Iowa-James Peden, Henry Folwar, and Thomas Cheteen saw the airship at 2300. (Ottumwa [Ia] Democrat, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Quincy, Illinois-At 2300, the sky was perfectly clear and there was a half moon high in the sky, when hundreds saw a bright white light come from the north. It had red and green lights on either side and it wavered from side to side. It rose and sailed over Riverview Park, moved east for 1 mile, slowly circled to the south, and then went west. It hovered over South Park for a few minutes then swung around until the headlight was pointed north. It then went north for 1/2 mile and stopped again. The headlight seemed to be backed by powerful reflectors that moved up and down several times and the smaller lights whirled around in a circle. It turned, went south, and was out of sight in a few minutes. At its lowest altitude, 400-500 feet, a long slender cigar shaped metallic body was seen. It had wings that extended out and up and had a superstructure above the hull. The headlight was in front and like the searchlight on steamboats. Midway down the hull was a green light on the starboard and a red light on the port. They thought they heard human voices coming from it and the way the light was manipulated, there must have been at least 3 men on it. Its length was estimated from 50 to 140 feet long. (Quincy Whig, April 11, 1897) The April 13th issue of the same paper said one man heard a distinct whirring noise.

April 10, 1897-Belleview, Iowa-After 2300, a station agent saw the airship going northwest. (Dubuque [Ia] Daily Telegraph, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Mt. Morris, Illinois-Ben. Rowe, Clarence Baker, Frank Swingley, Henry Tice and many others saw the airship to the east at 2300. It had a bright light at either end and was moving north. (Mt. Morris News, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Durham, Missouri-At 2300, many saw the airship floating up and down and hovering. It was going southeast, hovered, rose, and then went northeast. The lights were white, green, and red. At times, they would almost go out and then reappear in another position. (Palmyra [Mo] Spectator, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Rater, Iowa-About midnight, Judge Steck and others saw the airship. (Ottumwa [Ia] Democrat, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Moline, Illinois-A man saw a bright light moving north between Rock Island and Davenport at midnight. It had a fluttering motion, hovered 150 to 200 feet up, shifted position, and passed to the north. (Moline Mail, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Dubuque, Iowa-About midnight, Dispatcher Wilkenson, Dispatcher Sanderson, George Atkins, and Capt. Murphy saw a light to the northeast. It had a red hull and green upperworks and moved in an undulating fashion. It was soon identified as a star. (Dubuque Daily Telegraph, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-several miles south of Pella, Iowa-J. Lansing and a friend saw a bright light which came closer very rapidly. Soon it was almost directly overhead. The light was larger than a train headlight and acted like a body moving in air currents. They saw only a brilliant light and a black mass behind it. (Buffalo [NY] Evening News, April 29, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Nevada, Missouri-During the evening, many saw strange green and white lights. They were attached to a large structure and made a rustling noise. (Fort Scott [Ks] Tribune, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Amboy, Illinois-The airship was seen in the evening. (Dixon [Ill] Telegrph, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Williamsburg, Iowa-A star was seen and thought to be the airship. (Williamsburg Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-between Lyons and Geneso, Kansas- Engineer Naughton saw the airship and side lights during the evening. (Hoisington [Ks] Dispatch, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Tarleton, Nebraska-Some boys shot fireworks from a tree and it was thought to be the airship. (Syracuse [Nb] Democrat, April 21, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Alma, Michigan-A brilliant light was seen to the west, but it was the sunset. (Detroit [Mi] Journal, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Gretna, Nebraska-During the evening, a man saw a huge light going northwest. It was 1,000 feet up and suddenly vanished after 10 minutes. (Gretna News, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Cedar Falls, Iowa-A fire balloon was mistaken for the airship. (Waterloo [Ia] Iowa State Reporter, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Sublette, Illinois-Many saw the airship moving northwest during the evening. One person felt it was the devil sailing around as an angel of light. (Dixon [Ill] Telegraph, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-New Paynsville, Minnesota-During the evening, many saw a red light descending. It was a fire balloon. (St. Cloud [Mn] Journal Press, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Sioux City, Iowa-The telephone operator recieved a call from Pancroft about the airship. He saw it and said it was going south. He called the operator at Armstrong. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-La Crosse, Wisconsin-At night, many saw a light to the west. It was longer than it was broad and gave off red, green, and blue colors, with a dash of yellow. It was going northwest, suddenly changed course, and left north after 1 hour. (La Crosse Morning Chronicle, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Sterling, Illinois-Venus was seen and mistaken for the airship. (Sterling Gazette, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Ashtubula, Ohio-The airship was seen at night. (Jefferson [O] Ashtubula Sentinel, April 22, 1897)

April 10, 1897-South English, Iowa-Several saw the airship at night. It was cigar shaped and moved at a rapid, but irregular speed. (Sigourney [Ia] News, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Holstein, Iowa-The airship was seen and was like a huge bird with 4 wings and a body like a new washing machine. It turned out to be a fire balloon. (Holstein Advance, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Jewell, Iowa-R. H. Kamrar and Jim Troy saw the airship. It was cigar shaped and had 5 propellers; 1 on each end and 3 on top in shape of a mast. There was a strong electric light in the front. The fore and aft propeller each had a white and a black light. The 3 top propellers each had a Chinese lantern attached to it. They heard a rumble of machinery and there were at least 2 people in the airship. It left north in the night sky. (Jewell Record, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-North Manchester, Indiana-Frank Smith saw the airship for 15 minutes. It was to the northwest and moved west at 50-60 mph. It had 2 brilliant lights 10 feet apart. It came to a stop and the lights

swung around and retraced its course. When it was back to its original position, it stopped and turned so that a single light was seen. It gradually descended. It was 55-60 miles away and 500-600 feet up. It was also seen by Charley Reed, Heen Williams, and Charles Shoemaker. The night was partly cloudy, but the airship was not hidden by the clouds. (Wabash [In] Times, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Middletown, Iowa-The crew of a freight train saw the airship and passed under it near Mt. Pleasant. It was merely a red and a green light and was going south. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Stiles, Wisconsin-G. Lance, John Dericks, and J. Friess were in John Maynihan's sample room "looking through powerful glasses at the electric light over St. Paul. They had already replenished their glasses with magnifying power for the 8th time..." On their way home they saw it 1 mile above Green Bay and approaching Stiles at a terrible rate of speed. It gradually descended but suddenly changed course to due east and left in 15 minutes. (Oconto [Wis] County Reporter, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Fond du Lac, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship at night. The stern light was green, the fore red, and it was equipped with guy ropes and rigging. (Fond du Lac Commonwealth, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Janesville, Wisconsin-Mrs. Morse, Fred Clement, Frank Haselton, C. Warren, and others saw a light going north on an irregular course. (Janesville Gazette, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Melrose, Illinois-A farmer living 4 miles south of the city saw the airship hovering 200 feet up. He could plainly see its form and it was just like the one seen at Quincy. (Quincy [Ill] Whig, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Grant City, Missouri-Several saw the airship low to the northwest. It was intensely brilliant, somewhat flattened, and the size of a wooden bucket. One man saw the outlines of the machine, side propellers, and the outlines of a man moving back and forth. (Grant City Worth County Times, April 15, 1897) (H)

April 10, 1897-Whittemore, Iowa-The airship was seen to the southeast at a great altitude. It slowly descended directly over the city. When it was about a mile away, the headlight became so intensely bright that it was difficult to look at. It was like an electric light swaying side to side. It passed over 2 miles up. As it passed to the west, it was like an immense cigar, intensely bright light at front, deep red at rear, and green and blue lights at the sides midway from the ends. It was 20-35 feet long, 6-9 feet wide, and seen by city marshall and E. Merrill. Some saw human forms and heard strange music. After it passed over the city, it seemed to rise over Emmetsburg. On the next day, they found over 400 piano keys scattered all around. There were no 2 alike and some were on roofs and some stuck in the pine planks of walks. (Algona [Ia] Courier, April 16, 1897) (H) *

April 10, 1897-Berlin, Wisconsin-The airship was seen at night. (Berlin Journal, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Hampshire, Illinois-Many saw the airship. (Hampshire Review, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Lena, Illinois-Many saw the airship. (Freeport [Ill] Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Rockford, Illinois-H. Waldo, Knut Beiting, and others saw the airship hovering very low. (Rockford Republic, April 11 and 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Streator, Illinois-Several saw the airship at night. (Streator Free Press, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Moorland, Iowa-The airship was seen at night. (Fort Dodge [Ia] Evening Messenger, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-La Crosse, Iowa-The airship was seen. (Lansing [Ia] Mirror, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Marshfield, Wisconsin-Hundreds saw the airship and it assumed different colors. It moved at a good speed and when 5 miles to the west it became red and sank to the northwest. A pair of field glasses revealed a cone shape with a bright headlight. It was felt that it had been anchored in the woods all day. (Milwaukee [Wis] Sentinel, April 11, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Salem, North Carolina-A bright light was seen to the northwest. (Winston [NC] Union Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Kentland, Indiana-At night, John Randall, Will McCray, Art Hawkins, James Keefe, and Roy Templeton saw the airship to the west. It had red and blue lights. (Kentland Newton County Enterprise, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Lafayette, Indiana-Will Horn saw a moving light to the north. It was larger than a star, white, and grew dimmer as it moved away. He pointed it out to others. (Lafayette Daily Courier, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Clinton, Wisconsin-Many saw the airship come from the southeast and going northwest. It had a rapid pace, altered its course, and changed its colored lights. (Janesville [Wis] Gazette, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Pike County, Illinois-Many saw an immense searchlight to the north moving rapidly for several minutes. (Pittsfield [Ill] Pike County Democrat, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Eldora, Iowa-Many saw a bright light going northwest. A Herald representative climbed the standpipe to get a better look. He saw what looked like a huge bird approaching him. It had smoke coming from

(H) the top and a large car hanging beneath. It stopped over him, dropped a hose, and began taking on water. He grabbed the hose and was drawn up hundreds of feet into the airship. He placed an ad for the Herald on the side of the ship. There were 2 men on it who said they were from Kansas. They said they had become so poor after the populist took control that they tore down their barn and built the airship to get away. After flying over different parts of the country, the Herald man descended the hose and went on his way. (Eldora Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Benton Harbor, Michigan-Mr. Neimeyer saw the airship. It must have lost its equilibrium as it was tumbling over and over. (Benton Harbor Evening Press, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-De Pere, Wisconsin-A bright light was seen to the north by Sheldon Wilcox, Clarence Wright, and Peter Devroy. It moved in an erratic manner. (De Pere News, April 17, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Grundy Center, Iowa-Many saw the airship at 35 degree elevation to the northwest. It had red, blue, and green lights at intervals. It left toward Wellsburg. (Grundy Center Herald, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Anoka, Minnesota-Many saw the lights of the airship. (Anoka Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Lee Center, Illinois-The airship was seen (Amboy [Il] News, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Goose Lake, Iowa-Several saw the airship on the ground. It was elliptical, 100 feet long, 10 feet wide, and 3-4 feet deep. It was made of some light metal, had two lateral wings, and a rudder like a bird's tail. It was powered by electricity and from the center was a 40 foot tall mast, atop which was a red light. It had sails which gave speeds of 200-400 mph. There were 16 people on it and they were lighting the Northern lights, "skimming the Milky Way, planting potatoes in the Moon and sweeping up Star dust." Doctor Laird pulled one of the beings teeth and it had 11 roots. They were dressed in Japanese costumes and posed as Japs. Most of the witnesses felt they were Americans who were trying to conceal their identity. The letter from which this data was taken was signed "A. T. Mosphere. (Jefferson [Ia] Souviner, April 17, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Galva, Iowa-The airship was seen as it was seen at Holstein. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Decatur, Nebraska-Several saw a light moving south. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 14, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Jefferson, Iowa-It was claimed that the airship crashed near here. "The concussion was so terrible that houses trembled, children were thrown from their beds, dishes fell in showers from cupboards and hundreds of panes of glass were shattered." Next day they found a hole twenty feet in diameter and clean cut and smoothed walled. A rope with a weight was dropped and something was hit 100 feet down. A

(H) newspaperman was lowered down via a rope and he broke into the ship. He found the bodies of four beings "jammed almost to a pulp by the terrific force of the concussion." They were taller than earth people, had a face on each side of the head, two sets of arms and legs, evidently so as to locomote forward or back without necessitating turning around." This was followed by letters from Scranton, Churdan, Rippey, and Cooper, Iowa, which claim that airships have also crashed in all four locations. All of them describe a cigar shaped craft and beings of similar description as from Jefferson. The final paragraph explains all of them. "The airship editor of The Bee is sick and the regular editors have had to handle this matter as best they could, without that valuable technical knowledge of lying that would have enabled the making of a really highly-ornamented fake. But we have done the best we could; presented the main points and we believe the public will accept the will for the deed." (Jefferson Bee, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Kane, Illinois-The airship was seen going west. (Jerseyville [11] Jersey County Democrat, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Elgin, Illinois-Police and others saw the airship. It carried red, blue, and white lights. (Chambers)

April 10, 1897-Moweaqua, Illinois-Guy Carlton saw the airship moving northeast at a rapid rate. (Bloomington [11] Pentagraph, April 12, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Thompson, Iowa-The airship was seen to the north going west. Armstrong was called and warned of it. (Armstrong [1a] Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Paullina, Iowa-The airship was seen to the west. (Paullina Times, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Garner, Iowa-Several saw a "star on a terrible old drunk." (Garner Hancock County Democrat, April 15, 1897)

April 10, 1897-Elder, Iowa-Several saw the airship. (El Dora [1a] Ledger, April 15, 1897)

(H) April 11, 1897-Hawarden, Iowa-At 0030, the airship was seen by landlord Moody, Dr. John Peterson, B. French, Wm. Swearinger, E. Rowley, and John Gehan. It was conical shaped, 60 feet long, and had 4 sets of 15 foot wings that were 10 feet apart. They heard the working of machinery and voices mingled with the laughter of women. It had 2 red lights at the stern and a large searchlight in the bow. The searchlight was turned on the town for awhile. It came to within 600 feet of the earth and was seen 3 minutes before it left to the north. (Des Moines [1a] Leader, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Sioux City, Iowa-The airship was seen again at 0100. (Marshalltown [1a] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Armstrong, Iowa-At 0100, the airship was seen. (Marshalltown [1a] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Lima, Indiana-At 0200, several people said they saw a moving light going east. A glass was brought into play and revealed a conical shape and several people in it, including a man at the helm. (Muncie [In] Times, April 13, 1897) (H)

April 11, 1897-Manatowoc, Wisconsin-Several lodgemen saw the airship going northeast at 0300. (Sheboygan [Wi] Telegram, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Between Cedar Rapids, Nebraska, and Albion, Nebraska-At 0300, Bert Disher and Markuss Bullock saw a bright light descending rapidly. It was 37 feet and 3 inches long and 11 feet and 3 inches wide and shaped like "Jake Long's and Connie Egan's hats." It landed 3 feet away. When they got there, they found a man. They asked him where the airship was. He pulled a queer looking arrangement out of his vest pocket and said that that was the airship. He compressed it when he landed so that people would not find it. Bert gave him a cigarette and they left. (Albion Weekly News, April 16, 1897) (H)

April 11, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-At 0530, Walter McCann of Rogers Park, Ill., secured two photos of the airship. He saw the airship as a cigar shaped object. He ran for his camera and took the two photos. E. L. Osborne and Wm. Hoodless saw him take the photos and the airship. They saw the outline of a man in it pulling a rudder and the ship was 600 feet away. An expert at the Times-Herald said it was genuine and it would be impossible to fake. (Chicago Times Herald, April 12, 1897) The Chicago Post of April 12th published the statements of J. D. Cress, another expert photographer, who said that the airship, in order to produce the image it did at the given distance, would have to be the size of the Masonic Temple, Monadnock Building, city hall, county building, and the Board of Trade building all together. The photo shows the airship, the railroad ties at the photographer's feet, three people running around, and even the man taking the photo. The Chicago Tribune of April 12th stated that still another expert said it was a fake and had to be a doctored photo. The Nashville (TN) Banner, of April 17th, printed an article taken from the Chicago Chronicle in which Hoodless confessed that it was a hoax. The airship was a four foot painting that was suspended from a telegraph pole and that it was taken at noon. (H)

April 11, 1897-Sheboygan, Wisconsin-In the early morning, John Schlicht and Frank Eberhardt saw th airship going south. They heard music coming from it and could distinguish "Just Tell Them that You Saw Me." (Sheboygan Telegram, April 13, 1897) (H)

April 11, 1897-Milwaukee, Wisconsin-At daybreak, men at the House of Correction saw the airship going north. (Milwaukee Sentinel, April 11, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Clarence, Iowa-The airship landed and frightened the cattle of I. Nelson in the morning. (Clarence Sun, April 16, 1897) Interestingly enough, this article was said to have been taken from the Chicago (Il) Record of April 13, 1897.

April 11, 1897-Columbus, Ohio-In the morning, Thomas Morris saw the airship over Steelton. It left toward Cincinnati. (Columbus Evening Press, April 20, 1897)

(H) April 11, 1897-Des Moines, Iowa-In the morning, J. E. McConnell saw and photographed the airship. It had a large propelling wheel at the rear, 5-6 people on it, and it was going north. He asked them what kind of motor they used. One of the men replied, "We use an inspirator." He saw the Stars and Stripes flapping on the ship. (Des Moines Daily News, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Bloomington, Illinois-At 1215, Dr. George Smith and others saw a large flat object like a piece of yellow canvas. (Bloomington Pantagraph, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Lincoln Park, Illinois-The airship was seen hovering in the late afternoon. (Chicago Ill Tribune, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Moline, Illinois-Between 1800 and 1900, several saw the airship in the direction of Davenport. (Moline Dispatch, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Kenosha, Wisconsin-R. H. Blosson and others saw the airship between 1915 and 2000. It was a huge white light with a small green light on the sides. It was seen about midway to the zenith and moved northeast slowly. It was like a star except for the motion and the size. It was seen for 2 hours. (Kenosha Evening News, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Warsaw, Indiana-At 1930, several saw the airship to the northwest and going north. It was seen for 30 minutes, had a swaying motion, and at times a red light was seen. (Lafayette [In] Call, April 13, 1897)

(H) April 11, 1897-Mason City, Iowa-At 1930, the airship was seen and it was 90 feet long, 12 feet in diameter, and had a pair of immense wings made of a gauzy substance over a steel frame. It had a large cylinder that was 5 feet wide and 19 feet high and this is where the gas was kept. It had a steering apparatus like a pigeon tail, was pale green, had a headlight, and red and green lights at the rear. The captain said it stopped to get some Mason City gas because it was the best. It took on supplies, including gallons of alcohol. (Charles City [Ia] Intelligencer, April 13, 1897)

(H) April 11, 1897-Charles City, Iowa-At 1945, a brilliant light with undulating waves over the bottom was seen. Some said they saw "Waterbury, Clothier" on it. It made a sizzling sound and they felt this was a freak of the Mason City gas. A letter dropped that read: "Sorry we can't stop. Have an engagement with Updegraff early tomorrow morning at Washington to fix a deal for the Charles City post office." They had received a call from Mason City that it was headed toward Charles City. (Charles City Intelligencer, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Negaunee, Michigan-George Hall and others saw the airship between 1900 and 2000. It left to the south. (St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Benton Harbor, Michigan-John Lee and others saw the airship pass over at 1945. It moved rapidly to the northwest and had the appearance of a huge ball of fire. It threw off a variety of colored light of a soft, mellow luster. It was seen for 15 minutes. (Benton Harbor Evening News, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Bussey, Iowa-At 2000, many saw a strong light about 5-6 miles to the north. It was seen for an hour and gradually disappeared. In all likelihood it was a balloon on a long line, as a very light breeze caused it to wobble. It moved side to side as a kite would tugging on a string. (Des Moines [Ia] Daily Iowa Capital, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Kinmundy, Illinois-The airship was seen at 2000. It was 100 feet long and carried a headlight and 2 red rear lights. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Minneapolis, Minnesota-At 2000, R. Adams and others saw the airship flying low in the direction of Lake Minnetonka. Field glasses revealed a cigar shaped outline, 18-20 feet long. There was a square light on top that was alternately white, green, and red. It moved at a high speed and would shoot up and down. When going down it was green, when going up it was white, and when floating it was red or green. (Minneapolis Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Fremont, Ohio-Several saw a very bright and mysterious light to the west at 2000. It had 3 colors; red, green, and white and had a perceptible undulating motion. It was seen for 10 minutes as it went east rapidly. (Sandusky [O] Weekly Journal, April 17, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Galena, Illinois-The airship was seen going southwest at 2000. It was actually a fire balloon. (Galena Gazette, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Rochelle, Illinois-Many saw the airship at 2000. It was going northwest, showed a brilliant light, and was seen for 30 minutes. (Rochelle Register, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Dwatonna, Minnesota-At 2000, the airship was seen to the southwest going northwest. It was a very bright reddish light that was brighter than a star. It had a halo of radiated rays of lights and would fade out at times. It was seen for 30 minutes and moved erratically. (Dwatonna Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Morrison, Iowa-Between 1930 and 2030, a large moving light was seen. It would disappear for 5 minutes and then reappear. Each time it reappeared, it brightened gradually from a tiny speck to a glaring red light. It was going to the northwest. (Cedar Rapids [Ia] Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-South Bend, Indiana-Residents saw yellow and white lights to the northwest at 2010. They were 2-3 miles away and were seen for 30 minutes. They were going northwest, then in other directions, and left northwest. The yellow light was in front and an intermittent white light on the side. (South Bend [In] Tribune, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Des Moines, Iowa-At 2030, many saw 3 lights that were 8 feet apart. It was actually 3 paper balloons in tandem. (Des Moines Daily News, April 12, 1897)

(H) April 11, 1897-Mauston, Wisconsin-At 2030, a number of people saw the airship going northwest. It was a very large light and glasses revealed green and white lights. They moved in the same manner as a boat on rough water. The next day the following letter was found: "Ex Aerie Navis Pegasus, Dies undecem Aprilis, 1897. Grandinamus ex medie aere ex altissimi milliae duae ad unam milliam et quentum centum meters. Navigamus per nultos dies. Stupifaciamus multas populas. Sapientia Solomoni erat magna in tempore ejus, ita Pegasus bodii lange antecedit alteras productas ad locomotandun. Exlelatas ad Apumapum, Vale. Ex Aello Ocypete et Celeno." (Mauston Star, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Lagrange, Indiana-At 2030, County Auditor Gilham, ex-Senator Drake, and others saw the airship for 40 minutes before it left southwest. (Indianapolis [In] News, April 12, 1897) The Indianapolis Journal of April 15, 1897, added that it moved in a wavy like motion.

April 11, 1897-Plymouth, Indiana-At 2030, a multicolored light was seen swinging side to side. It was actually a fire balloon. (Plymouth Semi-Weekly Independent, April 17, 1897)

April 11, 1897-New Carlisle, Indiana-Over 100 people saw the airship moving northwest at 2030. It was 500 feet up and moving rapidly. Once it rose very slowly, then dropped a long distance. It was seen 10 minutes and had smaller lights of blue, green and red. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 13, 1897) The Indianapolis (In) News of April 12, 1897, reported that it was egg shaped. The South Bend (In) Tribune of April 12, 1897, said it was seen by Wm. Denney and John Miles, was 3 miles away, green light in front, red light in rear, and left north.

April 11, 1897-Wilson, North Carolina-A strange light was seen to the northwest at 2030. It was the size of a large incandescent light and it would raise and lower as it gradually went west. It would sometimes have the appearance of going out completely. (Wilson Advance, April 15, 1897) The Wilmington (NC) Messenger of April 14th added that it was seen for 40 minutes, was 12 inches in diameter, and there was a contrivance hanging beneath it.

(H) April 11, 1897-Milwaukee, Wisconsin-At 2030, a group of men saw the airship over the northwestern part of the city and sailing south. Stationkeeper Moore said it was 4 times the size of a star and bobbed up and down. Patrick Shea thought it was a kite since it had an undulating motion. It was first seen overhead, had red, white, and green lights, and left northwest. Frank Miller of the police said it was a kite. (Milwaukee Sentinel, April 12, 1897) This report again was widely circulated and details altered. The Lafayette (In) Call of April 12th, said it came from the northeast, moved southwest, hovered over City Hall for 15 minutes, and that glasses revealed 4 men in it. Moore said the light was suspended from a large dark oval object that had working

April 11, 1897-Hurley, Wisconsin-At 2030, Jerre Sullivan saw the airship approaching from the southeast at high speed. He saw the ghostly looking passengers waving signals and heard the band playing "When Johnny Comes Marching Home." He pointed it out to others and they watched as it passed over, returned, and circled 2-3 times, "evidently trying to discover if the saloons were open." They all saw the captain of the ship standing in the bow. He had a long, hooked nose belched forth sulphurous smoke, his eyes flashed fire, and his hands were like claws. He had a long caudal appendage with a fork at the end which hung over the side. This was used as an anchor when the ship stopped over the smokestack at the brewery. Sullivan recognized the captain and he ran away. The captain sent word that he wanted to see Griff Thomas and Pa Hand. Gus Becker sent up 2 half barrels of beer left over from the election and the crew agreed to vote here next year. The captain expressed pleasure with the new town administration. He unwound his appendage from the smokestack, spread his sails, and the ship left as the band played "Mickey Brannigan's Pup." (Hurley Iron County Republican, April 17, 1897) It should be pointed out that the Brandon (Wi) Times of April 22, 1897, printed a story about the airship being seen there at 2005 on April 16th. This story was virtually a duplicate with the above, with some minor changes. It was felt to have been plagiarized from the above and therefore will not be duplicated.

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April 11, 1897-Rice Lake, Wisconsin-The airship was seen at 2045. Dr. J. P. Valby went on board to aid the captain who had la grippe. At 2215, the ship began to rise with Valby on board. The captain held a rifle on the doctor in order to keep him aboard. They fought over the rifle and when the doctor found himself with the rifle, he jumped over board. He fell 40 feet and landed on a log in a pond, still holding the rifle. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 13, 1897) The Rice Lake Leader of April 15th said the story was "a trifle exaggerated" and said it was a "rather good joke."

(A)

April 11, 1897-Owatonna, Minnesota-Between 2000 and 2100, many saw the airship to the west. It was cone shaped with a bright headlight and would disappear and reappear as it went north. (Owatonna People's Press, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Ripon, Wisconsin-Many residents, between 2000 and 2100, saw a light to the east. It was generally seen as only a moving red light. There were some who saw a form to it and heard the flapping of sails and tongues. One man saw one of the crewmen doing a flying trapeze act in the riggings. (Ripon Advance Press, April 14, 1897) The Ripon Commonwealth of April 16, 1897, said that it was a fire balloon.

(A)

April 11, 1897-Lake Forest, Illinois-James Durand, Frank Ray, and F. Alex saw a bright light between 2000 and 2100. It was seen 15 minutes as it moved erratically to the northwest. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Holland, Michigan-At 2035, many saw a large black mass moving in a zigzag manner. It seemed under perfect control as it left northwest. Brightly colored lights streamed from the front and rear.

(Grand Rapids [Mi] Evening Press, April 12, 1897) The Allegan (Mi) Gazette of April 17, 1897, reported that it was seen by C. King, Dr. J. Wetmore, L. Van Dresser, and W. Billings and that it was seen from 1900 to 2100. It was to the northwest and was a dark body with a white light below and a green and a red light a few feet above this.

April 11, 1897-Chesterton, Indiana-At 2045, Mrs. Jeffrey, Dan Pitts, and Roy Diddie saw strange lights in the sky. (Chesterton Westchester Tribune, April 17, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Rio, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship pass over at 2045. It was 300 feet up and appeared as a white and a red light moving swiftly northwest. (Rio Columbia County Reporter, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Excelsior, Minnesota-At 2050, druggist Newell saw a green and white light. Sometimes it would shoot down, then rise slowly, and dodge about. It also seemed to go in a circle. At 2120, it receded to the northwest. Mrs. Dr. Small saw the outlines of a dark body with erratic movements. (Minneapolis [Mn] Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Minneapolis, Minnesota-At 2100, the congregation of Oliver Presbyterian Church saw a rapidly moving red and white light going west. (Minneapolis Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-State Line, Illinois-Many saw the airship at 2100. (Harvard [Ill] Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Montgomery, Minnesota-At 2100, several saw the airship. It hovered for quite a length of time. It seemed to fluctuate a great deal. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-St. Paul, Minnesota-Frank Leavitt saw a bright red star at 2100. It was to the west and moving south to north rapidly. It soon became green. (Minneapolis [Mn] Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Grand Rapids, Wisconsin-At 2100, hundreds saw a red light moving rapidly in the west. A few excited people saw a framework of some sort. The light shone with a flickering luster. (Grand Rapids Wood County Reporter, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Frankfort, Indiana-Mr. Harding saw the airship pass over at 2100, going east. (Frankfort Daily Crescent, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Duluth, Minnesota-At 2100, Henry Brown and others saw a light to the west. It was a few hundred feet up, moving slowly, and the size of a plate. (Duluth Daily News Tribune, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Lake Crystal, Minnesota-Henry Le Claire and his wife, saw a peculiar light reflecting on the water in Lily Lake at 2100. The light was very bright, red, and moving rapidly to the northwest. It was like a train headlight and was seen for 20 minutes. (Lake Crystal Union, April 21, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Lafontaine, Indiana-Several saw a large balloon shaped object at 2100. It was floating to the northwest and was 1 to 1 1/2 mile away. (Wabash [In] Star, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Northfield, Minnesota-At 2100, the airship was seen. It was reddish, too large to be a star, and swung side to side. (Northfield News, April 17, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Springfield, Illinois-J. Margraves and Richard Schriver saw a light for 30 minutes at 2100. It swung back and forth above the statehouse. (Springfield News, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Plymouth, Indiana-At 2100, Deputy Postmaster Bailey and Frank Tanner saw the airship far to the northwest and going northwest. Its lights were as large as a train headlight at 1 mile distance. (Indianapolis [In] News, April 12, 1897) The Muncie (In) Times of April 12th said it was going north and changed colors.

April 11, 1897-Anoka, Minnesota-Over a hundred people saw a light at 2115. It varied in size and moved up and down and side to side. Some thought they could distinguish a cigar shaped object. It varied its color from deep yellow to blue-green. Occasionally, it would fade out only to return with renewed brilliancy. It was the size of a train headlight at 200-300 feet. (Anoka Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-between Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Dubuque, Iowa-A. D. Ives and others on a train saw the airship at 2130. It was the size and shape of a small tug boat. There was a white light in front and a red light behind. It seemed to have wings working very fast. Ives had not been drinking anything, "That is nothing but Indian medical spring water." It was a fire balloon. (Minneapolis [Mn] Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Ashland, Wisconsin-At 2130, Ellis Fisher, Joe Woodhead and others saw the airship due west. It had different colored lights. (St. Cloud [Mn] Daily Times, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Cumberland, Wisconsin-Several saw a large red light to the southwest at 2130. It moved swiftly to the northeast with a dipping motion for 30 minutes. (St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Gibson City, Illinois-At 2130 the airship was seen going southwest. (Monticello [Ill] Piatt County Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Mendon, Michigan-George Sanford, his wife, and Mrs. Casper saw the airship moving at a terrific rate at 2200. (Detroit [Mi] Evening News, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Elkhart, Indiana-Between 2200 and 2400, many saw the airship pass over. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 13, 1897) The Lafayette (In) Call of April 13th said it was at 2200, seen 30 minutes, and had a bright light at the head.

April 11, 1897-Menomonie, Wisconsin-Between 2000 and 2300, H. Hackney, Wm. Becker, George Edwards, C. Phew, Dr. Heising, and Dr. Kelsey saw lights pass rapidly to the northwest. It was a bright white light with an occasional flash of red and green. It darted about at great speed. (Menomonie Dunn County News, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Merrillon, Wisconsin-The night operator saw the airship at 2230. It was a red light that changed to white and back to red. It moved rapidly to the northwest, turned, went southwest, and then in various directions over the city. It was quite high and appeared as a star. (St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Lodi, Wisconsin-James Wilson and others saw the airship between 2230 and 2300. It was low and moved southeast to northeast. (Rio [Wisc] Columbia County Reporter, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Minneapolis, Minnesota-Between 2230 and 2315, H. Webb Chamberlain saw the airship to the west, going northwest. (Minneapolis Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-At 2300, Henry Poit, Fred Shuman, Al Anderson, and Charles Knowlton saw the airship moving at a rapid rate. It was 2 miles up, had red and green lights, and looked like a barber pole with a shaving mug suspended from it. There was a man in it throwing magic pictures on a barn roof. (Logansport Reporter, April 12, 1897) The Logansport Pharos of April 12th said it cast a shadow on a barn.

April 11, 1897-Christiana, Wisconsin-At 2300, G. Gulickson and G. Hauge saw the airship. It was 75 feet up, 35-40 feet long, and moved rapidly to the northwest. (Stoughton [Wisc] Hub, April 23, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Clinton, Iowa-Several saw the airship to the west at 2300. It gave off rays like a searchlight. It was stationary but it disappeared and reappeared several times in the hazy sky. It left to the northwest. (Parkersburg [Iowa] State Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Decatur, Illinois-At 2315, the airship was seen moving north at a rapid rate. It "looked like 2 monster cigars with 3 bright headlights." (Decatur Evening Republican, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Marcellus, Michigan-Five ladies saw a strange luminous body to the south at 2330. It moved slowly in half circles, rose, moved faster, and left west. It radiated and changed colors red, green, and white lights. It was seen for 45 minutes. (Kalamazoo [Mich] Telegraph, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Kasson, Minnesota-Between 2300 and 2400, F. Kurth, Herbert Tibbetts, and S. Adams saw the airship. It was halfway to the zenith and going rapidly west. (Kasson Dodge County Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Caldwell, Kansas-About midnight, S. H. Horner saw the airship approaching from the northeast. It veered about and left south.

It had a beacon light and several lesser lights along the sides. It moved at a very rapid rate of speed. (Wellington [Ks] Sumner County Star, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Eau Claire, Wisconsin-Between 2300 and 2400, a telegram was recieved from Merillan Junction that the airship was headed for Eau Claire. Over 100 people saw it and one man with field glasses saw it plainly. It had a green light on the starboard and a red light on the port. Another saw a long, low, rakish craft with a red, a green, and a white light, and could see men moving in it, steering it, and moving the light around. Another person saw a basket with a bull pup in it hanging to the stern and could hear it bark. (Eau Claire Telegram, April 13, 1897) (H)

April 11, 1897-Fullerton, Nebraska-During the evening, several saw the airship pass over. (Fullerton Post, April 16, 1897) Interestingly enough, the Fullerton News of April 16th, said there was no one in Fullerton who had seen the airship.

April 11, 1897-Pavillion township, Galesburg, Michigan-During the evening, George Somers and William Chadburn saw an object that was illuminated at both ends plowing through the sky. Suddenly, they heard a dull explosion and the object disappeared. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace stated that they heard an explosion, but did not see the object. Two miles from Scotts, a piece of some electric appliance was found and at another point some fused material was found. In Comstock township, some men found some newly replaced shingles pierced and strewn with fragments of something. (Detroit [MI] News, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Edgerton, Minnesota-The airship was seen but it was only a fire balloon. (Edgerton Enterprise, April 30, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Marshalltown, Iowa-Charles Dixon, Cass and Julius Peterson, George McManus, and Will and Jim Sheets saw a light to the north in the evening. It was larger than an incandescent light and seemed to be rapidly descending. They went to investigate but lost view of it. They ran to the fairgrounds and saw it floating half a mile away above a pasture. It was a light of prodigious size, near the ground for a moment, and went over a hill. Two men appeared and laughed. The witnesses went over the hill, but it was gone. They saw 3 men running across the pasture. (Marshalltown Statesman-Press, April 13, 1897) The Marshalltown Evening Times Republican of April 12, 1897, said that it was a kite. (H)

April 11, 1897-Manistique, Michigan-During the evening, the airship was seen and it cast a shadow. It had lights of several colors, very erratic movements, and 1/2 the size of the moon. (Manistique Pioneer Tribune, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Newell, Iowa-Several saw the headlight of the airship in the evening. The light was so overpowering that one woman had to cover her face. (Newell Mirror, April 23, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Anderson, Indiana-During the evening, J. Morrison, R. Smith, Amos Coburn, E. Blank, G. Kinnard, and others saw a strange object moving north. It was 5,000 feet up, moving at 20 mph, and flashed out a bright light larger than a star. (New York [NY] Herald, April 16, 1897) The Louisville (Ky) Post of April 12, 1897, said the rattling of wings could be heard, it circled the city for 10 minutes, and left north.

April 11, 1897-Arcadia, Wisconsin-A number of people saw peculiar lights in the evening. (Arcadia Leader, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-South Bend, Michigan-The airship seen to pass over. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Gazette, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Rising Sun, Indiana-During the evening, several saw the airship. (Rising Sun Local, April 17, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Amboy, Illinois-The airship was seen in the evening. (Dixon [Ill] Telegraph, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Plymouth, Ohio-During the evening, several saw a bright light low to the northwest. It was twice the size of a 1st magnitude star, reddish, and scintillated. Occasionally it changed to red, green and white. It slowly descended to the west. (Marshfield [O] Semi-Weekly News, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Ossawatimie, Kansas-The airship was seen, but proved to be a kite with a lantern attached. (Ossawatimie Graphic, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Harvard, Illinois-Many saw the airship pass over rapidly to the northwest. It disappeared below the horizon. It appeared like a large bright star moving at a fast and uniform velocity. It changed colors to blue, green, and on down the list of other primary colors. (Harvard Herald, April 18, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Shelbyville, Indiana-Two men saw 2 strange lights to the northwest. They were red and moving southeast. (Shelbyville Shelby Twice a Week Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Watertown, Wisconsin-During the evening, several saw a brilliant light to the west. Some saw signal lights attached to it. (Watertown Times, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Randolph, Wisconsin-Several saw a bright light moving southeast to northwest very rapidly. (Cambria [Wi] News, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Belle Plaine, Minnesota-In the evening, many saw the airship to the west. It changed colors to red, white, and green. (Belle Plaine Herald, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Ripon, Wisconsin-Many saw the airship in the night sky. It moved to the northwest and was the size of a bushel basket. Later, it was seen passing over in the opposite direction. (Milwaukee [Wi] Sentinel, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Madison, Wisconsin-Many saw the airship to the northwest. It was a brilliant light that wavered up and down. One man said he saw the name, "Star Tickler" on the side. One woman saw a face laughing and heard a voice ask if the sucker season had begun. (Madison Wisconsin State Journal, April 12, 1897)

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April 11, 1897-Newton, Iowa-The airship was seen at night. (Wapella [Ia] Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Albert Lea, Minnesota-At night, the airship was seen by several. (Minneapolis [Mn] Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Milwaukee, Wisconsin-A bright light that was seen turned out to be a kite. (Milwaukee Sentinel, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Crown Point, Indiana-At night, many saw blue and yellow lights. They were about 2,000 feet up in the west and going northwest to southeast. One witness heard the rush of wings, another saw 4 huge electric lights on the sides, and still another saw female forms on it. (Hammond (In.) News, April 15, 1897) The Crown Point Lake County Star of April 16, 1897, stated that it was Joe Young's airship, if this means a balloon or kite, is not indicated.

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April 11, 1897-Superior, Wisconsin-At night, a man saw the airship. It seemed to be caught in some trees. He borrowed a glass from a saloon, went to the roof, and saw two men get out, build a fire, and cook some fish. (Superior Leader, April 14, 1897)

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April 11, 1897-Fort Madison, Iowa-At a late hour, a reporter, a plumber friend, and a stranger went to a secluded area. The stranger was perhaps 40, tall, erect, grey hair and moustache, and had piercing eyes. He was foreign and he spoke in broken English. They soon reached the airship and it was cigar shaped and 80 feet long. It had a steel mast bearing strange white wings and its lights had different colored glass covers. It contained several rooms and was operated by electricity. The name of the ship was "Whobiggerwah" and the captain was "Cosmowobsy". They had set sail from Vurmahpootra, India, 30 days ago and were on a 6 month trip around the world. There were 20 or more other people on board. (Fort Madison Democrat, April 13, 1897)

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April 11, 1897-Preston, Minnesota-The Thomas Quinn family saw the airship at night. It was crescent shaped with a green light in the center. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Potosi, Missouri-Many saw a large light sailing swiftly across the northern sky. It was seen for 15 minutes before it disappeared over the horizon. (Potosi Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Superior, Wisconsin-August Krough saw 2 glaring lights over Duluth hills. They first appeared as bright red, then grew dimmer. They were seen for 15 minutes. (Superior Evening Telegram, April 12, 1897) The Superior Leader of April 13, 1897, reported that it was white, the size of an incandescent bulb, and approaching rapidly from the southwest. It changed to yellow and it was 10-20 miles away. When it was

5 miles way, it changed its course and passed over the St. Louis River. It was now oblong and crimson red. It had a smaller green light at the rear. It was moving at 2 miles per minute and was seen by Rev. Moxie, Chas. Silver, D. Case, Conductor St. Claire and others.

April 11, 1897-Appleton, Wisconsin-Many saw the airship. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Stevens Point, Wisconsin-The night operators at Central Depot saw the airship pass over. (Stevens Point Journal, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Decatur, Illinois-George Connard, Prof. Edwards, and others saw a moving light in the northwest. It was quite high and moving rapidly to the northeast. It was like a cluster of stars in an oblong shape. (Decatur Herald Dispatch, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Houghton, Michigan-The airship was seen as an unusually large star. (Houghton Portage Lake Mining Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Northfield, Minnesota-Several boys saw the airship. (Northfield News, April 17, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Prairie View, Illinois-The airship was seen at night. (Libertyville [Ill] Lake County Independent, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Arcola, Illinois-Count Ferguson saw the airship at night. (Tuscola [Ill] Journal, April 17, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Englewood, Illinois-At night, a policeman saw the airship. (Chicago [Ill] Tribune, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Ozark, Missouri-Several saw a luminous, bright ball a few degrees above the western horizon. (Marionville [Mo] Free Press, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Chillicothe, Missouri-Many saw a bright, white light the size of a headlight pass over the northern part of the city. It went to the west. (St. Louis [Mo] Post Dispatch, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Elgin, Illinois-Fifty people saw the airship low to the northwest. The light was brilliant, large, and distinct. (Chicago [Ill] Evening Post, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Waukegan, Illinois-Harry Delwieler and others saw a mysterious moving light. It was brilliant red, moving north in a vacillating course at a high speed, and was seen 1 hour. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Spring Green, Wisconsin-A few people saw the airship going northwest. (Spring Green Home News, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Oshkosh, Wisconsin-The airship was seen heading for Orma. (Orma Herald, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-La Crosse, Wisconsin-The airship was seen for 2 hour. (La Crosse Daily Press, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Darlington, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship floating in the western heavens. (Darlington Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Faribault, Minnesota-A bright light was seen to the northwest. It was the size of the moon and had green and yellow lights on the sides and rear. It moved southeast to northwest. (Faribault Pilot, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-A large crowd saw a light that changed color from white to red and green. It slowly drifted across the sky. It would grow dim, disappear, then reappear and did this several times. It was to the northwest and rose higher and higher until gone. It was seen by H. Fry, George Fry, Dr. Venn, and Dr. Earl saw it for an hour. It was about 2,000 feet up and seen all over the city. (Chicago Times Herald, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Aberdeen, South Dakota-A resident saw strange colored lights moving over the city. (Aberdeen Brown County Sentinel, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-La Crosse, Iowa-The airship was seen. (Lansing [Ia] Mirror, April 16, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Winslow, Illinois-A great red light was seen to rise from the woods northeast of the city. It bounded up and down, swung east, then west. It created a cigar shaped shadow in the sky. The area was searched and found woven pieces of rope in the tallest trees. They followed its tracks and found odd shaped hole with no dirt piled about it. They started digging. The clay had a baked appearance and was very warm. About 10-12 feet down, they found half an iron wheel resembling an emery wheel that was 10 feet in diameter. It was made of a very light metal of a greenish hue. Farther on they found ballast which resembled ashes but was twice as heavy as sand. (Freeport [Il] Bulliten, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Springfield, Ohio-The Columbus base ball team was on a train and saw the airship. Lathan left the train and ran after the airship. When he met the team at Cincinnati, he refused to say anything about the airship. (Columbus [O] Evening Press, April 20, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Deadwood, South Dakota-Albert Saure, George Wilson, John Ryan, Max Rawly, and Ray Sharpe saw a mysterious light floating over. The dim outline of something was also seen. It moved in a leisurely manner and was seen 20 minutes. (Omaha [Nb] Be, April 14, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Shipskewana, Indiana-The airship was seen. (La Grange [In] Standard, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Aurora, Illinois-The airship was seen. (Aurora Beacon, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Lacon, Illinois-George Hupp and George Bickerman saw the airship to the west and it was going southwest. (Lacon Marshall County Democrat, April 15, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Wilmington, North Carolina-A bright light was seen to the west. (Wilmington Messenger, April 13, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Miles, Michigan-W. H. Snyder and Henry Wilbur saw an illuminated moving object. It was bright red at times, and bright white at other times. It was 3-4 times the size of a star. (Niles Star, April 12, 1897)

April 11, 1897-Allegheny, Pennsylvania-A man walked by a toll bridge without paying. He was stopped and he said that he did not have the toll. He said he stepped out into his yard and saw the airship. Two men came up to him, picked him up, and took him for a ride in the airship. He woke up on the side of Mount Washington and could see a bright light moving away and heard the whirl of wheels. That evening he had been at a club house where he drank 13 drinks known as graveyard cocktails. (Pittsburg [Pa] Dispatch, April 12, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Columbia, South Carolina-At 0030, a man saw the airship going southeast. It was low and resembled a large balloon with a basket and he heard voices from it. (Columbia State, April 12, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Phillips, Wisconsin-At 0100, many saw the airship land and the three man crew was caught stealing coal. They were taken to jail. The problem resolved, and the townspeople were allowed to inspect the ship. Several of the witnesses were taken for a ride. (Ashland [Wis] Press, April 24, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin-At 0130, the airship was seen. (Superior [Wis] Evening Telegram, April 12, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Pine City, Minnesota-The airship was seen to land and the beings went into town to get supplies and the witnesses inspected the ship. The name of the airship was "Prosperity" and it had been up for five months trying to find a place to land. After 2 hours, it rose and left west. (Sandstone [Mn] Courier, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-About dawn, Augustus Rodgers saw the airship 400 feet up. It was a huge oblong object, 40 feet by 15 feet, brilliantly lighted, and going 100 mph. His wife also saw it before it left southeast. They thought they saw the form of a man in the front end. Ten minutes later, John McCollugh saw a great light making a whirring sound. He saw a half burnt piece of coal fall from it. (Louisville Post, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Spooner, Wisconsin-In the early morning, several saw the airship several miles to the south. It was going toward the head of the lake. (Spooner Evening Telegram, April 12, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-Engineer F. L. Bullard on Engine No.

as the train. After watching it for a few minutes, he had to turn attention to the train. When he looked back, it was some distance ahead of the train. The train was going 70 mph and he felt that the airship was doing 150. He lost sight of it near Lisle, Illinois. (Galesburg [Ill] Evening Mail, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Rushville, Indiana-In the morning, a few people saw the airship. It had large wings which were used to propell it. There were 3 men in it and they were taking water at Hodge's Branch. It left northeast. (Rushville Twice-Weekly Republican, April 20, 1897)

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April 12, 1897-Delavan, Wisconsin-During the morning, a resident saw the airship, high and moving rapidly to the west. It had a powerful searchlight and red and green lights on the bulwark. It had ponderous wings like a Dutch windmill. "One in his imagination could plainly detect 3 men leisurely seated on empty cracker boxes playing 'cinch,' while a 4th, dressed in stainless linen served as caterer..." (Delavan Enterprise, April 15, 1897)

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April 12, 1897-DeKalb, Illinois-In the morning, Jacob Haish saw the airship. It stopped at Normal School and took on provisions furnished by DeKalb merchants. He saw a barrel of sugar delivered there and knows it was for use of the air navigators. (DeKalb Evening Chronicle, April 12, 1897)

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April 12, 1897-South Moline, Illinois-At 0830, Mr. Karr saw the airship moving west. (Rock Island [Ill] Argus, April 12, 1897) The Moline Mail of April 12th reported that it was Ben Carr and was seen over Rock River. It was a 15 foot long funnel shaped object with large wing like projections on each side. The Lincoln (Ill) Courier of April 13th reported that it was seen by James Kerr and was 0630. The St. Louis (Mo) Globe Dispatch of April 13th said that it was 0530.

April 12, 1897-Ennis, Texas-City Recorder J. Craig and Charlie Peppenmere saw the airship at 1200. They were looking at the moon and a star and saw a dark object pass their vision. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 19, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Centralia, Illinois-During the afternoon, an oblong dark object with its wings working rapidly was seen. It was actually a bird. (Centralia Sentinel, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Girard, Illinois-At 1800, P.F. McCraner, night operator, recieved a call from Carlinville that the airship had been seen there and was headed for Girard. Fifteen minutes later, he saw it descending toward Nilwood and, calling to Ed Steeples, Wm. Street, and Frank Metcalf, they ran toward it. Before the reached it, the airship rose and left north. It was cigar shaped, had wings or oars, people in it, and a large letter "M" on the side. At the landing site, they found the footprints of a man as if someone had jumped from the ship to make repairs. (Jerseyville [Ill] Democrat, April 15, 1897) Unfortunately, this story was widely circulated and became confusing. The Chicago [Ill] Times Herald of April 14th, stated that it was seen at 1430 at Nilwood. At 1800, it landed near Green Ridge, a mining camp between Girard and

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(H) Nilwood. Here an operator said he saw a man working on it. Concerning the Green Ridge story, the Lincoln [Ill] News of April 14, said that dispatchers and an operator at Green Ridge got together and concocted a good story. It was that the airship landed at 2010, but the man operating it rose before a crowd of people got to it. It was boat shaped, 20 feet long, and had a large "M" suspended on one side. Some witnesses said they saw 10 people in it. An article appearing in the Carlinville [Ill] Democrat of April 29, 1897, explained the whole mess. "The air ship continues to attract the attention of our exchanges in various parts of the country, but all confess that the Girard story, sent out by the way of Carlinville, is the boss-liar. The charge, that, as telegraphed to the city dailies, this story was made up in this city and in a newspaper office, may have a show of truth."

April 12, 1897-Redford, Iowa-The airship was seen at 1830. (Des Moines [Ia] Leader, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Moline, Illinois-Many saw a bright light for over an hour at 1900. It changed positions and was generally described as a bright light like a steamboat searchlight. C. Battles said it differed from the stars in that the rays spread out from the center. Mr. Brown said it would disappear then reappear in an almost stationary position for some time. It suddenly left east. It was identified as Venus. (Moline Mail, April 13, 1897) The Moline Dispatch of April 13, 1897, reported that it was 150-200 feet up, some saw a funnel shaped object, and some saw a multicolored light.

April 12, 1897-Clinton, Iowa-At 1930, several saw a bright light moving northwest. Prof. Greenhill identified it as Venus. (Clinton Age, April 13, 1897) The Cedar Rapids [Ia] Republican of April 13, 1897, said it was at 2100, passed overhead going west, and had red, green, and white lights.

April 12, 1897-St. Louis, Missouri-At 1945, many saw a multicolored light at 30 degrees above the horizon. Mr. Minor Meriwether said he saw a white light to the west. He trained glasses on it and saw a cluster of light the size of street lights. There were 2 white lights, 8 inches apart horizontally, a red light below, and a green light above. It was moving rapidly northwest. As they got further away, they seemed to merge into one light. There were seen for 30 minutes and went out 3 times before disappearing. Ben Von Phul saw it at 1930 to the west. It was as big as a hogshead with lights running straight up. Occasionally it vibrated and he pointed them out to Meriwether. W. Simpson said it was the size of an arc light and moving southwest to northeast at a uniform rate. Mr. Weaver said it blinked at regular intervals and was moving north. P. Cleary said it was the size of a street light and moving west to north. H. King said it changed from white to red and green and moved north. (St. Louis Star, April 13, 1897) The St. Louis Republic of April 13, 1897, reported that a reporter saw it at 2000. It was moving very rapidly northwest with considerable grace. At times it dropped lower, then rose above the clouds and that it was moving with the wind. The light would get brighter and then dim. In the center was what appeared to be a dark box shaped object. Simpson said it was 1,000 feet up; Charles Snyder said it was a very bright light seemingly attached to a

cigar shaped object; and King said it changed course and circled. The St. Louis Globe Democrat of April 13, 1897, explained that it was Venus in some instances and a balloon in others.

April 12, 1897-Sherman, Illinois-At 2000, the airship was seen to pass over. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Bussey, Iowa-A strange light was seen 5-6 miles northwest at 2000. After an hour, it would gradually disappear. It was felt to be a large paper balloon. (Ottumwa [Ia] Democrat, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Cambridge, Illinois-At 2000, several saw a very bright light for several minutes. (Cambridge Chronicle, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Lincoln, Illinois-At 1945, the airship was seen moving northwest. Ora Paisley took a photo of it. The weather was raining heavily and lightning. Some said it had wings and could see them flapping. Some heard voices coming from it. It came from the southwest and changed headlights every minute or so. (Lincoln News, April 13, 1897) The Lincoln Courier of April 13, 1897, added that it was to the west and going northwest. It was seen by John Fitzgerald, Fred Peinhardt, and Louis Keet. There was a bright headlight in front of a V shaped object. It changed course, became green, and disappeared behind some clouds.



April 12, 1897-Marshall, Missouri-J. Fisher and W. Rainey saw the airship at 2000. One said it was cigar shaped with a searchlight, and the other said it was like a huge butterfly with golden wings and eyes that shone up and down the creek. (Marshall Saline Citizen, April 17, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Salisbury, Missouri-At 2000, F. Reed, his family, and others saw the airship at a considerable height to the northwest. It had 2 lights, a large one beneath the front and a smaller one above the front. It had a black band around the central portion and left northeast. (Salisbury Press Spectator, April 16, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Benton Harbor, Michigan-Several saw the airship with blue, red, and green lights. It was seen at 2000 and left rapidly to the northwest. (Detroit [Mi] Free Press, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Davenport, Iowa-At 2000, hundreds saw a bright light to the west. It was pure white and seen 1/2 hour. It would flare out brilliantly then dim. It was twice as large and as bright as Venus. It faded out, a glow seen for 30 second at the spot, then suddenly flare up again, and after 1-2 minutes, it would disappear. It was below the clouds. One man saw it with glasses and said it was a slender, elongated cigar. (Davenport Democrat, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Orion, Illinois-Many saw a bright moving light at 2000. It was of great brilliance, going northwest, seen 15 minutes, and suddenly went out. Word had been received from Galva that the airship was headed for Orion. (Orion Times, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Piattville, Illinois-At 2000, many saw the airship to the northwest. It approached the city a few hundred feet up and in an undulating motion. It hovered over the city for some time then went northwest with a steady gliding motion. Despite the overcast sky, it was many times brighter than an electric light. (Galena [Ill] Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Rock Island, Illinois-Thousands saw a bright light moving southeast to northwest at 2000. It was very high and bright and larger than a star. It followed an oscillating course and the light varied in intensity. After 15 minutes, it suddenly went out. Mr. E. Hurst said it was followed by a faint trail of light. Many people on a train saw it between Denrock and Rock Island. (Moline [Ill] Mail, April 13, 1897) The Rock Island Argus of April 13th reported that it occurred during a lull in a storm and there were swift, fleeting clouds. It was to the northwest and seen 40 minutes.

April 12, 1897-Galesburg, Illinois-At 2000, Bay Norton and others at the Santa Fe Depot saw a brilliant white light to the northwest. It moved up and down and in an irregular manner. It left slowly to the north. (Galesburg Evening Mail, April 13, 1897) The Macomb [Ill] Journal of April 13th said it was cloudy, no stars visible, and the wind was blowing from the northwest.

April 12, 1897-Burr Oak, Michigan-Many saw a bright light at 2000. It followed an serpentine path from southeast to northwest. (Burr Oak Acorn, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Kalamazoo, Michigan-At 2010, many saw the airship come from the southeast and go northwest. It passed over the city at 40-60 mph. When it was 2 miles northwest of the city, it seemed to alter its course to due north. It was 1/2 mile up, 6 times as large as a star, and was merely a brilliant red-green light. (Kalamazoo Gazette, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Prairie City, Illinois-At 2015, the airship was seen going northwest. It was 200 feet long, had a powerful searchlight, a green light at the rear, and was seen for 25 minutes. (Macomb [Ill] Journal, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Savannah, Illinois-Many saw the airship to the southwest at 2015. It would brighten, then dim, and go out. (Savannah Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Macomb, Illinois-At 2020, many saw a great light ploughing through the sky. There were smaller lights and some of these were green. The large light swayed to and fro like the rocking of a boat. Suddenly the light went out. After 1-2 minutes, it flashed back as bright as ever. It went out again but it never returned. There was lightning flashing to the northwest, but it did not pale the light of the airship. It was seen 15-20 minutes. (Macomb Journal, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Topeka, Kansas-G. Clemens and others saw a light bobbing in the west at 2030. It was like an electric light and moved like a

lantern attached to a kite tail. It was seen for 10 minutes on a cloudy night and it was below the clouds. (Kansas City [Mo] Times, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-2 miles from Adairville, Kentucky-At 2030, John Sarr and many others saw the airship to the north. It was the size of and brighter than a train headlight and was $3/4$ to 1 mile up. It was 20 inches in diameter, 25-30 feet long, and had a steel body. On either side were large projections, which at short intervals were seen plainly and were doubtless wings or propellers. It had a bright light in front and a red light at the rear. It darted about during the hour it was seen. Before it left, it slowed, almost hovered, then left south at a rapid gait. (Nashville [Ky] American, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Fontanelle, Iowa-The airship was seen to come from the southeast, 200 feet above the trees, and at 2030. The headlight was olive green and a 60 foot long machine was distinctly seen. The vibrations of wings was seen and the working of machinery was heard "indicating that there was an orchestra on board." It was moving at 10 mph and increased its speed as it went to the northwest. It was seen by J. Hulbert, S. Shoemaker, J. McCampbell, Dr. Scott, W. Johnson, and others. (Des Moines [Ia] Leader, April 13, 1897) (H)

April 12, 1897-Garner, Iowa-At 2030, a railroad agent saw the airship going west. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Juniata, Nebraska-A large white light suddenly appeared to the northwest at 2030. It went out, then reappeared very large and bright. It moved at a rapid rate toward North Platte and was gone in 30 minutes. (Hastings [Nb] Daily Republican, April 20, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Ferguson, Missouri-At 2030, residents saw a lighted object to the west, moving north. (Lincoln [Il] Courier, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Atoka, Oklahoma-The airship was seen at 2030 and appeared to be $1/2$ the size of the moon. It was moving toward Lehigh. (Atoka Indian Chief, April 22, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Maquoketa, Iowa-A large brilliant light was seen passing over the city at 2030. It moved east to west, veered to the north, and left northwest. (Maquoketa Record, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Rushville, Illinois-Dr. L. Clarke and many others saw a light to the southeast at 2035. It was the size of a train headlight. After it passed over the city, it suddenly shot upward. At this time, it was going north, veered, and slowly disappeared to the west. About $1/2$ hour later, a greenish light was seen moving north to south. It would suddenly drop then rise again. (Rushville Times, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Erie, Illinois-Between 2000 and 2100, many saw the airship's light to the northwest. It could not be determine if it was moving or not. (Sterling [Il] Evening Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Warren, Illinois-Between 2030 and 2100, an object with multi-colored lights was seen. (Lore/Deneault)

April 12, 1897-Williamsville, Illinois-The airship was seen at 2045. It was a cigar shaped boat with bars or wings extended from the sides and a canopy on top. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 14, 1897) The Lincoln (Ill) Courier of April 13, 1897, reported that it landed.

April 12, 1897-Battle Creek, Michigan-At 2055, 20 people saw the airship moving southeast. It was 1 mile up and 1-2 miles west of the city. There was a sudden explosion, sparks flew, and the ship lowered to 1/2 mile of the ground. After a few moments, a buzzing was heard, sparks flew, and the machine rose slowly. Suddenly the light went out and it was lost to view. It was 25-30 feet long and seen for 5 minutes. (Saginaw [Mi] Evening News, April 13, 1897) The Detroit (Mi) Evening News of April 13th reported that it was seen hovering over the sanitarium and voices were heard coming from it. It was seen by L. Clawson and Mr. Dixon. Dixon said, "The upper part was in the form of a cone, from which was suspended a large object, cylindrical in form. At the rear end of the lower object was some kind of wheel, which made a buzzing sound that was distinctly heard." The Grand Rapids (Mi) Evening Press of April 13, 1897, said it had a red light in front and a blue one behind. These were 30 feet apart and it was moving southwest. It was seen by W. Cody, Dr. McGuffin, Dr. McNeil, J. Dorsey, and others. The Detroit [Mi] Journal of April 13, 1897, said that a meteor passed over at 2100.

April 12, 1897-Bennett, Iowa-At 2100, several saw a moving star of unusual brilliancy. (Tipton [Ia] Advertiser, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Jonesville, Minnesota-J. Gray, J. Henry, Fred Schultz, Dr. Taylor, and others saw a large red light. It circled the city and left north. (Minneapolis [Mn] Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Wesley, Iowa-Several saw the airship to the east, going southwest, at 2100. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Edwardsville, Illinois-Many saw a light to the northwest at 2100. It was moving west. (Edwardsville Intelligencer, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin-At 2100, many saw the airship going west. It came from the southwest and was the size of an incandescent light. The white light gradually changed to yellow. It was moving at 2 miles a minute. (Chippewa Falls Times, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Weatherford, Texas-The airship was seen at 2100 as it passed over the city going southwest. The lights were thrown out from the front like a headlight. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 16, 1897)

April 12, 1897-West Branch, Iowa-Many saw the airship pass over at 2115. It was seen for 5 minutes as it moved rapidly to the northwest. (West Branch Times, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Cumberland, Wisconsin-At 2130, many saw a large red light to the southwest. It was moving northeast with a dipping motion. (Aberdeen [SD] Daily News, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Cedar Falls, Iowa-Residents saw a bright light moving rapidly southeast to northwest at 2130. It was 3 times the size as the evening star. As it approached, it grew in brilliancy and form. Soon 2 other distinct lights seen; a bright red one and a dull green one. When it was directly over the city, it stopped and turned east. It was less than 1,000 feet up and it was a huge, dark object like a large swan in motion with lights attached to either wing. As it turned east, it made a peculiar hissing sound. It moved east for 5 minutes, then turned south until it reached confines of the city, turned northwest, and left. It was seen for 40 minutes and once it hovered for 3 minutes. (Minneapolis [Mn] Journal, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Missouri Valley, Iowa-At 2130, Mrs. West and Jno. Ross saw the airship low to the west. It had a red and a white light and was like a trough with the points upward. It moved light a soaring bird and went southeast. (Missouri Vally Times, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Dubuque, Iowa-At 2130, a great white light was seen to land on Horseshoe Bluff, 4 miles to the south. J. H. Shields, Charley Wales, and Prof. Welsh went to the area and found a V shaped object that they had to look down into. They saw 5 beings who were human looking, 7 feet tall, wore long white beards, long white hair, and carmine colored skin. They invited the Duburquers to enter the ship which they did. One of the beings said his name was Miglio Hagag and that they were scientists from Jupiter. He said that when Earthlings died they are transferred to Jupiter. Here they remain until they die again, then they go to Saturn. When he was on Earth, he was the president of Oxford college in England for 22 years. It seems that the higher the position held on Earth, the higher the position held on Jupiter. He related that there were 780,600 oceans on Jupiter, the largest being 89,000 miles wide; the average mountain height was 500,000 miles; the widest river being 3,000 miles wide; and there are 8 suns and 87,000,000,000 moons and stars. Everything was made of aluminum and, interestingly enough, the ship was only 4 feet deep. (Dubuque Times, April 14, 1897)

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April 12, 1897-New Holland, Illinois-James White, J. Guttery, and P. White saw a peculiar mysterious illumination at 2200. It was going northeast at a rapid rate. It looked like the skeleton of a huge butterfly with a headlight in front. The headlight had all the colors of a rainbow. (Lincoln [Il] Courier, April 16, 1897)

April 12, 1897-El Reno, Oklahoma-At 2200, the airship was seen going east to west. It moved rapidly and was 1/2 mile up and 3 miles to the south. Opera glasses revealed a man sitting in a rocking chair on the deck reading what looked like a copy of the Evening Star. (El Reno Evening Star, April 14, 1897)

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April 12, 1897-Marysville, Missouri-At 2200, many saw a faint light to the northeast that moved rapidly to the southwest. It descended and landed in a lot near Marshall Crenshaw's house and soon the whole

(H) population was around it. There was 1 man on it and he appeared to be Norwegian from the appearance of the equipment on the ship and the earnestness and vehemence of Scandinavian oaths he uttered. He hammered at a contrivance on a long, gill like flange at the rear of the ship. There was a Danish inscription on the side of the ship. He finished his repairs after 30 minutes and the ship left. (St. Joseph [Mo] Herald, April 13, 1897)

(H) April 12, 1897-Jewell, Iowa-Several saw the airship to the southwest at 2230. It passed over the city and the whir of wheels was heard. It was made of a white metal and 2 people were seen on board. It had several propellers working horizontally and 2 large ones on either end working perpendicularly. It changed course several times, circled Mud Lake, and left northwest. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Chapman, Kansas-Between 2200 and 2300, a bright light was seen to the northwest and it darted about. Its brilliancy increased as it came nearer. It did not travel in a straight line but always kept the same course to the northwest. (Abilene [Ks] Daily Reflector, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Lodi, Wisconsin-Between 2230 and 2300, James Wilson and many others saw the airship. It was low and moved southeast to northeast. (Milwaukee [Wi] Sentinel, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Oak, Nebraska-L. Young saw a very bright light approaching from the southwest at 2300. It was going northeast and the outlines of an airship was seen as it passed over. He heard the muffled sounds of machinery. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Red Cloud, Nebraska-At 2300, several saw the airship to the west and going northwest. It moved as if going against a strong head wind. It was a large white light, but some saw red and green light. (Red Cloud Chief, April 16, 1897) The Omaha (Nb) Bee of April 15th said that Dick Ferris saw it at 2230. It was hovering directly over him, but soon moved up and southwest with the wind. It changed color and left west. The Red Cloud Webster County Argus of April 16th said it was a kite with a lantern attached.

April 12, 1897-Duluth, Minnesota-Several young men were spending the night on a rooftop watching for the airship. The article made several definite indications that they had been drinking. At 2315, they saw the airship. With one eye closed they saw 3 airship sailing north, 3 miles to the west, and in shape of a V. With both eyes open, they saw a confused mass of green and blue lights. One ship seemed to be making signals. (Duluth Daily News Tribune, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Waukegan, Illinois-About midnight, several saw a strange moving light. Ed. Wheeler saw it for 1 hour. It was brilliant red, very high, and varied course to the north. (Saginaw [Mi] Courier Herald, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Eau Claire, Wisconsin-At midnight, 150 people saw the airship. They had received word from Merrillan that it was moving toward Eau Claire. (Detroit [Mi] Journal, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Virginia, Minnesota-Several saw the airship in the evening. It was 1 mile up and moving northwest. It carried red and white lights. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Princeton, Minnesota-A. Rivers saw the airship pass rapidly over in the evening. It was going northwest and was seen a short time. (Princeton Union, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Henry, Illinois-In the evening, many saw the airship going south. (Henry Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Darlington, Wisconsin-Residents saw the airship pass over during the evening. It was a bright light going northwest. (Milwaukee [Wis] Sentinel, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Buffalo, Minnesota-During the evening, the airship was seen to pass over and land nearby. Many people went to the site and found that the crew consisted of 4 Japanese men, all of whom spoke fluent English. They said that they had been sent out by the Imperial Observatory a year ago on a scientific expedition. The craft was made of aluminum, built after the fashion of a bird, and was painted with a substance that made it invisible except at low altitudes. There were 6 of these airships built and they were sent out all over the world, 1 being in North America and 1 in South America. By means of fine wires, they were able to transmit all speeches, conventions, and sermons they heard back to the observatory where they were recorded by clerks. All of the debates in Congress and state legislatures were telegraphed to Japan. When asked their opinion of the Minnesota legislature, they said it was the roughest they ever reported. (Buffalo Journal, April 21, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Albia, Iowa-The airship was seen in the evening, but it proved to be a fire balloon. (Albia Union, April 16, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Hanover, Illinois-Many saw the airship during the evening. (Galena [Ill] Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Dickinson, North Dakota-The airship was seen in the evening but it was identified as Venus. (Dickinson Press, April 17, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Hayward, Wisconsin-During the evening, A. Carey and his family saw the airship, as did others. (Hayward Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Kenosha, Wisconsin-The airship was seen in the evening. (Kenosha Evening News, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Maquoketa, Iowa-A brilliant light was seen to the northwest, but it was Venus. (Maquoketa Sentinel, April 15, 1897)

(H) April 12, 1897-Como, Wisconsin-During the evening, the airship landed due to a need for gas, which was supplied by Mr. Dinsmore. Judge Gray and several other prominent citizens took a ride on it to Springfield. (Elkhorn [Wi] Independent, April 22, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Taylorville, Illinois-Mrs. W. Andrews saw red and green lights floating in the evening sky. (Taylorville Breeze, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Beloit, Kansas-The airship was seen and people who saw it should thank "Park Findlay or Dwight Taylor for the opportunity, as it is said that they had charge of the craft that evening." (Beloit Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Stockbridge, Wisconsin-Adam Sheriff saw the airship pass over in the evening. (Chilton [Wi] Times, April 17, 1897)

(H) April 12, 1897-Camp Point, Illinois-During the evening, the airship was seen by a lone man. A rope ladder was let down, a man descended it, and swung off and ran away. One hour later, Sam Wallace was seen in town. (Quincy [Ill] Herald, April 13, 1897)

(H) April 12, 1897-Perry Springs, Illinois-Conductor Malley and baggageman Richardson, on a Wabash train, saw the airship moving slowly west. It was cigar shaped, made of aluminum, and had wings. Once it sank so low that they could hear an accordion playing "Just Tell Them That You Saw Me." (Quincy [Ill] Herald, April 13, 1897) The Quincy Whig of April 16, 1897, said it had a bright white light and a red light that was not visible all the time. It generally moved parallel with the train, 200 feet up, and had an undulating motion. It was seen at about 2200. It kept even or just a little ahead of the train. It altered its speed as did the train. There was no mention of the music or the shape.

April 12, 1897-Wilmington, North Carolina-A bright light was seen to the west in the night sky. (Wilmington Messenger, April 13, 1897)

(H) April 12, 1897-Perry, Oklahoma-At night, Col. Yates and 4 others saw the airship moving north. It was 100 feet long, 25 feet wide, and there were people in it. (Peoria [Ill] Journal, April 15, 1897)

(H) April 12, 1897-Seymour, Wisconsin-A letter was found attached to an iron rod with RBS stamped on it. The letter reads: "On board airship Pegasus, April 12. This vessel is now making its 7th trip from Lafayette, Tenn., to the prairies of South Dakota. We have proved the undoubted ability of our machine to travel in all ordinary weather, but are still a little timid about encountering sudden strong winds. Only one attempt has been made to cross the Rockies, and that attempt resulted in a tie up near the White River in northwestern Colorado. Nevertheless, the finder may rest assured this invention will in a few weeks surmount present difficulties and will revolutionize all present methods of locomotion. The Pegasus is propelled by steam, is constructed on the parallel plane plan and will carry 1,000 pounds besides its own weight. The finder will please retain this letter until called for by a representative of R. R. S. & E. W. C. The man whom we shall send is a member of the Masonic

fraternity. Give the communication to no one who does not fully satisfy you that he is our agent." (Wilwaukee [Wi] Sentinel, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Stockton, Illinois-A light was seen moving west by R. Rindesbacher. (Stockton Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Galva, Illinois-Strange lights were seen. (Galva Standard, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Russellville, Arkansas-C. Nugent and Mr. Keith saw the airship during a heavy wind and thunderstorm. It was moving southwest at 100 mph. (Little Rock [Ak] Arkansas Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Lanark, Illinois-It was claimed that an airship had landed. After it landed a man less than 2 feet tall came out. He had a pink beard, his head was decorated with ivory like substance, he wore robes which seemed to be made of hippopotomas hide, and he wore an immense piece of iron ore on each foot. He drank two buckets of water and ate three sides of bacon. Soon three similar creatures emerge. This story was sent by a telegraph operator and was a hoax. This story graduated into a crash report in which the ship was badly damaged and two beings killed. One being escaped death and was unconscious. A correspondent went to the site and the being awoke. The being spoke "Volapuk" which the reporter knew. The being said they were from Mars and had been flying about for several weeks. He repaired his airship and left. The reporters last words were, "I myself, to whom nothing is strange, returned to Lanark and securing a room at the hotel, sat up all night smoking opium and eating hasheesh to get in condition to write this dispatch." (Sterling [Il] Gazette, April 13, 1897) This story received wide circulation in Illinois and several dispatches concerned trains headed for Lanark. The Lanark Gazette of April 14, 1897, said it was a definite hoax. (H)

April 12, 1897-Manitowoc, Wisconsin-A fire balloon was mistaken for the airship. (Manitowoc Pilot, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Mt. Carroll, Illinois-The airship was seen moving west at night. It had 2 lights suspended from it. (Rockford [Il] Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Melrose, Illinois-Cornelius Barry was reading Confucius when he noticed a brilliant light. He saw the airship and its searchlight was held on him. He heard a voice say, "Wie gehts bei Ihnen?" and the ship rose and passed over the Bryan pole. He grabbed his gun and followed. It let off a cloud of steam and landed. He saw 2 men and a beautiful woman in it. The cabin was brilliantly lighted by electricity and a colored man in a white duck suit was serving supper. Music was provided by an electric piano. A man with a long white beard and dressed in a Turkish costume was feeding coconuts to a huge pink baboon. The girl got up on the table and danced with a large purple and white anaconda. She then poured several bottles of champagne down the jaws of the snake. The other man was teaching a piebald kangaroo to jump over a walking stick held over his head. The baboon lit a cigar and let smoke out its ears; the kangaroo sat down and read a paper; and the (H)

snake fanned the lady with an ivory fan. Barry fainted. When he came to, the ship was gone and in its place was several empty champaign bottles and a card reading "Dr. Leslie E. Keeley, Opium Habit Cured In Ten Treatments." (Quincy [Ill] Herald, April 13, 1897) It should be noted that Bushnell (Il) McDonough Democrat of April 15, 1897, printed a story that was almost identical to the above. It is very obvious that it was plagiarized and changed some minor details.

April 12, 1897-La Grange, Indiana-Fifty people saw the airship. It had a front and rear light attached to a metallic body. (La Grange Standard, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Haughville, Indiana-Several saw the airship on the cloudy night. The light was extremely bright and seemed to be moving from place to place. It seemed to circle about to the northwest for 5 minutes. Once or twice it disappeared behind buildings. (Indianapolis [In] Sentinel, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Emporia, Kansas-A man saw a very mysterious light which woke him. It was like an electric light and moved in zigzag course to the northeast. It was seen several minutes and left north. (Emporia Republican, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Bluffs, Illinois-Many saw the airship moving toward Rushville. Its speed was greater than a train and was seen for 1/2 hour. It was bluish white, to the west, and disappeared suddenly. (Bowen [Ill] Chronicle, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Baraboo, Wisconsin-At night, several saw the airship to the east. It drifted west, 1 mile up, and then sailed back again. It hovered over the winter quarters of the Ringling Bros. Circus. It had red and green lights and moved in an undulating manner. It was seen during a heavy rain. (Baraboo Evening News, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Beardstown, Illinois-Over a thousand people saw the airship at night. (Astoria [Ill] Searchlight, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Camp Point, Illinois-The airship was seen at night by John Francis, Fred Morley, and others. (Camp point Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Elkhart, Indiana-The airship was seen at night. (Angola [In] Steuben Republican, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Angola, Indiana-The airship was seen at night. (Angola Steuben Republican, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Plymouth, Indiana-The airship was seen at night. (Angola Steuben Republican, April 14, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Golden, Illinois-At night, 2 people saw the airship. (Golden New Era, April 17, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Farlinville, Kansas-Mr. and Mrs Frost saw the airship to the northeast. It passed over them and they saw a projection from the light extending downward and at the sides, and the ends were pointed. It was seen for about an hour and was seen by others. (La Cygne [Ks] Weekly Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Mineral Point, Wisconsin-At night, a young musician saw a bright light to the north. It was the size of a house with 3 cupola, atop which sat an American eagle with outstretched wings. It moved in a swaying manner. When it was directly over him, he noted that a tubular contrivance had been let down. He grabbed it and tried to climb up it. Doc Holmes happened by and pulled him back down. (Mineral Point Tribune, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Jacksonville, Illinois-A huge airship passed over, moving west at a deliberate speed. It lowered a siphon on reaching the railway tanks. It was like a regalla cigar done up in tin-foil. (Quincy [Ill] Herald, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Worthington, Minnesota-A man saw a 50 foot long airship that was shaped like a badly chewed cigar with the chewed end being the tail. It had red, white, and green lights and moved at 1 mile a minute. (Worthington Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Manistique, Michigan-The airship was seen going 1,000 mph. Billie LeDue said it was like a cigar with a bright light in the center. (Manistique Courier, April 14, 1897) The Manistique Pioneer Tribune of April 16, 1897, said it was a fire balloon.

April 12, 1897-Monmouth, Illinois-Many saw the airship low in the northwest. Several reporters for the Daily Review said that it was in the location that Venus had been. (Monmouth Review, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Bushnell, Illinois-A bright light was seen to the west for 30 minutes. It moved very erratically from south to north. (Bushnell McDonough Democrat, April 15, 1897) The Bushnell Record of April 16, 1897, identified it as Venus.

April 12, 1897-Terre Haute, Indiana-Henry Bergham, L. Gordon, Bert Gordon, Jessie Blair, and others saw a bright light like a powerful revolving searchlight. It seemed to have a dark object behind it. It was to the west, 1/2 mile up, seen 20 minutes, and left southwest. (Terre Haute Evening Gazette, April 13, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Sioux City, Iowa-A. Patten and others saw a strange light to the west. (Dayton [Ia] Review, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Litchfield, Illinois-Two men said they had seen the airship when they had not. (Mt. Olive [Ill] Herald, April 24, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Elizabeth, Illinois-Residents saw the airship. (Stockton [Ill] Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 12, 1897-Fulton, Illinois-Charles McHugh was on a train and he saw the light of the airship. (Rock Island [Il] Argus,

April 12, 1897-Benton Harbor, Michigan-Three residents saw the airship with headlights, tail lights, outriggings, illumination, and all. (Benton Harbor Palladium, April 13, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Superior, Wisconsin-At 0100, Officer Gallinger, Judge F. Bryant, W. Cutler, And Harry Austin saw the airship going south. It moved as if it had just skated about in a circle from Duluth and Two Harbors. (Superior Evening Telegram, April 13, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Cincinnati, Ohio-Wm. Thompson saw the airship over Cumminsville at 0200. It moved rapidly, was very high, and looked like a balloon but wider from side to side. (Cincinnati Post, April 20, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Avondale, Indiana-At 0300, Sylvester Oran saw a bright light moving swiftly from north to south. It was seen a few seconds. (Cincinnati [O] Enquirer, April 14, 1897) The Muncie (In) Morning News of April 14th reported that it was Sylvester Oran and it had vari-colored lights and made a low rumbling sound.

April 13, 1897-Marshalltown, Iowa-At 0300, the telephones at the Statesman Press office began to ring with messages about the airship being seen. A reporter went out saw the airship being propelled by wings of 100 foot wingspan. It had a bright light in the front and an equally bright red light at the rear. He got on a bicycle and chased the airship until it stopped and hovered. It made a terrific roar as it moved. Above the boat like vessel was another cigar shaped object that was 100 feet long and 20 feet wide. The boat was inhabitated by small men and women whose faces and voices were uncanny. As soon as they saw him, they began to throw balls of fire, brimstone, and lava rocks at the reporter. They, seeing that they could not frighten the reporter, soon left. A variety of the things thrown at him were returned to the newspaper office. (Marshalltown Statesman Press, April 13, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Muncie, Indiana-The airship was seen about 0300. (Lore/Deneault)

April 13, 1897-Abilene, Kansas-At 0300, E. T. Ellison noticed that it was suddenly as light as day. At 0400, he saw an immense ball of fire to the west. It had a projection on top and was moving rapidly west. (Abilene Daily Reflector, April 14, 1897) The April 16th issue of the Abilene Weekly Chronicle added that it was dated April 16, 1897, was seen by his wife, and it was a large oval light.

April 13, 1897-Superior, Wisconsin-Officer George McCrum saw the airship at 0330. (Superior Evening Telegram, April 13, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Columbus, Ohio-At 0400, Charles Wright, John Goodrick, George Mettles, and Charles Shouder (all employees of the pumping station) saw the airship land. It took on coal and water. It was in charge of a man who wore a baseball uniform. After 20 minutes, it rose and left south. It was 40 feet 27 1/2 inches long, 7 feet deep, and 13

feet wide. It was egg shaped, black with red tips, and rested on a square platform. It was rigged with the latest sailing apparatus. The man in charge of it was in a happy state. (Columbus Evening Press, April 20, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-During the early morning, a man saw the airship pass over, going southeast, 400 feet up and 100 mph. It was a huge oblong shape, 40 by 15 feet, and brilliantly lighted. In the front, he saw the form of a man standing. (Louisville Post, April 13, 1897) (H)

April 13, 1897-Martin, Tennessee-In the morning, Ed. Maiden saw the airship. (Martin Mail, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-St. Paul, Minnesota-The airship was seen hovering over the city at 0802. It was seen by "135,672" people. It circled for a time, then it descended, and landed on the court house square. It was cigar shaped, winged, had an immense wheel at one end, and made of "free silver." A door opened and three strange looking beings stepped out. They were like regular men except that there was no "demarkation between the nose and the mouth" and they had immense gills on the side of the head. These gills resembled elephant ears and moved in and out as in respiration. The mouth extended from gill to gill and they had a huge fin down their backs. Their feet were pointed and stuck in the ground. The feet prevented them from slipping off the ship and the fin was used to guide them in case they did. Their hands were simply claws and this was because in some places the air was so heavy they had to dig their way around. The mayor spoke to them and found that they were from Mars. This was followed by a political discussion in which the mayor wanted to know how many votes there were on Mars. After a few more political cuts and discussions, the craft left. (St. Paul Dispatch, April 13, 1897) (H)

April 13, 1897-Pine River, Wisconsin-At 1600, 2 men were returning home from a shopping trip to town. They saw a black speck that grew larger. It soon stopped and hovered 500 feet up. It had 2 triangular sails that moved rapidly up and down and it slowly settled 100 feet away. One of the men went to investigate. He found a medium sized man dressed in a sweater and a bicycle cap. He had some tools and was working on the ship. Another man dressed in a black suit was directing the worker from the deck. As soon as they saw the witness, they went into the airship, rose and left. The airship was cigar shaped, 30 feet long, 10 feet wide, and covered with steel plates. There were 2 cabins on the deck and these were surrounded by a railing. It had 2 wing-like projections and 2 wheels like those of a steamer. (Merrill [Wis] Advocate, April 20, 1897) (H)

April 13, 1897-Greensburg, Indiana-At 1830, many saw the airship and it had red, green, and white lights. (Chicago [Ill] Chronicle, April 14, 1897) The Greensburg Review of April 17th, said it was a lie.

April 13, 1897-Marengo, Iowa-Many saw something to the north at 1930. It was a ball of red light that danced about to the northwest. (Marengo Democrat, April 15, 1897)

→ April 13, 1897-Fond du Lac, Wisconsin-At 1930, a bright light was seen to the west, moving west. It rose, rocked about, and disappeared in a flash. It was only a fire balloon. (Fond du Lac Commonwealth, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Nevada, Iowa-At 1945, the airship passed over, 2,000 feet up, and going northwest to southeast. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Dixon, Illinois-About 1,000 people saw a light to the southeast at 1950. (Sterling [Ill] Evening Gazette, April 14, 1897) The Polo [Ill] Ogle County Press of April 17, 1897, said that it rose on the western horizon, passed over the city, and left southeast.

April 13, 1897-Iowa Falls, Iowa-About dusk, many people saw a flash and heard a whirring noise. It was said to have struck a river and sank out of sight. "Those who reached the point of the object's disappearance first claim that the water was churned into a whirlpool and that for a long distance the water was seething and boiling." The story was circulated that it was the airship. (Waterloo [Ia] Courier, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Whittemore, Iowa-At 2000, the airship was seen going north. (Algonia [Ia] Courier, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Between Benton Harbor and St. Joseph, Michigan-Residents saw the airship at 2000. It had red, blue, and green lights and moved rapidly to the northwest at a great altitude. (Lansing [Mi] State Republican, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Cedar Rapids, Iowa-At 2000, the airship was seen and described as ruby colored, hull, deck, bow sprit, and boom seen with glasses. However, it was only a fire balloon. (Cedar Rapids Republican, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Milan, Minnesota-I. Monnie, Dr. K. Lundeval, E. Olson, and others saw the airship hovering over Lac qui Parle Lake. It left east after 30 minutes. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 14, 1897)

→ April 13, 1897-Worthington, Minnesota-At 2000, a reporter saw an exceedingly bright light to the west. It would increase and diminish in size at short intervals. (Worthington Advance, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Roberts, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship going northwest at 2000. (Hudson [Wis] Stars and Times, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Fountain City, Minnesota-At 2000, Hugo Heck, Andrew Dressendorfer, Joe Schuster, and many others saw the airship. It was several thousand feet up and moving steadily and rapidly to the west. It showed a light which was as large as the moon and nearly white. (Winona [Mn] Daily Herald, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Portage, Wisconsin-A fire balloon that was sent up was described as a large body with 2 lights, one above the other. (Portage Register, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Olivett, Kansas-Doc Brown and his family saw the airship at 2000. It was low and drifting toward Melvern. It had a headlight as large as a barrel and a stream of light followed it that was 50 yards long. It turned around 2-3 times and several person were seen aboard it. (Osage City [Ks] Free Press, April 22, 1897)

(H)

April 13, 1897-Between Davenport, Iowa, and Rock Island, Illinois-At 2000, 25 people on the ferry Augustus saw a strange light to the east. It was moving in the completely overcast sky. Robert Solomon blew the ferry's whistle, but recieved no response. It headed up river and moved swiftly south. It seemed to pass over the upper part of Island of Rock Island, cut across to Moline, and left southeast. Later they saw a fire balloon rise and burst into flames. (Rock Island Argus, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Bird Island, Minnesota-At 2020, the airship was seen going north. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Lake Lillian, Minnesota-Thomas Marshall saw the airship going north at 2020. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 14, 1897) According to the April 16th issue of the Bird Island Renville County Union, this and the previous report were hoaxes.

April 13, 1897-South Haven, Michigan-At 2030, the airship was seen as a bright red light moving at a high altitude and speed. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Telegraph, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Danville, Indiana-The airship was seen approaching from the northwest at 2030. It passed directly over the city going south. It was seen by Green Burris, John Tinder, and Livingstone Rankin. They heard singing and talking coming from it. (Greencastle [In] Banner, April 15, 1897)

(H)

April 13, 1897-Madison Lake, Minnesota-At 2030, the airship light was seen going northwest. (Madison Lake Mirror, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Minneapolis, Minnesota-A reporter saw the airship and it was as bright as the evening star. It appeared to flash red and green lights. It faded to the north and was seen by thousands at 2030. (Minneapolis Times, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Hartland, Minnesota-Between 2000 and 2100, the airship was seen low and going northwest. (Albert Lea [Mn] Freeborn County Times, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Clayton, Wisconsin-At 2040, residents saw the airship moving northwest. It showed red, green and white lights. (St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Clearwater Junction, Minnesota-The Great Northern operator said the airship was seen at 2045. It displayed a red light,

moved in an undulating fashion, and became green when it left. (St. Cloud [Mn] Daily Times, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Aberdeen, South Dakota-At 2100, many saw a bright light going northwest. It showed alternately red, green, and yellow, and increased and decreased in intensity. (Aberdeen Daily News, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Williamston, North Carolina-At 2100, several saw a black mass going slowly south to north. It was low enough for the riggings to be seen. As it passed over, it ascended rapidly and a brilliant light was thrown ahead of it. (Wilmington [NC] Messenger, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Kalamazoo, Michigan-At 2100, a burning barn was taken to be the airship. (Kalamazoo Gazette, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Smith's Mill, Minnesota-Several saw the airship hovering at 2100. It looked like a great flame of red light with blue and white lights suspended beneath it. It rose and fell in a zigzag course to the north. (Janesville [Mn] Argus, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Hudson, Wisconsin-At 2100, the airship was seen. A photograph of the rear was taken and it showed the pilot. He made several comments about the "wetness of a dry town", "flop of the spring election", and a variety of other political comments. (Hudson Stars and Times, April 16, 1897) ←

April 13, 1897-Hawick, Minnesota-At 2100, passengers on the St. Cloud and Willman train saw red and green lights close together. They were at 45 degree elevation and going northeast to southwest faster than the train. H. Peterson, Sheriff Odell, and E. Embretson saw it for 10 minutes. (Willman [Mn] Argus, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Grantsburg, Wisconsin-The airship was seen at 2100 moving northwest over the St. Croix River. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Sheldon, Iowa-George Hudson and others saw the airship at 2100. (Sanborn [Ia] Pioneer, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Madison Township, Iowa-At 2100, George Fields, John Rohmedder, and his sons saw a light to the west, going northwest. It had the appearance of a light attached to a paper balloon. (Wyoming [Ia] Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Michigan City, Indiana-S. Holman saw a light pass over the city at 2100. It came from the direction of the Hoosier slide and went east at an altitude of 600 feet. M. Howe and his family saw it, as did Eddie Heise, and a life-saving crew. Most of them felt that it was a balloon. (Michigan City Dispatch, April 15, 1897) The Michigan City Evening News of April 14, 1897, reported that 1/4 of the population saw a bright light pass over going northwest to southeast at a rapid rate. The Chesterton (In) Westchester Tribune of April 17th reported that it was 200 feet up and changed from red to white.

April 13, 1897-Colby, Wisconsin-Many saw 2 bright lights to the west at 2100. One was red and the other green and they were moving rapidly to the north. A pair of field glasses revealed a cigar shape with wings, rotating fin at rear, and a house in the middle portion. (Colby Phonograph, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Washington, D.C.-At 2100, many at the Columbia Heights suburb saw the airship. (Asheville [NC] Citizen, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-St. Paul, Minnesota-The airship was seen over the northwest part of the city at 2100. It hovered for 15 minutes as the skipper indulged in a series of signals with yellow, red, and green lights. It appeared to be dragging its anchor and began slowly ascending. Several thought they heard the command to cut the anchor, and it gathered speed, maneuvered, and left. It was seen by James Feeley and his family and Mary McCarthy and her son. McCarthy said it changed color frequently to green, red, and white. (St. Paul Globe, April 14, 1897) The St. Paul Dispatch of April 14, 1897, added that it was seen by Chief of Detectives Schweitzer and Sam Smart. (H)

April 13, 1897-Plainview, Nebraska-At 2100, the airship was seen for 8 minutes. It was cigar shaped and bore 2 lights. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Royalton, Minnesota-Fifty people saw the airship for 20 minutes at 2100. The outlines were not distinguished, but it displayed colored lights as it moved northwest. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 14, 1897) The Royalton Banner of April 15th stated that it was to the west, several hundred feet up, and 5 miles away. It moved up and down and side to side and changed from green, to red, and back to green.

April 13, 1897-Woonsocket, South Dakota-At 2100, a large number saw the airship pass over the city. It displayed red and green lights, was not very high, and moved slowly to the west during the 30 minutes it was seen. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-St. Cloud, Minnesota-Policeman Henry Becker saw the airship at 2100. It was going to a point 45 degrees to the northwest and was seen a short time. It was as large as an orange and the same color. It dipped and poised just like a kite. It moved at a rapid rate and was seen by others. (St. Cloud Journal Press, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Owatonna, Minnesota-The airship was seen to the west at 2100 and it was going northwest. (Owatonna People's Press, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Jamestown, North Dakota-At 2100, the airship was seen going west. It was brighter than any star and was a steady, but difficult color to define. (Jamestown Weekly Alert, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Farmington, Minnesota-Many saw a light to the northwest at 2100. As it moved downward, it changed colors very fast from white to red to blue to green. (Northfield [Mn] Independent, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Bigelow, Minnesota-At 2100, a ball of fire was seen moving rapidly west in an undulating manner. It flashed red, green, and white lights. (Bigelow Minnesota Signal, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Albert Lea, Minnesota-Many saw a bright light low to the west at 2100. (Albert Lea Freeborn County Standard, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Mankato, Minnesota-At 2100, many saw a light to the west. It was larger and redder than a star. It was seen to descend over the bluffs with a waving motion. (Mankato Free Press, April 14, 1897) The Mankato Weekly Ledger of April 19, 1897, reported that it hovered for 10 minutes, left southwest, and the headlight, red, and green lights were seen.

(H) April 13, 1897-Havelock, Nebraska-Ed Martin, Chas. Saberhagen, Frank Seibert, and others saw the airship at 2100. It was 500 feet up and the lights changed to red and green. One person heard singing and some heard the sound of machinery. (University Place [Nb] Times, April 17, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Willman, Minnesota-At 2100, C. Olson, E. Huffman, and their wives saw red and green lights going northeast to southwest. (Willman Argus, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Rock Island, Illinois-Many saw the airship approach from the south at 2100. It shot to the southeast at a rapid speed and left. The sky was cloudy and there were no stars visible. It made color changes from red to blue and back to red. Its movements were wobbly. (Rock Island Union, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Rock City, Illinois-For 15 minutes at 2100, many saw the airship to the northwest. It passed over the city at a great speed, going southwest. It was a large red light at a great height. (Freeport [Ill] Weekly Democrat, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Evansville, Minnesota-At 2100, night operator Webb recieved word from Melrose that the airship was headed for Evansville. About midnight, he saw a bright white light approaching from the southeast. It would change to red or blue, hovered over the city, and left northwest. (Evansville Enterprise, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Superior, Wisconsin-Officer Bagnell and others saw a light at 2103. It shifted around to the southeast. (Superior Leader, April 14, 1897)

(H) April 13, 1897-Two Harbors, Minnesota-At 2120, the airship was seen to the southwest and stopped over the witnesses. A pail was lowered and in it was a silver dime and the witnesses filled it with Hoch, but fearing that it might be too heavy they drank some before sending it up. The pail was lowered again with a nickel and a request for a copy of the Iron News. It then left toward Ranglely. (Two Harbors Iron News, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Winona Minnesota-Harry Friday and others saw the airship at 2130. It showed red and green lights and it swayed just southwest of

the Evening Star. (St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press, April 14, 1897) The April 15th issue of the same paper said it was blue-white and was as large as the moon. It moved with the wind at a good rate and was seen by F. Gerlich, Sterling Smith, A. Dressendorpher, and others.

April 13, 1897-Little Falls, Minnesota-At 2130, many saw the airship come from the northwest and move rapidly to the southeast. It was merely a colored light with the shadowy outline of a machine. It was seen by Attorney E. Smith and L. Van Herke. Van Herke saw it with field glasses which revealed a large machine like a butterfly. They saw what looked like the fans of a windmill. There was a rumor that 3 men were flying a kite with Chinese lanterns attached to the tail. (Little Falls Weekly Transcript, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Crookston, Minnesota-John O'Brien saw the airship at 2130. It was stationary some distance up and it burst forth with brilliant hues. He got his wife who saw only a black intangible hull the size of the livery stable. A. M. Stiles said that it had red and green lights and it followed the river. There were 2 men in it, "but would not say for sure whether they were in the airship or on the outskirts of the 5th ward." The men cast shadows the size of Ernest Rolsch and the consistency of McEwen (a hypnotist). Most of the witnesses saw only a bright light. (Crookston Daily Tribune, April 14, 1897) The Crookston Daily Times of April 14, 1897, reported that it was seen by 15 people and was a dark body going west. It varied in altitude and frequently changed to red. (H)

April 13, 1897-Bern, Kansas-At 2130, Guy Graham and Sam Minger saw a light to the east. It moved with an unsteady movement and made a circle in the heavens. It soon disappeared. (Wetmore [Ks] Nemaha County Spectator, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Caberry, Illinois-Several saw the airship at 2130. It moved at a rapid rate to the southeast in an overcast sky. It had a dull red light. (Chicago [Il] Record, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Barren Plains, Tennessee-Between 2100 and 2200, several saw the airship going south. (Nashville [Tn] Banner, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Aberdeen, South Dakota-C. Lacey, Martin Kuhule, A. Green, and Nic Van Viest saw 2 yellow lights several times larger than any star at 2140. They were going northwest and moved with undulations. After awhile, the lights changed to green, red, and white lights. They left steadily to the north. (Aberdeen Brown County Sentinel, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Melrose, Minnesota-At 2145, the Great Northern operator saw the airship showing a green light. (St. Cloud [Mn] Daily Times, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Keyettesville, Missouri-Alex Taylor saw the airship to the northwest at 2145. It was merely a bright white light. (Keyettesville Carrlton Courier, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Young America, Minnesota-The airship was seen to leave to the west at 2145. At 2215, a bright light appeared to the west and moved east. At 2315, it was to the northeast. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Union City, Indiana-At 2200, several saw a powerful electric light for 5 minutes. It was silent and flickered at intervals. (Union City Times, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Madison, Wisconsin-James and Joseph Hobbins, Ward Hurd, and Senator C. Welton saw the airship at 2200. It left over Lake Monona. (Madison Democrat, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Brook, Indiana-At 2200, the airship was seen and was cigar shaped, white, and had a headlight. It had slowly flapping wings, a screw propeller, a red tail light, and made a whirring noise. Several gun shots were fired at it. It was a complete lie. (Brook Reporter, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Washington, Iowa-At 2200, D. Kyle, W. Moothart, and Rev. Gray saw a strange light to the southwest for 15 minutes. It changed from green to red. A telescope revealed a shadow above it and it left to the southwest. (New York [NY] Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Norwood, Minnesota-Leopold Henkleman and others saw the airship going northwest at 2200. It was oblong with colored lights at each end. Later, Gerhard Hoelfken saw the same object going south. The article made mention that a car of Beck beer arrived the day before. (Norwood Times, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Grantsburg, Wisconsin-At 2200, many saw the airship to the northwest. It was seen 15 minutes and made quite a noise. (Grantsburg Burnett County Signal, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Edgerton, Wisconsin-Hans Lindas saw a stationary light at 2200. It appeared and disappeared several times before it left northwest. (Edgerton Wisconsin Tobacco Reporter, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Rock City, Illinois-At 2230, the airship was seen, but it was only a fire balloon. (Freeport Bulletin, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Steele, North Dakota-At 2230, the airship was seen going west. It displayed red, green, and white lights. (Jamestown [ND] Weekly Alert, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Ledgerwood, North Dakota-George Dawson saw the airship at 2230. It was to the northwest and going northwest. (Ledgerwood Broadax, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Hector, Minnesota-The airship was seen to the north at 2230. It was 1 mile away, 300 feet up, moving west at 18 mph, and was seen 30 minutes. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Audubon, Iowa-At 2259, City Marshall Nate Carper was hailed by Mr. Clinton Steinsman, of the Omaha invention. Steinsman asked where he might find an empty build to use. He was directed to the empty engine-house of the railroad. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Canton, Illinois-At 2300, several saw the airship going north. It displayed yellow, red, and green lights. It looked like a cross between a section of pneumatic tire and an incomplete study in black and white of a storm at sea. (Canton Register, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Wyoming, Iowa-Nightwatch Pelkey saw a bright red light low in the southeast at 2300. It passed over rapidly in a wave like manner to the northwest. (Wyoming Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Bismarck, North Dakota-The airship passed over at 2300. It went west and made a rustling sound. (Bismarck Tribune, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Lake Elmo, Minnesota-At 2315, Frederick Chamberlain and D. L. Jones saw a man walking about with a lantern as if looking for something. They drove towards him in the bright moon light. After they went 5 rods, the lantern disappeared and they heard the crackling of twigs and brush from a clearing. Then they heard a rushing noise like the wind around eaves. They saw a long, high object of a grey-white color like the top of a covered wagon. It had 2 rows of light, 4 lights in 2 pairs. Each pair had a red and a green light. It rose quickly at a sharp angle, passed over the trees, and left south. There were several more white lights on it. They saw no machinery, wings, wheels, rudders, or people. They could hear the rushing sound for over a minute after it left. It left 14 marks in the mud. Each mark was 2 foot long, 6 foot wide, arranged 7 on each side, and in an oblong pattern. Adam Thielen, who lived 1 mile away, said he heard a buzzing sound at 2300 and saw a dark object with red and green lights high in the sky. (St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Minot, North Dakota-At 2350, several including Charles Herms saw the airship come from the southeast. It followed the line of the Soo tracks at the speed of a passenger train. It carried a red, green, and white lights, was 500-1,000 feet up, and made 100 miles in 1 hour and 15 minutes, as timed between stations. It left to the northwest. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Waterville, Minnesota-About midnight, the airship was seen. (Waterville Gazette, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-A stranger came to Dr. Hetherington's office due to a head wound which required several stitches. He said that he was watching 2 airships when a deck-hand opened a porthole on the leeward ship, chucked a coupling pin, and hit him. (Logansport Journal, April 14, 1897) (H)

April 13, 1897-La Cygne, Kansas-During the evening, N. Patfish saw the airship. (La Cygne Weekly Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Browtown, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship to the west, going northwest, in the evening. (Monroe [Wis] County Journal, April 20, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Hastings, Minnesota-The airship was seen in the evening. (Hastings Democrat, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Sanborn, Minnesota-In the evening, the airship was seen. (Lamberton [Mn] Star, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Appollonia, Wisconsin-Wm. Anderson saw the airship during the evening. (Appollonia Weekly Budget, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-near Frankfort, Indiana-D. W. Paul and others saw the airship in the evening sky. It was preceded by a swishing, roaring sound and displayed green, yellow, and white lights. The white light was like a searchlight and flashed over the area. It was cigar shaped, rigged with wings or fins, and descended to just above the trees. It hovered for a moment, rose and left southwest with the same sound. (Indianapolis [Ind] Sentinel, April 15, 1897)

(H) April 13, 1897-Armstrong, Iowa-A red light was seen to the north and going west. Two people said they heard female voices sing "After the Ball." When it was 2 miles west of the city, it went north. (Armstrong Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Shewano, Wisconsin-Will Snowden and Charley Bold saw an object bearing a strong red light moving east to south. It was seen by others and several said that it was a huge ball of fire with several smaller lights of different colors. According to some, it was shaped like a bat. It moved in an undulating flight. (Shewano County Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Orma, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship hovering 100 feet up in the evening. It was cigar shaped, 10 feet long, and suspended from a balloon. It left west in a zigzag course. (Orma Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Rolfe, Iowa-During the evening, a large kite with a lantern on the tail was seen as the airship. (Rolfe Revivelle, April 15, 1897)

(H) April 13, 1897-Danville, Illinois-During the evening, the airship was seen. On board were seen several people moving about as if preparing supper. One person was peeling potatoes, another kneading bread, and some around a red hot stove smoking. They also saw a dog on board. (Danville News, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Superior, Wisconsin-In the evening, the airship was seen moving toward Duluth and it had red, blue, and green light. It was only a fire balloon. (Superior Evening Telegram, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Duluth, Minnesota-A red and green light was seen moving swiftly over the bay. (Duluth News and Tribune, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Wasioja, Minnesota-The airship passed over and it appeared like a large star. It caused the evening sky to become pink. (Mantorville [Mn] Express, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Junction City, Kansas-The airship was seen hovering to the southeast for 30 minutes in the evening. It was actually a kite with a lantern attached to the tail. (Junction City Weekly Tribune, April 18, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Boulder, Colorado-A burning couch was thrown from the court house and some reported it as the airship. (Boulder Camera, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Taylorville, Illinois-In the evening, a kite with 2 lanterns attached to the tail was seen as the airship. (Taylorville Breeze, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Holdrege, Nebraska-Several saw the airship to the north and it moved at a rapid rate in the evening sky. (Holdrege Citizen Forum, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Delano, Minnesota-In the evening, several saw the airship to the west. (Buffalo [Mn] Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-New Ulm, Minnesota-The airship was seen to the west in the evening. It was identified as Venus. (New Ulm News, April 17, 1897) The St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press of April 14th said that something dropped from it. It was a copy of the Sunday Pioneer Press weighted with a metal bar and had a letter inside. The letter said the airship started from the Pioneer Press building in St. Paul. The ship is a hollow cylinder of aluminum opened at both ends. A platform on top of this and 10 feet above this was a gas bag. The cylinder has large wings on the sides and a fan shaped rudder at the stern. The machinery and cabin are on the platform and is battery operated. On the inside of the cylinder is a large fan which blows air out the rear and pushes the ship forward. They wings can be moved in order to act as a fan or sails or a parachute. The signature was unreadable. The paper went on to say, "...so it (the Pioneer Press) is the first in the field with an airship to carry the gospel of 'the oldest and the best newspaper in the northwest.'" An interesting note to the above is that the Miner and the Times, both of Ely, Mn., claimed that the above was false and that they claimed the airship was their's and that it was launched from their respective buildings.

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April 13, 1897-Bushnell, Illinois-During the evening, a light was seen to hover then swoop down. It was identified as a kite with a lantern attached. (Bushnell Record, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-David City, Nebraska-Fred Deardourff, C. Taylor, S. Clingman, Dr. Haskell, and others saw the airship. It was merely a headlight and colored lights that left southwest. (David City News, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Brodhead, Wisconsin-In the evening, a cigar shaped object with green lights was seen going west for 1 hour. It was only a kite with a lantern attached. (Brodhead Busy Citizen, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-between St. Paul, Minnesota, and La Crosse, Wisconsin-The crew and passengers of a train saw the airship. It was so low that it cast a reflection on the water. (La Crosse Morning Chronicle, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Waupaca, Wisconsin-Mr. and Mrs. Jeffers, M. Skinner, D. James, and others saw the airship moving rapidly to the northwest. A pair of field glasses revealed different colored lights. (Waupaca Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Pennfield, Michigan-George Parks and his wife saw a very bright object 100 feet up and swiftly approaching. He thought it was a meteor due to the light and the humming sound. It soon fell and buried itself into the ground. Next day, they found a large wheel, made of aluminum, 3 foot diameter, and turbine shaped. (Detroit [MI] Evening News, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Iowa City, Iowa-Henry Enk saw a large swaying body with a light in the front. It was seen for 30 minutes as it went north. (Iowa City Iowa State Press, April 14, 1897) The Iowa City Weekly Republican of April 14, 1897, said it was a fire balloon.

April 13, 1897-Denver, Colorado-A weather forecasters kite was seen as the airship. (Denver Republican, April 17, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Dawson, North Dakota-The airship was seen going west at night. (Fargo [ND] Forum, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Minneapolis, Minnesota-At night, a fire balloon was seen as the airship. (Minneapolis Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Mandan, North Dakota-The airship was seen going west at night. (Fargo [ND] Forum, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Kirkville, Missouri-At night, the airship was seen but it was only a kite with a lantern attached to the tail. (Kirkville Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Stromsburg, Nebraska-A bright light was seen to the southwest at night. It kept moving rapidly and swaying side to side. Many different colored lights flashed out from either side. (Stromsburg Weekly News, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Akron, Iowa-At night, the airship passed over but it was only a fire balloon. (Akron Tribune, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Iowa Falls, Iowa-At night, the airship was seen to approach the earth at a terrific rate with a whirring noise. It struck the river, vanished from sight, and caused the water to seeth and boil. (Anamosa [Ia] Eureka, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Woodward, Oklahoma-Many saw the airship at night. (Woodward News, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Moline, Illinois-At night, a fire balloon was taken for the airship. (Moline Mail, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Fairfield, Iowa-The airship was seen for nearly an hour at night. It was only Venus. (Fairfield Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Caterville, Missouri-B. Mowery saw the airship at night. (Carthage [Mo] Press, April 22, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Monmouth, Illinois-At night, the airship was seen to make a dive to the southwest. It was identified as a kite with a lantern on the tail. (Monmouth Review, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Durand, Wisconsin-The airship hovered in the night sky. (Eau Claire [Wis] Telegram, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Hillsboro, Wisconsin-Roger Williams saw the airship at night. (Hillsboro Sentry, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Bruce, Wisconsin-Many saw the airship at night. (Appollonia [Wis] Weekly Budget, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Sumner, Iowa-At night, a reddish light was seen going northwest to southeast making occasional swoops down. It was only a balloon. (Sumner Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Motley, Minnesota-At night, an operator and a freight train crew saw a red and green light. (Duluth [Mn] Daily News and Tribune, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Denton, Texas-Separately, a man and a woman saw the airship at night. The man saw a shadow fall of the moon obscuring it for a moment. The sky was cloudless. He focused field glasses on it. It was almost stationary and moving slowly southeast. It suddenly shot to the southeast after being seen for 20 minutes. It was 1/2 mile up, 50 feet long, and cigar shaped. It had great mugs thrust out from each side, a broad tail or steering sail behind, and a long blade like a cut-water on the front. Where the back joined the main body, there was a powerful searchlight that threw out rays ahead of it. It had a row of windows along the sides that gave out smaller light. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Dixon, Illinois-At night, a fire balloon was taken for the airship. (Dixon Telegraph, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Cresson, Texas-Night Chief Operator Dunlop saw the airship at night. It resembled the top of a passenger coach in shape, long, and pointed at the ends. It had a powerful searchlight in front and several smaller lights on the sides. It was 60 feet long, had bat like wings, and was going southwest at a terrific rate. When it was 2 miles

past the depot, it turned southeast and left. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Canton, South Dakota-The airship was seen going north in the moonlight. It had a red light at the head and green lights at the stern. It was propelled by huge wings or fans. It changed the angle of the fans to rise or fall. It was seen by Mayor Seely, Dr. Lewis, Dr. O'Neil, and Col Stanley. (York [Nb] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Pardeeville, Wisconsin-At night, the airship was seen to pass over. Some saw the outlines and Fred Wolfe said it made an "unearthly" screech. (Pardeeville Times, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Kenosha, Wisconsin-A man saw the airship, framework, and all. It was cigar shaped and had wings protruding from each side. (Kenosha Evening News, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Baraboo, Wisconsin-M. Marshall and others saw a fiery ball going northwest. It was seen for 5 minutes, was the size of a man's head, and moved with a bobbing motion. (Baraboo News, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Anderson, Indiana-Over 20 people saw th airship hovering over the city. It left north in the night sky. (Cincinnati [O] Enquirer, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Stillwater, Minnesota-Operators saw the airship going south. It displayed red and green lights. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 14, 1897) The St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press of April 14, 1897, reported that it was cigar shaped.

April 13, 1897-Sedalia, Missouri-Several saw a strange light to the northwest at night. It altered its course and described a large circle. It was a large light with streaks going form it. (Sedalia Daily Capital, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Newton, Kansas-At night the airship was seen to the west. (Newton Kansan, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Marinette, Wisconsin-Otto Lantz, Dr. Colter, Will Raiche, and others saw a strange light to the north. It hovered and then left. (Marinette Eagle, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Lamberton, Minnesota-At night the airship was seen. One man saw it with a large field glasses and saw its outlines. They could see the lights changing colors every few second. (Lamberton Star, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Table Rock, Nebraska-The airship was seen going very slowly southeast to northwest at night. It was 24 by 40 feet in size. Through the windows, the witnesses saw passengers scurrying to and fro. There were 2 ladies, one with her hands fastened to a seat and the other waiting. They saw the figure of a man holding a huge revolver opposite her. When they heard a cry, one of the witnesses fired a revolver at it.

The windows closed and the object left. (Table Rock Argus, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Taylorville, Illinois-The airship landed near here at night. It landed because of a broken wing. It was cigar shaped and propelled by electricity. It was to remain until repairs made. On board were 6 men who refused to give any information as to their identity or purpose. (Muncie [In] News, April 14, 1897) This is probably a hoax since it was not mentioned in the Taylorville papers.

(H)

April 13, 1897-Easton, Minnesota-A strange light passed over a little to the northwest. It moved in an undulating manner and changed colors from white to red to green. When it was 10 miles away, it changed course and left north. (Delavan [Mn] Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-East Maumee, Michigan-Wm. Peckmann saw the airship going southeast. It had 33 colored lights. (Adrian [Mi] Evening Telegram, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Danville, Illinois-Constble Hardy Whitlock saw a bright light at 45 degrees to the northwest. It moved slowly north and had a searchlight that moved in different directions. (Danville Daily News, April 17, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Snake River, Minnesota-Some farmers said a boat with wings camped in the woods. The odor from the smoke sickened the people who approached it. The language of the beings who ran in and out of it sounded like a flock of geese being chased by a tornado. The beings had no clothes and appeared bluish. (Crookston [Mn] DAily Tribune, April 14, 1897)

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April 13, 1897-Waukaska, Wisconsin-The airship was seen hovering over the Keeley Institute. Occasionally, it would drop to within a few hundred feet of the earth and then rise to a height of 1/4 mile. It had been seen since April 11th. Its actions caused a rumor that it had been brought a load of patients to the institute. One reputable citizen heard the captain swearing at the crew while 2 empty be bottles were thrown from it. Later it was found that the airship was sailed by Capt. Wm. Dunlop, Mates Ross Wilbur, Will Agnew, and other men about town. (Waukasha Freeman, April 15, 1897)

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April 13, 1897-Warsaw, Illinois-The airship was seen. (Warsaw Bulletin, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Clara City, Minnesota-The airship was seen. (Clara City Chippewa County Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Montgomery, Minnesota-The airship was seen. (Waterville [Mn] Gazette, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Arlington, South Dakota-The airship was seen. (Brookings [SD] County Press, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Volga, South Dakota-H. P. Hanson saw the airship. (Brookings [SD] County Press, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Waunauke, Wisconsin-The airship was seen. (Madison [Wi] Weekly Madisonian, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Hankinson, North Dakota-The airship was seen. (Hankinson News, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Carlinville, Illinois-Hundreds saw the airship pass over. (Jerseyville [Ill] Daily Democrat, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Dyersville, Iowa-A man saw an object moving east to west. When it passed overhead, it looked like a balloon with large wings extending from each side. These were working like a windmill's at a terrible rate. It seemed to have a broad flat attachment in the rear like a tail. When the tail was lowered, the ship rose, and when the tail was raised, the ship lowered. (Dyersville Commercial, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 13, 1897-between Stacyville and Osage, Iowa-John Penny was riding home very late and was very sleepy and nodding. Suddenly his horse stopped and Penny opened his eyes and saw a long, cigar shaped tube with immense wings. As he approached it, it rose and hovered so low that he was able to touch it, but he felt no substance. Inside were 2 very beautiful creatures who communicated to him through thought transfer that they were from the other world and were in search of an honest man. They indicated that they desired to place a colony of spirits on the earth. (Osage Mitchell County Press, April 15, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Coldwater, Michigan-The airship was seen 1/2 mile up. It had a blazing light in front and red and green lights at the sides. (St. Louis [Mo] Star, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Becker, Minnesota-The airship was seen going north. (St. Cloud [Mn] Daily Times, April 21, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Windsor, North Dakota-The airship was seen going west. (Bismarck [ND] Tribune, April 14, 1897) The Jamestown (ND) Weekly Alert of April 15th said it had red, blue, and white lights.

April 13, 1897-St. Louis, Missouri-The airship was seen moving west to east. Once it darted upwards into the clouds. (St. Louis Star, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Northfield, Minnesota-C. Miller saw the airship for 10 minutes. It was going west to north and varied in brightness and color. (Northfield News, April 17, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Monticello, Wisconsin-Charlie Murphy saw the airship sailing at a fearful rate to the southwest. It was 3,000 feet up, oval, and 35-40 feet long. (Brodhead [Wi] Busy Citizen, April 22, 1897) The Monticello Express of April 15th said it was a fire balloon.

April 13, 1897-Madison Lake, Minnesota-A. Haynes and other train passengers saw a light moving west. Sometimes it was on one side of the train and at other times on the other side. Haynes felt that it was a star and the motion due to the train making curves. (Mankato [Mn] Free Press, April 14, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Ft. Atkinson, Wisconsin-A few saw the airship going southwest toward Lake Koshkonong. The supposition was made "that it was filled with Whitewater hunters who were intending to make a terrible onslaught on the canvas-backs, which are waiting at the lake for the sportsmen to hunt them." (Fort Atkinson Jefferson County Union, April 16, 1897)

April 13, 1897-Nevada, Iowa-A 90 rod long and 60 rod wide airship landed. It had large wings that were 200 rods long when in motion and it made the noise of a volcano. It was learned through an interpreter that the ship was from the sun and had on board people from a variety of planets. It even landed in Turkey and took on board some turks. It usually traveled at 1,000 mph, but was capable of 5,000 mph. It had stopped in Kansas or Nebraska and took on 1,500 head of cattle for food. It carried 400 million tons of coal, a lake of water, and the ice house was 800 feet high and 1,000 feet square. (Nevada Journal, April 15, 1897)

(H)

April 13, 1897-Battle Creek, Michigan-The following letter was found:
"On the Air Ship, April 13, 1897. We have dropped many messages but have made but two landings since we left San Francisco owing to the danger. Have now lost our anchor wire and will not attempt another landing until we land at Washington. Expect to do great damage to ship in landing. Should this be found please request San Francisco papers to copy. Robert has been sick; is all right now. All the rest well. Have some good views of many cities. Hushly Dan Airship FN Should this note be found please hand to any daily paper." (Battle Creek Daily Moon, April 16, 1897)

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April 14, 1897-Dickinson, North Dakota-At 0145, the airship was seen. It disappeared into the Bad Lands. (Jamestown [ND] Weekly Alert, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Rolfe, Iowa-At 0200, G. McSnort could not sleep and went hunting. He heard a noise like the wings of a thousand geese and saw a bright light approaching from the southeast. As it got closer, 3 legs, 20 feet long, one behind and 2 in front swung down, and it landed. A man emerged and said that his companion had a terrible toothache and, giving McSnort a prescription, told him to get it filled. He woke the druggist and returned with a "4 per cent solution of cocaine." The craft was bird shaped, 12-15 feet across, 30 feet long, and the wings were partly folded. The man's companion was his wife, Mrs. Ecks. As a reward, McSnort was given a ride in it. He was taken to Des Moines and Fort Dodge and returned to Rolfe. The craft was made of steel, aluminum, bamboo frame, and silk wings. It had 6 propellers, 1 at each end and 2 on each side. The name of the ship was Madge Narey. When it rose to leave, the rear leg was drawn up until the ship was at an angle and then the propellers were set into motion. (Rolfe Revielle, April 15, 1897)

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April 14, 1897-Lawrence, Kansas-At 0300, F. M. McHale noted that everything was as bright as day. At 0400, he saw an immense ball of fire to the west. It had a projection on top and was moving rapidly west. (Lawrence Daily World, April 15, 1897) It should be noted that this report is identical, word for word except for the names with a report from Abilene, Kansas, of April 13, 1897.

→ April 14, 1897-Alton, Illinois-Peter Dumuth had awoken for several nights hoping to see the airship. At 0330, he saw a bright light to the west. At first it was tub shaped, then changed to egg shaped. It was seen by his family for 15 minutes. (Alton Evening Telegraph, April 14, 1897) ←

(H) April 14, 1897-Reynolds, Michigan-At 0430, the airship landed and was soon surrounded by several farmers. From it emerged a being that was 9 1/2 feet tall, who was almost naked, and its speech was musical, but a repetition of bellowing. He seemed to have plenty of heavy clothes that looked like polar bear belts. One of the men extended a hand and the being swung one of his legs, breaking a hip of one of the witnesses. The being then got back in the ship, turned on the power, and it left. (Saginaw [MI] Courier Herald, April 17, 1897) The Grand Rapids (MI) Evening Press of April 16th, added the following comment, "There is no still in the vicinity of Reynolds that is known to the revenue authorities and a sharp lookout is being kept for moonshiners."

(H) April 14, 1897-Cedar Rapids, Iowa-At 0430, the airship was seen to land on top of the Union Passenger Station. Milt Campbell found metal and rubber pieces that he said came from the ship. It was made of aluminum, everything was hollow and filled with gas, and the main chamber contained 17,000 cubic feet of natural gas. He said that it was built in Indiana. It was said that a number of men who first went up with it either died of fright or were thrown overboard. On board were W. Boyd, editor of the Republican, A. Charles, postmaster, Sherman, of the Saturday Record, Jim Plumb, and Elias Doty. The account was filled with political cuts, such as that Doty was taken up to see how far a chump would fall without killing him. Their journey lasted 2 weeks and covered almost 2 million miles. (Cedar Rapids Gazette, April 14, 1897)

(H) April 14, 1897-Elkhart, Indiana-C. Schlotterback, a photographer, saw the airship approach from the southeast at 0530. He took a photograph of it during the 15 minutes it was in view. The photo showed a cigar shaped object with a boat or basket attached beneath. It had long triangular wings which he could hear fluttering. The basket was evidently occupied by 3 people. (Elkhart Weekly Truth, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Kane, Illinois-During the afternoon, George Goodman and others saw the airship. It had an indescribable motion and moved at various speeds and fitfully. They went to investigate and found that it was a girl taking her first horseback ride in divided skirts. (Carrollton [IL] Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Gas City, Indiana-At 1500, hundreds saw what appeared to be an immense bird approaching from the northwest. As it came nearer, it became cigar shaped and was propelled by broad canvas wings. It landed

in a field on the Roush farm, 1 mile east of the city. The cattle and horses were terrified. Before the crowd arrived, it left east. It was seen by L. Seybrant, D. Conway, W. Guthrie, W. Garthwait, and others. (Cincinnati [O] Enquirer, April 15, 1897) A variety of other sources for this report, such as the Indianapolis (In) Journal of April 15th, made mention that there were 5 occupants who were seen making repairs. The Wabash (In) Plaindealer of April 17, 1897, reported that it was 75 feet high, cigar shaped balloon with a basket, and one of the beings ask a witness to go with them.

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April 14, 1897-Marion, Indiana-At 1500, the airship passed over 6 miles to the south and 1 mile up. It came from the northwest and veered east. It was cigar shaped, had large wings, and carried 6 passengers. (Marion Daily Leader, April 15, 1897)

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April 14, 1897-Casstown, Ohio-James McKensie heard a noise like a flock of geese at 1800. He saw what looked like a huge bird moving southwest. He saw a wing like object and what appeared to be a large rudder. It moved quite leisurely and he heard the sound of distant music. It was not more than 150 feet up. As it left, he heard human voices and saw something large and white fall from it. Some of his neighbors heard the strange sounds, but did not see the object. (Cincinnati [O] Enquirer, April 16, 1897)

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April 14, 1897-Kenton, Ohio-Many saw the airship at 1900. (Kenton News Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Barnesville, North Dakota-At 1900, a telegraph operator saw the airship. (Grand Forks [ND] Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Marion, Indiana-Several including Dr. J. Forrest saw a bright light high in the cloudy sky at 1900. It was too large to be a star, swift, and moved in a zigzag manner. At times it would fade and then brighten. It moved against the wind. (Marion Morning News, April 15 and 16, 1897) The Cincinnati (O) Enquirer of April 15th reported that it came from the east and left northwest. The Logansport (In) Daily Reporter of April 16, 1897, added that it came from the northwest, was cigar shaped, and had broad wings.

April 14, 1897-Tampico, Illinois-Between 1900 and 2000, residents saw the airship moving northeast. (Sterling [Ill] Evening Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-Many including Ray Thompson, C. Graves, D. Justice, and Prof. G. Michaels saw a large ball of red fire to the northwest. It pulsated and moved up and down. It was seen between 1900 and 2000. (Logansport Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Birmingham, Iowa-The airship was seen to come from the south between 1900 and 2000. It descended rapidly and landed 3/4 miles to the west. Many approached it, but when 100 yards away it rose slowly with a whirring sound. It left northwest and 2 men were seen in it. It was 100 feet long, 20 feet high, and tapered at both ends. It had small red and green lights and a large light suspended 8 feet below one end.

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One of the men in it carried a lantern which he waved. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 16, 1897) The April 17th issue of the same paper revealed that it was a hoax.

April 14, 1897-South Haven, Michigan-At 2000, the airship was seen going west. It was cigar shaped and moved at a remarkable speed. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Telegraph, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Sedalia, Missouri-The airship was seen almost directly overhead at 2000. It was going west at the speed of a passenger train and was very high. It was a very bright yellowish light which alternated with a red light. It was seen for 15 minutes. (Sedalia Daily Capital, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Decatur, Illinois-At 2000, many saw a light at 45 degrees to the east and was bright red and going east. It was found to be a fire balloon. (Decatur Evening Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Warsaw, Indiana-At 2000, many saw a bright star 5 feet above a wall. It was to the northwest and no other stars were visible. In 30 minutes, it was 2 feet above the wall. It had peculiar scintillations and an occasional red cast. (Warsaw Times, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Battle Creek, Michigan, At 2000, many saw the airship for 1-2 minutes going west. It changed to red at times and moved against the wind. (Battle Creek Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Valparaiso, Indiana-Over half the population saw the airship to the west at 2000. After 30 minutes, it left west. (Indianapolis [In] Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Racine, Wisconsin-At 2000, a light was seen going northwest. It was seen again at 2200. It was only a fire balloon. (Racine Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-La Cygne, Kansas-At 2000, Mrs. Rose and her son saw the airship going northwest. (La Cygne Weekly Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Galesburg, Illinois-Many saw the airship floating in the northwest at 2000. It moved slowly to the northwest and was seen over 2 hours. (Galesburg Evening Mail, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Princeton, Indiana-At 2000, several including Sam Zimmerman and Trustee Van Zandt saw the airship pass over. (Indianapolis [In] Sentinel, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-South Bend, Indiana-Sid Thornton and others saw the airship at 2015. It was to the northwest, moved rapidly, and carried red and white lights. (South Bend Tribune, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Mt. Vernon, Illinois-At 2015, over 100 people saw the airship at 30 degree elevation to the northwest. It descended 10-12 degrees in 20 minutes and gradually passed out of sight. It was brighter

than a first magnitude star, reddish, erratic, and seen over an hour. (Mt. Vernon Daily Register, April 15, 1897) The Chicago (Il) Tribune of April 16, 1897, said that Mayor Wells said it looked like the body of a large man swimming through the air with an electric light on his back.

April 14, 1897-Croton, Iowa-Mrs. Adaline Harlon saw a bright light the size of a quart cup at 2015. It was fast, very high, and carried a red and a white light. It became stationary twice and would often swing up and down. It seemed to be following the railroad tracks. It was seen for 15 minutes and by others. (Ottumwa [Ia] Courier, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Ledgerwood, North Dakota-At 2025, a ball of red light was seen to the northwest. It would move south, then north. At irregular intervals, there was a sudden glare. At 2110, it went below the horizon. (Ledgerwood Broadax, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-White Hall, Illinois-Many saw a bright light pass over at 2030. It was very high and moved southeast to northwest at 150 mph. When it moved, it changed from white to red. It was seen 2-3 minutes. (Carlinville [Ill] Democrat, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Baraboo, Wisconsin-At 2030, H. Potter and others saw the airship directly over the city. After 15 minutes, it left northwest. (Baraboo Republic, April 21, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Turtle Lake, Wisconsin-Dr. Brown and Station Agent McKenzie saw th airship at 2030. It had red and blue lights, was going rapidly west, and was seen for 40 minutes. It was seen by many others. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-O'Neill, Nebraska-At 2030, Wes Evans and R. Glass saw a brilliant light to the northwest. (O'Neill Frontier, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Rock Rapids, Iowa-At 2030, a balloon was sent up and reported as a beet shaped object with voices coming from it. (Rock Rapids Lyon County Reporter, April 15, 1897) (H)

April 14, 1897-Hughesville, Missouri-At 2030, the airship was seen to land in a vacant lot. It was cigar shaped and there were 17 adults and 1 child on it. They spoke the Irish language and was in the charge of Mr. O'houlahan. He said they were from Mars and that the Irish race exclusively inhabited that planet. The purpose of their visit was to negotiate with the Cane Grower's association for the manufacture of sugar for their whiskey. (Sedalia [Mo] Daily Capitol, April 15, 1897) (H)

April 14, 1897-Red Oak, Iowa-An unusually brilliant light was seen to the northwest at 2030. It gradually diminished and disappeared after 15-20 minutes. Some said it dropped to the earth, and some said it left northwest. It was 2-3 times as bright as an arc light. (Red Oak Express, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Carrollton, Illinois-At 2030, a luminous body was seen to pass over going northwest. (Carrollton Gazette, April 16, 1897) The Carrollton Patriot of April 16, 1897, said that it was Venus.

April 14, 1897-Elkhart, Indiana-Many saw a bright light to the northeast at 2030. It was at 23 degree elevation and changed colors and positions. It was seen until 2400. (Elkhart Weekly Truth, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Corsicana, Texas-At 2030, a woman saw a bright light moving rapidly. It came from the north and moved south. It was the size of a water bucket and gradually assumed smaller proportions until it was gone. It was seen for 10 minutes by Judge Sam Frost, Dr. Wills, and 10 others. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Walker, Iowa-A large bright light was seen to the west at 2040. There were several smaller lights near it. It was dull red, moved rapidly northwest, and seemed to flicker and waver in its position. (Walker News, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 14, 1897-Peoria, Illinois-At 2045, the airship was seen but it was only a fire balloon. It was sent up 2 reporters. It was variously described as a bright light, some saw wings, tail, riggings, and a furnace. Some heard machinery, some music, and some voices. It left to the west. (Peoria Transcript, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Avilla, Indiana-Between 2000 and 2130, night operator Whitney saw the airship. (Fort Wayne [In] Morning Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Hankinson, North Dakota-Many saw a strange light between 2000 and 2100. (Hankinson News, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Cambria, Wisconsin-Between 2000 and 2100, several saw the airship going northwest. It was very high and carried 2 lights close together. (Cambria News, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Plymouth, Nebraska-Many saw the airship between 2000 and 2100. It had a bright red light in front and one behind. It was going southeast to northwest and they could hear the workings of machinery. (Plymouth News, April 17, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Elwood, Indiana-Between 2000 and 2100, several saw the airship to the north and going north. (Elwood Labor Record, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Rhome City, Indiana-Operator McMullen saw the airship going north between 2000 and 2130. (Fort Wayne [In] Morning Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Kalamazoo, Michigan-Between 2000 and 2100, many saw an object floating heavenward from the west side of town. It went northwest, nearly disappeared from view, then returned. It appeared much larger and as it turned it displayed different colors. It was possibly a toy balloon sent up by reporters of the Evening News. (Kalamazoo Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Leroy, Illinois-Between 2000 and 2100, James Hammond saw the airship moving west in an undulating manner. It seemed to come to



the ground, shaped like a ship, and 3 lights on it. It was seen by others and for 30 minutes. Mr. Scranton saw it with glasses and saw a party of 6. (Bloomington [Ill] Pantagraph, April 16, 1897)

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April 14, 1897-Detroit, Minnesota-At 2100, several saw the airship with red, white, and blue lights. (Detroit Record, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Middleville, Michigan-Residents saw the airship to the southwest at 2100. It was going north and descending. It changed lights to red, blue, and green. (Detroit [Mi] Free Press, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-New Richmond, Wisconsin-At 2100, the airship was seen but it proved to be a fire balloon. (New Richmond St. Croix Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Springfield, Illinois-At 2100, John Halley and Adolf Wenke saw a strange object descending. It landed 200 feet away with a hissing sound. They went toward it and met a long bearded man who asked what was the name of the city close by. When he was told it was Springfield, he said his airship had flown from Quincy to here in 30 minutes. On board was another man and the scientist's wife. He said they flew at night in order to keep the workings of the airship a secret. He said that as soon as congress recognized Cuban belligerency, he would make his ship known. The frame of the craft was made of aluminum, covered with canvas, and it carried numerous electrical apparatus including a searchlight and a regular headlight. When asked what his name was, he smiled and pointed at the letter "M" painted on the side of the ship. He entered the car and the airship left north. (Springfield News, April 15, 1897) The Springfield Illinois State Journal of April 16 said, "As the Carlinville story has been shown to be without foundation except in the mind of an ambitious space writer, it is possible that its local counterpart had its origin in a similar, but less ingenious, source."

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April 14, 1897-Rock Falls, Illinois-At 2100, F. Geyer, Frank Miner, and Hull Scofield saw a light pass over the west part of the city. Miner and Scofield said they saw a strange form attached to the light. It was seen by many others. (Sterling [Ill] Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Shelby, Michigan-A large crowd saw a large dark object float over the city at 2100. It was like a large balloon with a green and white light attached to it. (Detroit [Mi] Free Press, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Fergus Falls, Minnesota-At 2100, many saw a strange light passing to the northwest. It moved against a strong wind (it had just stopped raining) and was seen 20 minutes. (Fergus Falls Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Underwood, Iowa-Several saw the airship pass over going northeast at 2100. It rose as it passed over and lowered after it had passed over. It was canoe shaped and had wings of considerable length. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Alton, Illinois-At 2100, Elmer Clapp and family saw the airship to the west. It had a bright light which shone on the Spread Eagle, came down the river, and illuminated the deck of the boat. When in a certain position, they could see a long tail behind it. The light suddenly went out. (Alton Evening Telegraph, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Niles, Michigan-Many saw a light the size of a star moving rapidly west at 2100. At times it would shoot down and often changed to red, green, and white. (Niles Star, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Moberly, Missouri-At 2100, a large red light was seen in the west. It grew brighter and brighter and left northwest. (Moberly Daily Monitor, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Rothsay, Minnesota-Several saw a strong white light at 2100. It was 15 degrees above the northwestern horizon and left toward Fargo. It changed to red and green and moved in a succession of dips. (Rothsay Record, April 17, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Breckenridge, Minnesota-At 2100, the airship was seen going northwest at 60 mph. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Weatherford, Texas-The airship was seen to pass over going southwest at 2100. Its lights were thrown out like a headlight and it was seen by many. (Dallas [Tx] News, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Oconto, Wisconsin-A. Martineau and his family saw the airship at 2100. It was to the southwest, moving rapidly northwest, and had red and blue lights. (Oconto County Reporter, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Shelby, Michigan-Many saw the airship at 2100. It changed lights to red, blue, and green. (Lansing [Mi] State Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Olivet, Michigan-At 2100, many saw the airship changing colors to red, blue, and green. (Lansing [Mi] State Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Cedar Springs, Michigan-S. Odell saw the airship to the southwest at 2100. It had red, green, and white lights, hovered, and slowly left to the north. (Cedar Springs Clipper, April 21, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Portal, North Dakota-At 2100, an operator saw the airship. It was moving rapidly and seemed to be as large as the moon. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Jugtown, Missouri-The airship was seen moving slowly toward Shelbina at 2100. It was white, but soon changed to red, then to green. It was seen by Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Barrett, Dolly Langtry, and others. (Paris [Mo] Mercury, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Rochee Percee, Sask., Canada-At 2111, the airship was seen to change its course from northwest to northeast. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Melita, Man., Canada-Between 2111 and 2130, the airship was seen. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Glenbora, Man., Canada-The airship was seen at 2130. (Minneapolis [Mn] Times, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-David City, Nebraska-At 2130, a fire balloon was sent up and was described as a red light with riggings, masthead, and wings. (David City People's Banner, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Kigby, Missouri-At 2130, the airship was seen to pass over. It came from the northwest and left to the northwest. It was 30 feet long, 10 feet wide, made a hissing sound, and had a green light above it. It was seen for 10 minutes. (Moberly [Mo] Daily Monitor, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Grand Forks, North Dakota-The airship was seen to pass over at 2130. It had a green light and a yellow light and seemed to be cigar shaped. It was 100-300 yards up, moved at an enormous speed, and moved in a wave like fashion. It would also move side to side as it moved. It was seen by Jim Bell, Ed Cooley, dispatcher Kittredge, and others. A farmer between Grand Forks and Manvel found what was said to be a letter from the airship. It read: "Mid Air, April 14, '97. Minneapolis 8:50, St. Cloud 53, Sauk Centre 54, Alexandria 55; took a bath in the lake, then moved on along the Great Northern Road; Fergus Falls at 9, took a snap shot at the Hotel Grand with the rubbernecker's long top; Barnesville 9:03; gave notice to dispatchers to notify all operators to look out for us northward; investigated the matter of paving at Crookston at 9:05; damages by high water at Fargo 08; looked over the asylum at Jamestown at 9:10; attended a Bismarck pow wow at 9:15; then we cut across country looking in at Carrington, Aneta, Lakota, Larimore, Hillsboro, and Grand Forks where we noticed Jim Bell, Kittredge, Ed. Cooley, Ollier, McGraw and Sanders of the Plaindealer on top of the Hotel Dacotah all stretching their necks, with their mouths wide open looking at us; called on the ogama, and --" the page was torn here. (Grand Forks Plaindealer, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Sturgis, Michigan-Between 2100 and 2200, operator Dobberteen and others saw the airship pass over. It was 1/2 mile away and had a white light in front and a red light at the rear. It moved in a straight line, but swayed slowly side to side. (Fort Wayne [In] Morning Journal, April 15, 1897) The Kalamazoo (Mi) Gazette of April 15, 1897, said it was going northwest, and would fade in and out.

April 14, 1897-Kendallville, Indiana-The airship was seen going northwest between 2100 and 2200. Its color varied and it would disappear then reappear in a slightly different place. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Wahpeton, North Dakota-Between 2100 and 2200, several saw the airship going northwest. (Wahpeton Times, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Mayfield, Kentucky-At 2200, Tom Wallace and Jess Scott saw the airship. (Paducah [Ky] Daily News, April 17, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Villisoa, Iowa-The airship was seen to the southwest and moving west at 2200. It had a red and a white light. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 17, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Cuba, Illinois-At 2200, a red light was seen to the northwest and moving north. It was seen for 5 minutes in the overcast sky. (Cuba Journal, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Middleville, Michigan-Residents saw an object rise east of the city at 2230. It floated up and moved southwest, scattering sparks and smoke. It had a car attached to it and colored lights. (Detroit [Mi] Free Press, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Constantine, Michigan-At 2245, residents saw a light moving northwest at 40 to 75 feet up. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Gazette, April 16, 1897) The Detroit (Mi) Evening News of April 15, 1897, reported that it was seen to the northeast, moving east, and moved in a zigzag manner. It was 1/4 the size of a full moon and was seen for 1 hour.

April 14, 1897-Abilene, Kansas-Between 2200 and 2300, several saw a mysterious light pass over the city going northwest. It was directly over the city, moved rapidly, and was very high. It was seen for 2 hours and some said it was like a light under a paper balloon. (Abilene Daily Reflector, April 15, 1897) The Abilene Chronicle of April 23, 1897, said it was a balloon.

April 14, 1897-Dowagiac, Michigan-At 2300, several saw the airship leaving 3 distinct trails of fire at the rear. For 2 hours after it left, the air was heavily charged with a garlic odor. (Washington Court House [O] Cyclone and Fayette Republican, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 14, 1897-Red Oak, Iowa-John Brinkley saw the airship at 2300. He heard strange music and it was surrounded by a phosphorescent glow. (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Hope, Arkansas-At 2300, a telegraph operator saw a large dark object with a headlight. It was 1 mile up and moved in a zigzag manner to the northwest. Once it shone its light directly on him. (Dallas [Tx] Morning Herald, April 18, 1897)

→ April 14, 1897-Andalusia, Illinois-Jim Dinkerson and others saw the airship at 2300. Dinkerson fired a shot at it and at once the air filled with a strong sulphur smell and fearful noises came from the clouds that surrounded it. (Washington Court House [O] Cyclone and Fayette Republican, April 22, 1897) ←

April 14, 1897-Larimore, North Dakota-At 2300, the airship was seen to the southeast and moving northwest. At times it had a swaying motion side to side. It was a white light that changed to 2 blue lights one above the other, and finally to red. It was seen by W. Willman, J. McNaught, Chris Johnson, and others. (Larimore Pioneer, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Olivett, Michigan-A large number of people saw 3 red lights approach from the northeast at 2300. It moved toward Albion.

rapidly and too high to see the outlines. (Detroit [Mi] Free Press, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Kalamazoo, Michigan-At 2300, several saw an object to the southwest and moved west in a wavering manner. It was seen until 2345 and it was possibly a balloon. (Kalamazoo Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Sleepy Eye, Minnesota-The airship was seen and photographed at 2302. Unfortunately, the plates were broken. It was 1 mile up, 100 feet long, and had big winglike sails at both ends. (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Danforth, Texas-At 2302, the airship was seen and it whistled "down brakes" over the city. For 1/2 hour, it circled about a mile up and a brass band on it played "The Midway Pliasance" and "Wedding March". A parachute was let down and to this was a piece of parchment covered with strange characters. (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 16, 1897)

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April 14, 1897-between Currysville and Shelbina, Indiana-At 2330, I. Woolsey, T. Cushman, and Ed Woods saw a great light rise to the southwest. It was 200 feet up and left northeast. It was barrel shaped, pointed at the front, bound by heavy bands, and had a steering apparatus in the rear. (Terre Haute [In] Evening Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Moberly, Missouri-The sky was clear and the moon was to the south when the airship was seen at 2330. It was a mile up, 50 feet long, and like a ship with a light in every window. It had a very strong light in front, an enormous rudder, and equally large steering apparatus. It was going south and was encompassed by a luminous halo. (Moberly Daily Monitor, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Hartford City, Indiana-At 2330, several saw a strange light in the west. It was going south at a good rate. It was yellowish, pear shaped, had 2 lights on the sides, and swayed to and fro. (Hartford City Telegram, April 21, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Kenosha, Wisconsin-Many saw a green light moving in the sky at midnight. (Kenosha Telegraph Courier, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Kingston, Missouri-At midnight, Dr. Garside saw a bright light to the northwest, moving slowly north. It was like a train headlight and was accompanied by several small lights. (Hamilton [Mo] Farmers Advocate, April 21, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Springfield, Illinois-A man saw the airship about midnight. It was 1/8 mile up, cigar shaped, and had a huge elongated basket hanging beneath it. It moved at 10 mph and was going southeast to northwest. The light moved about and 3 times it hit the dome of the Capitol. It made a soft, roaring sound. (Terre Haute [In] Express, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Benton, Wisconsin-About midnight the airship was seen to land. It was found hovering 50 feet up and anchored by chemical anchors

(H) and there was a rope ladder. Marshall Blades and several others went into the ship and were confronted by the crew who had a new dynamite weapon pointed at the witnesses. The captain was William Alexander, a famous dowser, Geo. Duval, electrician, and Tom Hunter, the pilot and navigator. They were shown around the ship and the workings were explained. Gus Piquett was the steward and cooked a meal of air fritters, balloon cakes, rarefied bisquits, and aqua coffee. The witnesses were then lowered by a vulcanized parachute and they left. (Benton Mining Times, April 15, 1897)

|| April 14, 1897-Hillsboro, Illinois-During the evening, the airship was seen to the west. It darted about and once landed on the roof of the court house where it crowed like a cock, spread its wings, and left toward the Milky Way. (Hillsboro Montgomery News, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 14, 1897-Barlow, North Dakota-A farmer saw the airship during the evening. He crept close enough to see that the captain "bore a strong resemblance to Frank Davies" and he felt that "the crew were coming to see Triss." (Carrington [ND] Foster County Independent, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Spooner, Wisconsin-James Macpherson and others saw the airship in the evening. It was a ruddy glow. When it was first seen, it was 10 miles away. In 15 minutes it was 1/2 mile away. It would suddenly dip and then resume its course. (Saginaw [Mi] Globe, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Bluffton, Ohio-Several saw the airship fly over during the evening. (Bluffton News, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Perrysville, Indiana-Many saw the airship to the west. It was a blinking light that wavered about and disappeared in the evening sky. (Perrysville Record, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Neenah, Wisconsin-Several saw a light to the west during the evening. It was stationary for 1/2 hour, blue, began to lower, and changed to red. (Neenah Daily Times, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Mankato, Minnesota-Many saw the airship hovering to the west. It hovered for 10 minutes and left southwest. It had a strong headlight and red and green lights. Later it was seen going against the wind. It was reflected on the clouds. (Mankato Ledger, April 19, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Crookston, Minnesota-During the evening, the airship was seen. (Ada [Mn] Norman County Index, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Beaver Creek, Minnesota-The airship was seen in the evening. (LuVerne [Mn] Rock County News, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Darien, Wisconsin-In the evening, the airship was seen with form and colored lights. It was really a fire balloon. (Delavan [Wi] Enterprise, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Mifflin, Ohio-The airship was seen during the evening. (Ashland [O] Times, May 3, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Windom, Minnesota-W. Peterson saw the airship at night. It displayed red and green lights. It was seen by others and left northwest after darting about. (Windom Reporter, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Arkansas City, Kansas-The Santa Fe switchman saw the airship at night. It had red and green lights as it moved wouthwest. When it was over the Arkansas River, it dove toward the earth. (Arkansas Weekly Republican Traveller, April 15, 1897) The Hays (Ks) Free Press of April 24, 1897, said it sailed up to the water tank of the Santa Fe, pulled a lever, and took on water.

April 14, 1897-Battle Creek, Michigan-Many saw the airship at night. It was seen a short time and moved rapidly west. (Saginaw [Mi] Courier Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Sheboygan, Wisconsin-The airship was seen at night, but it was a kite with colored lights. (Sheboygan Telegram, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Ossian, Iowa-At night, many saw the airship moving slowly. On board were several small, well dressed beings who were looking after the craft. The captain, who spoke in broken English and had a military demenour, said they were investigating bank failures and were to report to his superiors on Jupiter Pluvius. (Ossian Bee, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Peoria, Texas-At night, John Ford saw a black object like a passenger coach going southwest. It had an immense headlight and was brilliantly lit within. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Clarenda, Iowa-The airship was seen at night, but it was only a fire balloon. (Clarenda Page County Democrat, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-David City, Nebraska-The airship was seen at night. It had a rudder, riggines, and several occupants, one of whom had his feet hanging over the dashboard.-Taken from the Ulyses (Nb) Dispatch. (David City Butler Co. Press, April 23, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Attica, Indiana-During the night, the airship landed. Two mechanics were called upon to make repairs to it. A reporter from the Attica News went with them.-Taken from the Attica News. (Lafayette [In] Courier, April 17, 1897) The West Lebanon (In) Gazette of April 22, 1897, reported that it had landed near Rob Roy, In.

April 14, 1897-Jerseyville, Illinois-The airship was seen at night and described as cigar shaped, large enough for a man, and had a motor sound. It suddenly burst into flames. It proved to be a fire balloon. (Jerseyville Democrat, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Hornellsville, New York-The airship passed over at night. An envelope was dropped and had a message to the effect that it was on its way to New York. Here an effort would be made to have it written up for the new journalism. It was signed "Nemo Numis, chief deputy for the Second District of Mars." (Washington Court House [O] Cyclone and Fayette Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Warsaw, Illinois-At night, many saw the airship. Glasses showed a large dark body and a bright white light. It left to the west. (Warsaw Bulletin, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Washington Court House, Ohio-At night, a fire balloon was seen and thought to be the airship. (Washington Court House Cyclone and Fayette Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Grand Rapids, Michigan-At night, the airship was seen but it was a balloon. (Grand Rapids Democrat, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Portland, Indiana-Several saw the airship pass over at night. Some saw the form of the airship, but most only a light. (Cincinnati [O] Enquirer, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Fort Wayne, Indiana-Mr. and Mrs. F. Crocker and the Tretheway brothers saw the airship at night. It was to the west and went northwest at a good rate. It was yellowish, pear shaped with the apex down, 2 yellowish rays of light, swaying, and in view for 20 minutes. (Fort Wayne Gazette, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Dallas, Texas-Mrs. Smith saw the airship at night. It sailed like a bird, like a balloon, had 2 great lights, and was going south. (Dallas Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Michigan City, Indiana-A fire balloon was taken for the airship at night. (Michigan City Evening News, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Orange, Texas-Mrs. Ed Davis saw the airship in the night sky. It had bright lights fore and a train of pale lights several hundred feet long behind it. It was going southwest to northeast on a straight course. (Galveston [Tx] News, April 22, 1897)

④ April 14, 1897-Ogden, West Virginia-A prominent oil man was riding when a noise frightened his horse and he was thrown to the ground. He saw a 60 foot long and 20 foot wide airship. It was made of a strong, light metal like aluminum. It had several bright lights, rotary wheels, and propellers. There were 8 men with it; 7 tried to communicate by signs and 1 spoke a language like Chinese, which the witness was familiar with. They were 11-12 feet tall and their heads were the size of an ordinary man's body. They were from Mars and had left there 3 years ago for a voyage of discovery to the earth. They made stops at the planets between. They were sailing 3,000 miles up and were afraid to land. They ate food in the form of condensed pills which they ate once a month. They drank the air. After about an hour, they left. The witness returned to Parkersburg on foot and went to the notary public and took an oath "not to take another drink until the glorious fourth." (Parkersburg [WV] Daily State Journal, April 17, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Wheatland, North Dakota-Many saw the airship going northwest at night. It was yellowish and changed to red and blue at intervals. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Bowen, Illinois-At night, the airship was seen but it proved to be a fire balloon. (Bowen Chronicle, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-St. Catherines, Missouri-At night, several saw a large object with green, red, and white lights to the southeast. (Bloomfield [Mo] Budget, April 17, 1897)

April 14, 1897-St. Joseph, Michigan-John Wallace and Dr. Scott saw the airship at night. It moved swiftly, veered north, and left. (Benton Harbor [Mi] Evening Press, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Oskaloosa, Iowa-At night, the airship was seen going west with undulations and eccentricities. It was a combination of red, white, and green. It was possibly a star. (Oskaloosa Evening Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Middlefork, Indiana-A number of people saw the airship to the northeast at night. It was moving slowly, going northwest, and was seen 10-15 minutes. (Kokomo [In] Daily Tribune, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Jetmore, Kansas-At night, John Beane saw the airship come from the direction of Dodge City. It was 800 feet up, seen 30 minutes, and going northwest at speed of a train. (Jetmore Republican, April 21, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Champaign-Urbana, Illinois-The airship was seen to the northwest and going southwest in the night. (Champaign Daily Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Benton Harbor, Michigan-Residents saw the airship to the west at night. It was seen for 1 hour by Dr. Scott, Dr. Bell, John Crawford and others. (Benton Harbor Palladium, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Mongo, Indiana-The airship was seen at night. (LaGrange [In] Standard, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Angus, Minnesota-The airship was seen at night. (Grand Forks [ND] Herald, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Glenwood, Wisconsin-Elmer Davis and others saw the airship at night. (Glenwood Tribune, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Fulton, Arkansas-An operator saw the airship at night. (Texarkana [AK] Daily Texarkanian, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Washington, Iowa-At night, the airship was seen by E. Norton and W. Chilcote. (Ottumwa [Ia] Courier, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Indiana-Conductor Tom Malone saw the airship with its headlight and red tail lights. (Fort Wayne [In] Morning Journal, April 14, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Ida Grove, Iowa-The airship was seen and it was in 3

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North Pole, one section was too far away, and one contained the Des Moines Bulldozers and Carpetbaggers in charge of Dick Clarkson. (Ida Grove Era, April 15, 1897)

(H) April 14, 1897-Fergus Falls, Minnesota-Mr. Olson saw an immense cigar shaped object in a field. There were 4 living beings whose bodies were very compact. A pedal extremity was more like a boat than a foot. From the middle of the body one limb extended to the ground and this was used for a propeller. It was very difficult for them to move on the ground. It would appear that they were from a planet nearer the sun. "If you question any part of Mr. Olson's statements, we ask you to call at W. T. Bell's for the best groceries and chinaware, at the lowest prices." (Fergus Falls Journal, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 14, 1897-Dublin, Iowa-The airship came so low that the fireman could be heard shoveling coal. (Anamosa [Ia] Eureka, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Savoy, Illinois-J. Percival saw the airship pass over. (Champaign [Ill] Daily Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Clarksville, Tennessee-Wm. Tanner saw the airship pass over. (Clarksville Daily Leaf Chronicle, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Walnut Grove, Illinois-A man went out to milk a cow and he saw a bright light to the northwest moving southeast. He paid no attention to it. Suddenly, there was a loud crash and a portion of the roof was torn off. The cow knocked him out. When he came to, he said the airship hit the barn and sailed on. (Decatur [Ill] Evening Republican, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Harvey City, Illinois-The airship was seen going northwest. (Terre Haute [In] Express, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Arcola, Illinois-The airship was seen. (Champaign [Ill] Daily Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Evan, Minnesota-The airship was seen. (Sleepy Eye [Mn] Dispatch, April 22, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Shelbina, Missouri-The airship was seen. (Paris [Mo] Mercury, April 16, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Nevada, Iowa-The airship was seen. (Nevada Representative, April 21, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Superior, Wisconsin-Two men said they saw the airship when they had not. (Superior Leader, April 15, 1897)

(H) April 14, 1897-Appleton, Wisconsin-A letter was found by N. B. Clark and was attached to an 18 inch long iron rod. It read:
"Aboard the Airship 'Pegasus', April 9, 1897-The problem of aerial navigation has been solved. The writers have spent the past month cruising about in the airship "Pegasus" and have demonstrated to their entire satisfaction that the ship is a thorough success. We have been

able to attain a speed of 150 miles an hour and have risen to a height of 2500 feet above sea level.

"The 'Pegasus' was erected at a secluded point 10 miles from Lafayette, Tenn., and the various parts of the machine were carried overland from Glasgow, Ky., to that point, being shipped from Chicago, Pittsburg, and St. Louis. We have made regular trips of three days each from Lafayette to Yankton, and no harm has come to the 'Pegasus' thus far.

"Within a month our application for the patents for a parallel plane air ship will be filed simultaneously at Washington and the European capitals. The ship is propelled by steam and is lighted by electricity, and has a carrying power of 1000 pounds." (Grand Rapids [MI] Press, April 26, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Keithsburg, Illinois-Many saw the airship. (Adelo [Ill] Times Record, April 15, 1897)

April 14, 1897-Hart, Michigan-A large crowd saw a strange light. (Saginaw [MI] Courier Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 14, 1897-off shore of Cleveland, Ohio-S. Davis and crew of a fishing tug, Sea Wing, saw a strange boat. Capt. J. Singler and Davis agreed that it was 40 feet long and had a cabin covering 1/4th of the deck. On board was a 25 year old man wearing a checked hunting suit and a long, peaked cap, a beautiful woman, and a boy of 10. After a while, a 50 foot, cigar shaped balloon, which was attached to the boat by ropes, inflated and the entire thing rose into the air. Before the airship left, it circled and dropped a swordfish which was on exhibition. (Chicago [Ill] Tribune, April 16, 1897) (H)

April 15, 1897-Hoyt, Iowa-A man saw a bright light come from the southeast at 0200. It hovered overhead before it left northwest. It was built like a modern whaleback and had screw propellers. It was buoyed up by 2 sets of powerful shutters, lit with electricity, and voices heard coming from it. (Des Moines [Ia] Iowa State Register, April 17, 1897) (H)

April 15, 1897-Paris, Texas-At 0200, J. Black saw a faint, luminous body to the northeast. It was like a luminous cloud. He awoke J. Smith and showed it to him and he, Smith, began to pray. The body was shaped like a 200 foot cigar and it carried sails and great attachments like great fans. Black's dog was highly agitated and moaned until it left toward the Mississippi River. (Austin [Tx] Statesman, April 18, 1897) The Dallas (Tx) Morning News of April 17th added that the sails had large rotating fans projecting at 45 degree angles. The one in the front was elevated while the one at the rear was depressed. The sails were 90 feet long and it made a faint whirring sound.

April 15, 1897-Abilene, Kansas-Between 0300 and 0400, a large oval light was seen moving rapidly. It was identified as Alpha Orionis. (Abilene Chronicle, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Dow City, Iowa-Postmaster Rudd saw the airship at 0530. He heard voices that sounded foreign, but he understood that they had a

Holliday before it left west. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 15, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Linn Grove, Iowa-During the morning, many saw the airship moving slowly north. It seemed about to land and James Evans, F. Ellis, Ben Buland, and others got a rig and headed for it. When the witnesses were 700 yards from it, it spread its 4 monstrous wings and left. There were 2 queer looking beings with very long whiskers who threw stones overboard. (Chicago [Ill] Times-Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-3 miles north of Converse, Indiana-W. H. J. Smith and Joseph Nickels were riding when the horses became frightened. They saw the airship to the south and 300 feet up. It was going southeast at 30 mph, cigar shaped, 40 feet long, canopy on top, four wings or ears, and a red light at the bow and stern. They saw objects moving in the ship and there was a large letter "M" on the side. Marion [In] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Denver, Colorado-During the afternoon, a paper parachute was found near the Equitable Building. It was made of tissue paper and contained the following note: "This is dropped out in the hope that some one will find the note. We are in an airship, but are lost." A small boy saw something a few minutes before that had a stream of smoke following it. (Denver Rocky Mountain News, April 16, 1897) The Denver Post reported that Elwood Tammany said he dropped the note from the building.

April 15, 1897-London, Ohio-At 1500, the airship was seen going east, but it was only a balloon. (London Madison County Republican Vigilant, April 21, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Springfield, Illinois-At 1930, many saw a bright light to the west. It was larger and brighter than a star and was moving northwest. One person said he saw it to the southeast and it moved across the city. It was definitely moving and moved against the wind. Several said it went down in Washington Park, rose a little, and went out. It was seen again later. There was a possibility that it was a balloon. (Springfield [Ill] Illinois State Register, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Warrensburg, Missouri-Many saw the airship at 1930. It had red, white, and yellow lights dangling from it. It moved up and down at a terrific speed and sank to the northwest by 2030. It was seen by Dr. Anderson, George Hout, and G. Landes. (Warrensburg Weekly Standard Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Kenton, Ohio-At 1930, 2 men saw a bright light low to the west. It gleamed red, then green, and then yellow. It seemed to flicker and dodge about. It was soon covered by the clouds. (Kenton News Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Albany, Indiana-Mrs. Smith Clark, J. McIrvin, Wm. Yocum, and others saw the airship between 1900 and 2000. It moved across the western sky and was going south. (Greencastle [In] Banner, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-St. Louis, Missouri-At 1945, many including Dr. Leo Caplan saw a bright light northwest of the zenith. The light was swinging from side to side. A telescope revealed a long black body behind the light. It was moving northwest, then veered west, and finally left north. It was seen by thousands for 10 minutes. (St. Louis Post Dispatch, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Petersburg, Illinois-About 50 people saw the airship pass over at 1950. It had red and green lights, 2,000 feet up, and moved northwest to southeast at a rapid rate. (Springfield [Ill] Illinois State Register, April 17, 1897) The Springfield Illinois State Journal of April 17, 1897, said it was a balloon hoax.

April 15, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-At 2000, Sylvester Carter saw the airship pass over. (Nashville Sun, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Fayetteville, North Carolina-Many saw a bright light to the west at 2000. A number of Negros declared they could make out the ship, riggings, and red and green lights. (Fayetteville Observer, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Lansing, Michigan-At 2000, the airship passed over going northeast. It was identified as a balloon hoax. (Lansing State Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Elsah, Illinois-R. Mott and many others saw a bright light at 2000. It was 1/2 mile up and moving briskly to the northwest. When it turned north, it turned to a smoky red color. When it was about to sink below the horizon, it went out completely. It seemed to rise again and was as brilliant as ever. It sank again and disappeared. (Alton [Ill] Sentinel Democrat, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Clarksville, Tennessee-At 2000, Elder A. Wimberly, Elder A. Lilleavis, Pleas. Pichem, and some Negros saw the airship. It was several miles away, 1 mile up, and moving northwest. It was swift and at times would take circuitous turns, dart about, and then assumed a direct steady motion. (Clarksville Daily Leaf Chronicle, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-West Alton, Illinois-Residents saw the airship at 2000. It was moving northwest and had a huge red light. (Alton Sentinel Democrat, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Glencoe, Minnesota-At 2000, several saw an object the size of a full moon. It was very fast and was seen for 15 minutes. (Minneapolis [Mn] Tribune, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Bismarck, Missouri-Many saw the airship to the west at 2010. It was 2,000 feet up and moving north. It passed "below the horizon about 15 degrees west of north." It was large and 1/8 of the light was red. It moved in an oscillating course and at times it showed a rapid descent followed by a rapid ascent. (St Louis [Mo] Post Dispatch, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Howard City, Michigan-At 2010, hundreds saw the airship pass southwest of the city. (Saginaw [Mi] Courier Herald, April 17, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Dunkirk, Ohio-The airship was seen moving rapidly to the east at 2015. It was so low that a man's voice was heard. It was as large as a wagon bed and had wings stretching from each side and a propeller at each end. There was a red light at the front and a green-yellow light at the rear. (Cadiz [O] Harrison County Democrat, April 21, 1897) The Cincinnati [O] Enquirer of April 16, 1897, reported that it was at 0400, was 200 feet up, and large enough to hold a dozen men. The Kenton [O] News Republican of April 16, 1897, reported the same as the Cadiz newspaper.

April 15, 1897-Carrollton, Illinois-Between 2000 and 2030, Venus was mistaken for the airship. (Carrollton Patriot, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Brule, Wisconsin-At 2030, a cigar shaped craft was seen by many going northwest. It had two white lights on the sides and a large light in front. One witness saw a man steering it. Traces were found in the form of a small fire burning. (Superior [Wi] Leader, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Dieco, Illinois-At 2030, the airship was seen. (Burlington [Ia] Hawkeye, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Essig, Minnesota-At 2045, Dr. James was on a train and saw the airship. It was going faster than the train and in the same direction. It was a large red light with a bright tail of light. It was 3-4 miles away, to the northwest, and seen by others. (Sleepy Eye [Mn] Dispatch, April 22, 1897) The same paper said that it was also seen by Mr. Somerville as a dark red light that was 1 foot in diameter. It changed to light red and then to white. The St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press of April 16, 1897, said it was also seen by Emil Wicheiske, had red and green lights, and moved in a lazy jog with no wobble. The LaCrosse [Wi] Daily Press of April 16, 1897, said it was seen at 2102 and it was going west, as was the train.

April 15, 1897-El Paso, Illinois-Between 2000 and 2100, the Robert Hitch family saw a bright light. It was moving northwest at a good rate of speed and was seen by others. (Bloomington [Ill] Pantagraph, April 17, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Salina, Kansas-Many saw the airship pass over at 2100. It came from the north and went south. It passed over the city, quite high, and was just a bright light. One woman said she saw a man's head sticking out of it. It was seen for 10 minutes. It turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Salina Republican Journal, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Springfield, Missouri-The airship was seen at 2100 and it was 15 feet up and described as a black object with red lights. The captain of the airship called out and asked for a copy of the Republican saying he wanted to see how the slot machine question was decided. He

said he had a pile of Missouri presidential appointments and left. (Springfield Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Lake Mills, Wisconsin-At 2100, several saw the airship. (Belleville [Wi] Sugar River Recorder, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Baxter Springs, Kansas-Charles Collins saw the airship at 2100. (Baxter Springs News, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Quincy, Illinois-Chief Ahern, Sgt. Horbett, Officers Barry and Schamhorst, and others saw the airship at 2100. It was a light that was larger than the Evening Star. It was reddish, moving north, and passed below the timberline. It rose again after 5 minutes. It was possibly a balloon. (Quincy Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Lime Springs, Iowa-At 2100, the airship was seen and some saw a dark boat shaped object with a man looking out of it and some saw the name of the ship on the side. It was actually Venus. (Cresco [Ia] Times, April 21, 1897)

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April 15, 1897-Hillsboro, Texas-At 2100, J. Bounds was riding in a buggy when he saw a brilliant flash of light pass over. It lit up the area like day and the horse snorted, reared, and trembled like a leaf. The light rested on him for a second then glided over a field. It was 1,000 feet up and was a huge black cigar shaped object. The searchlight went out and he saw a number of incandescent lights flash around the lower edge. It was going south. Suddenly, all the light went out. After it had gone several miles south, the searchlight came back on and it glided along the timber near Aquilla Creek. It landed on a hill about 3 miles from Aquilla and its lights went out. One hour later, he saw it rise and travel northeast at 100 mph. A light would flash every few seconds. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Eureka, Kansas-Major S. Warner, Clyde Warner, R. Webster, and others saw the airship low to the west at 2100. It was 3-4 miles away, 1/2 mile up, and seen for 20 minutes. It was a large light and above this was an arch of lights of varying colors. It moved in slow erratic movements and at right angles. (Eureka Democratic Messenger, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-La Mars, Iowa-At 2100, the airship passed over going east to south. It was very low and had to rise to pass over the courthouse. It was deep yellow, very fast, and grew smaller as it left to the northwest. It seemed to be under perfect control. (La Mars Globe, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-West Jenkins, Iowa-Ben Foote and his family saw a bright red light to the northwest at 2100. It moved up and down and side to side. It would frequently change from bright red to a pale red, go out, then reappear pale, and then flare up again. (Osage [Ia] News, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Mitchell, Indiana-At 2100, Will Ewing and a friend saw a bright light to the northwest. It was also seen by Fred Larkin and Harry

Kimberlin and left northwest. (Lawrence City [In] Mitchell Commercial, April 22, 1897)

(A) April 15, 1897-Farmersville, Texas-A dim light was seen to the northwest at 2100. It moved slowly to the southeast at 60-80 mph and was 200 feet up. It was the size of a 50 cent piece and hovered over the city. Marshall Brown saw 2 men and a large Newfoundland dog in in. He heard voices that seemed to be Spanish. Another witness saw 3 men and heard them singing "Nearer My God to Thee." (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Pierre, South Dakota-At 2100, many saw the airship moving rapidly to the west. It was several hundred feet up and most saw only a bright light. Some saw a dark object hanging beneath it and some saw a dark object with long arms extending from the sides. It was seen by George Strong, James Seals. (Sioux City [Ia] Journal, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Carterville, Missouri-At 2100, C. Bryant and others saw the airship moving slowly to the northwest. It was brilliantly illuminated. (Carthage [Mo] Press, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Foley, Minnesota-B. Davis saw a red light to the southwest at 2100. It grew larger as it approached and was seen by others. When it was 1/4 mile away, it changed course and went toward Gilman. (St. Cloud [Mn] Daily Times, April 21, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Hopkinsville, Kentucky-At 2100, Marshall Foulks and others saw the airship going rapidly north. (Louisville [Ky] Post, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Jamestown, North Dakota-At 2115, Manager Durkee and Watchman Reich saw the airship with red and green lights on its sides. (Jamestown North Dakota Capital, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Wellsville, Missouri-S. Kettle saw the airship at 2115. It stopped 1/2 miles west of the city, took on 3 tons of coal, and left south. (Columbus [O] Evening Press, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-St. Cloud, Minnesota-Many saw a light to the northwest at 2115. It was the size of an orange, round, and at times would change colors. It left north. (St. Cloud Journal Press, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Minot, North Dakota-At 2125, many saw the airship for 30 minutes. (Grand Forks [ND] Plaindealer, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-between St. Louis, Missouri, and Alton, Illinois-At 2130, the crew and passengers of a train saw the airship. It kept up with the train easily. When the train arrived at Alton, a crowd was found watching the airship. (Alton Evening Telegraph, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Orleans, Nebraska-P. Shea and others saw red and green lights going southwest at 2130. It was seen by others. It was like a balloon fashioned something like a monster animal. (Orleans Progress, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Pittsford, Michigan-At 2156, an operator saw the airship pass over. (Adrian [Mi] Evening Telegram, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Emerson, South Dakota-Between 2100 and 2200, many saw a cigar shaped object with a row of red lights along the sides. It was seen for 15 minutes as it left southwest at a slow rate. (Sioux City [Ia] Journal, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Long Prairie, Minnesota-Between 2100 and 2200, a fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Long Prairie Todd County Argus, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-between Overton and Sumner, Nebraska-At 2200, a man saw a red light to the north going very rapidly to the south. It soon revealed itself as a huge cigar lit at both ends. It had a huge bubble attached to it by 3 illuminated cords. There was a box framework midway on the cigar in which 2 men were seated. The saw a flag, but could not tell if it was American or Cuban. The horses became unmanagable. (Lexington [Nb] Pioneer, April 17, 1897) (H)

April 15, 1897-Fredonia, Kansas-Two couples saw an object far to the southwest at 2200. It had 2 distinct lights and a reddish brown body. The lights were bluish and carmine, the latter being larger and intense. It was going north, then veered east. It revealed that the prow enlarged toward the center, then sloping to the rear. It ended in something like the tail of an enormous fish. It was seen 20 minutes and changed course twice. (Fredonia Alliance Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Sherman, Texas-At 2200, Mr. Hellyer and others saw a dark object pass between the earth and the moon. It was perfectly shaped, elongated, and was 6 times as long as it was wide. After passing the moon, it left east. (Sherman Register, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Perham, Minnesota-At 2200, the airship was seen to pass over the city. It was going south at 50 mph. It was cigar shaped and brilliantly lighted. "Imagination also ran so high that they could distinguish moving objects in the ship." (Perham Bulliten, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 15, 1897-Allensville, Kentucky-Several saw the airship moving east to west at 2200. (Nashville [Tn] Banner, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Carrollton, Missouri-At 2200, P. McGrail saw a light to the northeast. After 10 minutes, he noted that it was moving up and down and going southwest. There was a shadow behind the light. (Carrollton Democrat, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Muncie, Illinois-Herman Dalbey and Cad Lynch saw the airship pass over at 2230. It came from the southeast at 100 mph. It made a grinding noise and was the size of a small passenger coach. (Danville [Ill] Weekly Press, April 21, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Minot, South Dakota-At 2230, a R. E. Porter

(A) Clevern's coal shed. He went closer and saw the airship coaling up with Mouse River Lignite coal. It was made of material not seen on earth before and had many colored lights on a dome rising from the center of the machine. The people in it had blue hair, red eyes, and small appetites. The captain of the airship could not speak English, but by signs indicated that he had made a contract with Clevern to use his coal for a fleet of airship that was presently flying over the country. The ships would make regular trips between Mars and the earth to bring down a colony of people from Mars. (Minot Ward County Reporter, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Russellville, Kentucky-Between 2200 and 2300, Mayor Andrews, James McCutcheon, and Dr. Forehand saw the airship. It was a large black body with a moving headlight. (Clarksville [Tn] Daily Leaf Chronicle, April 17, 1897) The Louisville (Ky) Post of April 16, 1897, reported that they were attracted by a noise and it moved in a 50 yard circle. It then left west.

April 15, 1897-Schoolcraft, Michigan-At 2245, Wm. Knight, Arch Finlay, Wm. Lucas, and others saw a light approach from the southwest at a mile a minute. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Gazette, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Hudson, Michigan-At 2300, 25 people saw the airship to the west. It was an 8-10 foot long cigar shaped, had yellow lights in the bow and stern, and had some mechanical arrangement at sides to propell it, but not wings. At the stern was what appeared to be steering apparatus. It moved west to north, was 500 feet high, and was seen nearly an hour. (Adrian [Mi] Evening Telegram, April 16, 1897) The April 17th issue of the same paper reported the statements of several people. Gene Knapp saw a red light sailing from the west and a green light 25 feet from it. Some saw the outline of a dark object and some saw several men aboard, one of whom was trying to wave his hat. Charlie Lane said it was 400 feet up, cigar shaped, covered with a canvas canopy, and moved rapidly and easily against the wind. It also stated that it was a hoax. The Hudson Gazette of April 16, 1897, said it was seen at 2200.

(H) April 15, 1897-Battle Creek, Michigan-The airship was seen to the southwest at 2300. It moved in a wavering course to the west and disappeared at 2345. (Battle Creek Daily Moon, April 16, 1897) The Adrian (Mi) Daily Times and Expositor of April 17, 1897, said a long sailors needle was found in front of the Daily Moon office with a letter attached. The letter said the airship had started from San Francisco, made the Great Lakes in 1 day, and was on its return trip.

April 15, 1897-Pemberville, Ohio-Many saw the airship at 2300. It was not very high, in the shape of a short heavy cigar with an exceedingly brilliant light in the front. It was seen 15 minutes and left to the southeast. (Pemberville Leader, April 23, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Vermillion, South Dakota-At 2300, a red light was seen slowly circling the downtown. It was a large kite with a lantern tied to the tail. (Sioux City [Ia] Journal, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Rockville, Indiana-At 2300, W. Carlisle and 3 others saw the airship going east. It was 20 feet long, 8-10 feet wide, had a green light in front, and 2 red lights at the rear. (Rockville Republican, April 21, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Bismarck, North Dakota-The airship was seen going rapidly west at 2300. It carried red and green side lights. (Jamestown [ND] North Dakota Capital, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-At 2327, James James saw a strange light like a train headlight moving side to side and up and down. It was sometimes in a horizontal position and sometimes perpendicular. It carried a red and a green light and gradually disappeared. Five minutes later, he saw a white light that slowly got brighter. Behind this light was a cigar shaped form that was 40 feet long and conical. It left to the northwest. (Nashville Sun, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Gainesville, Texas-Several saw the airship at 2330. It was cigar shaped and made a noise like the rush of wind. It sailed in a circle and dropped alongside of S. Zacharias' dry good store. It remained for 40 minutes, rose, and left north. (Gainesville Daily Hesperian, April 25, 1897) This story read very much like an advertisement for the store.

April 15, 1897-Ishpeming, Michigan-About midnight, a man heard a grinding, grating sound and a hissing noise. Suddenly, he was in midst of a blinding glare of light. Then a basket was swinging in front of him suspended on a silk cord. In the basket was a card: "It is your treat, throw in a few of those cigars you won shaking dice tonight." He did this. Then a metal disc covered with celluloid on one side came down. It said, "Who is Mayor Trebilcock going to appoint Marshall? We want this for the Aerial News." He wrote "Dickey Uren". Another disc came down that said, "What bicycle do you ride? Why don't you try a flyer? We will have them on the market in June." Then there was a flash on the cord and on a spring wire device was a XXX cocktail with asbestos straws. A voice from the clouds said, "Take something with us", the chains rattled, a buzzing was heard, and it left. (Ishpeming Iron Ore, April 17, 1897) (H)

April 15, 1897-Marshall, Missouri-Col. Robert Deering saw the airship going north at freight train speed at midnight. It was 30 feet long, had several lights, and was a cigar shaped contraption with a car hanging beneath it. (Marshall Saline Citizen, April 21, 1897) (H)

April 15, 1897-Davis, Indian Territory-A. Mitchner saw the airship going west. It was 500 feet up, 1/2 mile away, and changed its course to the south. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Council Bluffs, Iowa-Many saw the airship in the evening. It was as usually described in the papers and had a red and a green light. A reporter saw it with field glasses and saw a package fall from it. He found it, opened it, and found letters that concerned local individuals. (Council Bluffs Nonpareil, April 16, 1897) (H)

April 15, 1897-Pontiac, Michigan-During the evening, lanterns were suspended from a pole and was taken to be the airship. (Pontiac Oakland County Post, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Clayton, Michigan-J. Kessler and Arthur Hawkins saw the airship pass over in the evening. (Adrian [MI] Evening Telegram, April 17, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Norfolk, Nebraska-W. Dexter sat up during the evening watching for the airship. He saw what looked like a great bird approaching from the south. A brilliant light flashed out from the front of it and it came directly at him. When it was over the standpipe, it stopped and a pail attached to a rope was dropped from the ship into the top of the standpipe. When it was filled, it was drawn back into the ship. The wings of the ship were put into motion and it left to the north. It was cigar shaped with a huge canvas canopy, lateral wings, and green lights at the stern. (Norfolk News, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Mt. Olive, Illinois-During the evening, the airship was seen. It appeared like the reflection of a dark lantern shadow. (Mt. Olive Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Akron, Ohio-John Hudson and another person saw a moving light in the evening. (Akron Beacon and Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Carver, Minnesota-The airship was seen in the evening. (Carver Free Press, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Limerick, Illinois-The airship was seen to the northwest in the evening. (Princeton [Ill] Bureau County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Lakota, North Dakota-In the evening, Rev. and Mrs. Svennunson and Mr. and Mrs. Frick saw a huge bright star to the northwest. It changed color from white to blue, moved slowly and steadily to the northwest, and was seen 10-15 minutes. (Lakota Nelson County Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Grove City, Minnesota-Jon Nelson family saw a bright light to the east in the evening. It was as large as a barrelhead, going northwest, and was seen a few minutes. It moved horizontally for a distance then swooped down. (Grove City Times, April 23, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Carlyle, Illinois-The airship was seen moving rapidly northwest in the evening. (Chicago [Ill] Tribune, April 16, 1897) The Cincinnati (O) Commercial Tribune of April 16, 1897, reported that it was going northeast and showed a number of red lights.

April 15, 1897-Howard-Artesian, South Dakota-In the evening, Conductor Joe Wright saw an object with red and white lights. The lights seemed to change position, as the object varied its course. When they reached Artesian, the object was closer to the ground and seemed to be descending rapidly. (Souix Falls [SD] Argus Leader, April 19, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Lansing, Michigan-Many saw the airship for 30 minutes in the evening. (Detroit [Mi] Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Springfield, Missouri-The airship was seen descending during the evening. It was first seen 800 yards up and descended to 30 yards. A man on the ship said he was shooting ducks and canvassing for Bryan's book on the first battle and bimetalism. He even tossed a copy to the witness. (Springfield Republican, April 16, 1897)

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April 15, 1897-Petersburg, Illinois-During the evening, many saw an object moving northwest to southeast. Some said it passed under the moon, some said over the moon, and some even said there were 2 moons and it passed between them. (Petersburg Observer, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-Sam Williamson saw the airship at night. It was shaped like a barrel, left the smell of kerosene, and suddenly left toward Memphis. (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

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April 15, 1897-Morville, South Dakota-W. Sanborn saw the airship in the night sky. It was going southeast to northwest and was 100 feet high. It was oblong with red and green light. The lights changed from deep red to dark green. (Sioux City [Ia] Journal, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Clear Lake, Wisconsin-The airship was seen at night. (New Richmond [Wi] Saint Croix Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Fort Worth, Texas-Conductor W. Hanney, his wife, and mother saw a strange object moving over the city in the night. It was a large dark object with a bright light in the front and was going southeast. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Oskaloosa, Iowa-A strange light was seen low to the south at night. It veered west and circled the city. A Herald reporter gave chase and found a cigar shaped balloon with wings. Beneath this was a car with an engine and propeller wheels. There were several men in the car. When asked where they were going, one of them replied that they were going to Marshalltown to hold an airship convention. A conversation ensued concerning a local political figure whom the men on the airship knew. The reporter drew a gun and threatened to shoot a hole in the balloon. Suddenly a rifle shot knocked the gun from his hand and he was bombarded by rocks and other material. The craft rose and left. (Oskaloosa Evening Herald, April 16, 1897)

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April 15, 1897-Highland Station, Kansas-The airship passed over and owing to an explosion of chemicals, the ship sank to the ground. A man was found orphaning, and unconscious, beneath it. When sufficiently restored to talk, he said that his name was Pedro Sanchez of Cuba. The next morning he collected his wrecked air vessel, shipped it to St. Joe and then went to Omaha. A scrap of paper was found under the car bearing the name of Captain General Weyler. (Atchison [Ks] Globe, April 17, 1897)

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April 15, 1897-Doniphan, Nebraska-At night, John Schwyn saw a number of red lights to the west. After awhile, a square fire was seen, then a

(H) boat shaped object. Near the front was a man whose attire indicated that he was an officer. On his cap was an inscription which said either "Conductor" or "Airineer." A tramp was seen hanging onto one of the fans of the propeller. (Doniphan Index, April 17, 1897)

→ (H) April 15, 1897-Clinton, Illinois A photograph was taken of the airship during the night. It showed a boat like hull, 5 pairs of wings, and smoke coming from a smokestack. They heard music from a brass band that was in the front of the ship. The engineer was oiling the machinery. (Clinton Register, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Brogan, Minnesota-The airship passed over in the night approaching from the northwest. When it was immediately overhead, it stopped and descended until the outlines were dimly visible. A package was dropped from it and the object shot up and left southwest. The package contained a certificate of appointment to Council to Berlin, Germany, made in blank, and signed by McKinley and Secretary of State John Sherman. It was sealed with the Great Seal of the United States. When no one would accept it, it was taken to Madelia where Postmaster Gove read it. He said it was for a St. James resident for Council to Jupiter. (Madelia [Mn] Messenger, April 23, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Deadwood, South Dakota-C. Packinpaugh and another saw the airship on Terry Peak at night. It was seen by 15-20 others and some went to investigate. It rose and left and was cigar shaped with enormous wings. (Sioux Falls [SD] Argus Leader, April 20, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-Tiffin, Ohio-At night, the airship was seen as a long dark cigar shaped body with wings or fans. It was going north very rapidly. It had a brilliant beam of light that flashed from the middle of the object like a searchlight. It had a fan like propeller, red and green lights, and made a distant rushing sound. Some saw the figure of a man leaning over the railing smoking a cigar. (Tiffin [O] Daily News, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Moberly, Missouri-Venus was seen shining to the west and was thought to be the airship. (Moberly Monitor, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 15, 1897-near Cabool, Missouri-Judge Frink was on a train at night when it came to a sudden stop. He saw a large object with brilliant lights. It was like a dragon fly with 2 sets of wings. The superior ones were about twice as wide and 6 times as long as a passenger coach. The inferior ones were about half the size and extended to the rear. The main body of the craft was the size of a passenger coach, cigar shaped, and had long narrow extensions to the rear. On either side of the tail were wings like the main ones and seemed to be made of wire covered with silk, but only the rear ones were depressed or raised as the ship rose and fell. It seemed to have been made of thin aluminum plates and filled with hydrogen. The wires seemed to run from an apparent dynamo room to every part of the vessel. There were 2 searchlights on the front and they could be moved in any direction. The glass through which they shone could be changed from clear to green, red, or blue. A row of lamps extended along either side of the deck and they were incandescent globes of various colors. There was a man seen on the deck. There was a

crackling sound like a trolley car on a rainy day. When at rest, there was no noise save that of the wind fanned by the large wings which swayed gently to keep it afloat. (Springfield [Mo] Republican, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Glasgow, Kansas-At night, Alpha Orionis was seen as a bright red light in the northwest and said to be the airship. (Glasgow Sun, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Quincy, Illinois-George Lane and Theodore Terwische saw the airship coming down the river at night. It whistled ineffectively for the draw bridge to open, so it rose and flew over it. (Quincy Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Sigourney, Iowa-Many saw the airship with a double headlight at night. It was too brilliant to look at except with smoked glasses. It had 2 flagstaffs or horns and the head was most hideous. It had 2 wings, a bell rope hung out behind it, and it came from Hedrick. (Ottumwa [Ia] Courier, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Edina, Missouri-At night, H. McBride and W. LeVan saw a strange light that resembled a light on a small balloon. (Edina Sentinel, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Council Grove, Kansas-The Stanton Jenkins family saw the airship at night. It passed over going southwest to northeast and was very much like a balloon. (Council Grove Republican, April 23, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Niagara Falls, New York-George Nye saw the airship 100 feet up at night. (Niagara Falls Daily Cataract, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Sextonville, Wisconsin-The airship was seen at night. (Spring Green [Wi] Home News, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Sleepy Eye, Minnesota-At night, C. Salkowski and his wife saw a peculiar moving light. It was as bright as a train headlight and was at 20 degree elevation to the northwest. There were 2 other lights and they formed a triangle. The large light was like the moon, one other was white, and the other was blue. They disappeared after 15 minutes. The witnesses felt it was not the airship. (Sleepy Eye Dispatch, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Lone Rock, Wisconsin-At night, the airship was seen going northwest and it had colored lights. (Spring Green [Wi] Home News, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Greenville, Texas-Several saw the airship to the northwest and going south. The night sky was clear and the moon was bright. It had several different colored lights. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Fort Snelling, South Dakota-Several saw the airship with red, white, and blue lights. The white one was as large as a train headlight. It was 1,500 feet up and going towards Minneapolis in the

night sky. When it was 2 miles west, it reversed direction and headed toward the Fort and descended between the Fort and Lake Amelia. (St. Paul [Mn] Pioneer Press, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Elgin, Minnesota-At night, several saw the airship one mile to the west. Some people saw colored lanterns. (Elgin Free Press, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Cadmus, Michigan-The airship was seen going east at night. One person even fired a shot at it. (Adrain [Mi] Evening Telegram, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Abilene, Kansas-The airship was seen at night, but it turned out to be a balloon. (Abilene Chronicle, April 23, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Texarkana, Texas-At night, many saw a light of monstrous proportions going northwest. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Marshall, Texas-Marshall Dick Weatherly saw the airship pass over at night. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Jewella, Louisiana-Conductor Virgil Brown and a brakeman on a train saw the airship at night. It had a searchlight that threw rays in different directions. It was moving west faster than the train. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-St. Joseph, Missouri-Frank Smith, James Nash, and many others saw the airship to the northwest in the cloudless night sky. It was 5,000 feet up, 1/3 the way to the zenith, and going southwest at 70 mph. It had a powerful white light. (St. Joseph Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Howard Lake, Minnesota-The Minneapolis Times reported that Dr. Chilton and E. C. Tuttle saw the airship with red, green, and yellow lights. However, Dr. Chilton denied the whole story. (Howard Lake Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Garland, Texas-At night, I. Floyd, N. Newland, Mr. Cady and others saw the airship going south at a surprising rate. It passed a few miles to the west. It was cigar shaped and had 2 sets of wings on each side and one wing on the rear. Floyd said he could see the engineer operating it. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Lancaster, Ohio-Byron Rutter and Billy Schneider saw the airship at night. It was ascending at a 45 degree angle and they heard voices. It was a dark cigar shape and seemed to be propelled by 2 pairs of large canvas wings. It was a cloudy night and the moon would occasionally peak behind the clouds. They met a group of men who had also seen it. One of these men said they saw it rise slowly from a farm. He saw 6-7 faces looking over the top of the car. A voice said, "If you see a couple of airship prevaricators coming down the road, just corral them and I will stop tomorrow night and take them along." (Lancaster Eagle, April 16, 1897)

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April 15, 1897-Morning Side, Iowa-A man saw a cigar shaped airship going west. (Sioux City [Ia] Journal, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Benton, Texas-A cigar shaped craft was seen going southeast. (Vallee)

April 15, 1897-Springfield, Missouri-The airship was seen and the witness saw a man manipulating a crank or lever which controlled the speed and course of the craft. The man said McKinley was not satisfied with the election result in the 4th ward and had sent him to investigate. (Springfield Republican, April 16, 1897) (H)

April 15, 1897-Astoria, Illinois-The airship was seen to pass over at lightning speed. (Astoria Searchlight, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Columbus, Nebraska-James Breedlove saw a light while on a train. It was large and kite shaped. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Clarks, Nebraska-A strange light was seen in the sky. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Moline, Illinois-Residents saw a bright white light hovering. (Moline Mail, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Evan, Minnesota-The airship was seen. (Sleepy Eye [Mn] Dispatch, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Crab Orchard, Kentucky-The airship was seen (Stanford [Ky] Interior Journal, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Prairie Ronde, Michigan-Horace Kinney and Zach Fletcher saw the airship like the one seen at Schoolcraft. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Charlotte, Michigan-Many saw the airship in this dry town. (Detroit [Mi] Evening News, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Corsicana, Texas-Several saw the airship. (El Paso [Tx] Times, April 18, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Villisoa, Iowa-J. Day saw the airship in the same place as the day before. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Silver Creek, Nebraska-Charles Dee and others saw the airship for 15 minutes. It moved east and when first seen it was almost overhead. It was redder than electric lights. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Princeton, Illinois-The airship was seen to the northwest. (Princeton Bureau County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 15, 1897-East Grand Forks, Minnesota-Conductor McGraw and James Bell saw the airship pass over. It had red and green lights and other

people thought they were just stars. (East Grand Forks Courier, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Becker, Minnesota-The airship was seen going north. (St. Cloud [Mn] Daily Times, April 21, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Texas Junction, Illinois-Many saw the airship coming from the southeast. One man climbed to the top of the water tank. It passed directly over with a white light in the front and a row of red lights at the rear. (Alton [Ill] Sentinel Democrat, April 17, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-M. Pletz, G. Heffer, G. Johnson, and others saw an object 3,000 feet up. (Nashville Sun, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-Many in the northern part of the city saw an object with a bright white light and 2 smaller colored lights. (Nashville Sun, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-Four policemen saw red and green lights in the sky. (Nashville Sun, April 16, 1897)

April 15, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-A motorman saw a white light in the sky. (Nashville Sun, April 16, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Saginaw, Michigan-Just after midnight, V. A. Goddard and A. W. Fields heard a humming sound. In the cloudy sky, they saw 3 lights; one at each end and one suspended above the vessel, apparently on a mast. The forward light was white and the other 2 were red. It came from the southwest, passed over at terrific speed, and left north. Later, Mr. Field denied the story and said that Goddard made it up. (Saginaw Courier Herald, April 16 and 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Danvers, Illinois-At 0003, many saw the airship which was reported to be on its way from Leroy. A smaller trailer followed it and both were bright like aluminum. The occupants were dressed in western style. (Bloomington [Ill] Pantagraph, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Sandusky, Ohio-Between 0000 and 0100, Wm. McKean and Dan Spran saw the airship. It passed over rapidly to the west and carried colored lights. (Sandusky Register, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Bay City, Michigan-Several saw a large object approach from the south at 0030. It was high in a sky that was overcast by a dull thick haze. It gradually lowered to 50 feet. It had a red light at each end, 50-75 feet long, and 1/3 as wide. It moved fast at first but slowed down at it approached the city. It was conical shaped, shone with a dull red glow, and no means of propulsion was seen. (Saginaw [Mi] Courier Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Waxahachie, Texas-At 0100, several saw the airship 400 feet up and going north. The light from it lit up a wide area. The machinery seemed to be operated by a woman who was running a patent like sewing machine. When it sailed at a certain angle, the searchlight would shoot toward the hotel. (Dallas [Tx] News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Peoria, Illinois-At 0100, several students at the Horological Institute woke their instructors and told them that the airship was visible, but it was not. (Peoria Times, April 16, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Bucyrus, Ohio-At 0130, many saw the airship pass over going southeast. It was 1 mile up, had a luminous headlight, and immense wings. Some said it was cigar shaped with a luminous tail, some said like a beer mug with no tail, and all said it was red and fiery. (Bucyrus Crawford County Forum, April 16, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Jefferson City, Missouri-Al Miller saw a brilliant light and the outlines of a dark moving body at 0130. It had a searchlight that flitted from point to point of the city. It was 200 feet up, going southeast to northwest. (St. Louis [Mo] Globe Democrat, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Lake Crystal, Minnesota-At 0140, A. Robinson and Gene Hickof saw the airship moving northeast along the northern horizon. It had a green and a blue light and was like a brakeman's lantern at 2 blocks distance. (Lake Crystal Union, April 21, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Saginaw, Michigan-Roundsman Halsey and Officer Foley heard a whirring noise at 0200. It increased in volume rapidly. They saw a long cigar shaped object that was not very high. It had a light on board which illuminated the whole ship. The noise resembled a snare drum being played rapidly and was evidently caused by the movement of machinery aboard it. From the lower side, a long basket shaped object was suspended. It left southeast very quickly. (Saginaw Courier Herald, April 17, 1897) The Saginaw Evening News of April 17th reported that it was seen at 0245, was 30 feet long, and going south at 25 mph.

April 16, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-At 0245, Dr. W. Tune saw a light of extreme brilliancy making a turn in the river. It travelled faster than any steamboat. When it was closer, it was a light attached to the bow of a long cigar shaped object going through the air. There were several broad plates that extended at right angles to and above the vessel on both sides. These shifted with a clank of machinery and it rose to 800 feet and left northwest. It made a whirring sound, was 65 feet long, and had large propellers about the stern. The searchlight constantly shifted side to side and there were red and green lights near the stern. (Nashville Sun, April 16, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Ladonia, Texas-At 0300, Col. R. N. Burt was awakened by a noise in his poultry yard. He saw a 300 foot long cigar shape with enormous wings. It had a light on the bow and on the stern which shone brightly. It came from the northeast, left northwest, and was 3 miles up. It was seen by others and they heard a strange buzzing sound when the wings were outstretched. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18 and 19, 1897) The April 20th issue of the News printed a letter from Burt and he denied the story.

April 16, 1897-Waterloo, Iowa-At dawn, the airship was found landed on the circus grounds at Waterloo. The navigator gave his name as Prof. Jourgensen. It consisted of 2 40 foot cigar shaped sections, propellers, and wings or fans on the sides. Jourgensen said he heard a noise



Stormout had built the ship in San Francisco. Stormout took ill and fell from the airship early on the 16th. He showed the reporter a journal which described the events of the trip which began on March 25th. Jourgensen was making some repairs and would leave when completed. (Waterloo Courier, April 16, 1897) The April 17th issue of the same paper said the whole thing was a fake and it cost \$60 to build the fake ship. Jourgensen was a man named Feathers from Nashua.

(H) April 16, 1897-Sycamore Creek, Cheatham County, Tennessee-There was a report that the airship had crashed in the early morning. There were 5 passengers in it and they were not hurt. They were on their way to Nashville. (Nashville [Tn] Banner, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Iron Mountain, Michigan-In the morning, a huge dark object was seen. It was a tailless kite with a lantern attached to it. (Iron Mountain Daily Tribune, April 16, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Columbus, Ohio-The airship was seen just below the clouds in the early morning. It had 2-3 red lights. (Columbus Dispatch, April 16, 1897)

(H) April 16, 1897-Farley, Iowa-In the morning, the airship landed for repairs. John Kehoe did the blacksmithing and Wm. Jennings did the woodworking. The navigator purchased a team harness of Chas. Stollard and a lot of the Four Bros. axle grease. (Dyersville [Ia] Commercial, April 16, 1897)

April 16, 1897-St. Edward, Nebraska-In the morning, several saw the airship approach from the northeast. (St. Edward Sun, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Coppack, Iowa-Many saw a rectangular object low in the southwest at 0900. It came so low that the hull plowed a ditch across a hill. The ditch was 5 rods long and 3 feet deep. It rose at a 30 degree angle and left. A curious piece of machinery was found nearby. The craft was rectangular, yellow, had broad spreading unmovable wings, numerous turbine wheels on the underside, and made a humming sound. (Burlington [Ia] Hawk-eye, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Philo, Illinois-At 1000, a large cone shaped airship or balloon was seen coming from the east tacking and veering against a heavy west gale. When just south of Bouse's Grove, the craft became unmanagable and came down with a crash of Jeff Shafer's farm, about 100 feet from where George Shafer was discing. The team took fright and ran away, throwing young Shafer in front of the harrow which passed over him, cutting him all to pieces. In the wreck of the ship, which covered a space near 100 feet square, were found the mutilated remains of 3 persons. They were partially embedded in the soft ground and covered with blood, so that it was impossible to identify them, but from what McLeod could see he judged them to be Japanese. The story was sent by W. J. Wilkinson and the Gazette said they could not locate such a person in Philo. (Champaign [Il] Gazette, April 16, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Elkhart, Indiana-Mrs. C. Strock found a note tied to a screw. It said: "From the air vessel to the people of Indiana-200 feet

above, fellowcountrymen. I, the inventor of the new idea (the flying vessel), am now passing over your city. It is now 12:30 o'clock and very cloudy. I will pass over your city on my return trip Friday night. Yours Truly. The Inventor." (Indianapolis [In] Sentinel, April 17, 1897)

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April 16, 1897-Astoria, Illinois-The airship was seen and on April 17th, Bert Swaengern found a letter connected to a bamboo cane and a wedge shaped rock. On the envelope was written the following: "From Air Ship-Notice to finder: Please mail enclosed letter. Passed over about 12:30 pm. April 16, 1897, going north and east. About 2300 feet high. Excuse dirt as just got through oiling. Harries"

Inside was a letter addressed to "Mr. T. A. Edison, New York City, N.Y." The letter was opened and at top said "Ship Three". The letter was written in "cipher" and signed "C. L. Harries, Electrician." Edison said he had several men in his employ named Harris but knew nothing of C. L. Harris. (Astoria Searchlight, April 22, 1897)

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April 16, 1897-Hawkins, Texas-At 1500, a conductor known as 'Truthful Scully' was on a train when he saw the airship on the ground. It had wings and the pilot was using a hammer and chisel to make repairs. The pilot was "tail and spare and looked like a scientist or an inventor. He had that tired, far-away expression..." (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 17, 1897)

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April 16, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-During the afternoon, a man saw the airship and he fired a shot at it. It instantly reversed its course and left toward Cheatham County. (Nashville Banner, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Springfield, Missouri-W. H. Hopkins was walking when he saw the airship. It shone like burnished aluminum in the sun and was resting on 4 legs. Beneath the body, it had a wheel like propeller lying horizontally at the stern and at the bow, apparently for raising the ship. Another of these was located at the stern, but it was vertical and apparently for propelling it forward. The craft was 20 feet long, 8 feet wide, and the propellers were 6 feet wide. Near it was a beautiful woman of medium size and of exquisite form. She was nude and had long, wavy, golden hair that hung to her waist and held at her forehead by a band of jewels. She was picking flowers and spoke in an unknown language in a soft, low voice. She carried a strange fan with which she fanned herself. In the shade, lay a handsome man, also nude, with shoulder length auburn hair and a beard that reached his breast. He was also fanning himself. They were very startled by him and showed fear. He took the hand of the man and kissed it, and the beings became calm. He also kissed the hand of the woman. Since they could not verbally communicate, they did so by signs. When Hopkins attempted to find out where they were from, they said a word that sounded like Mars. He was taken into the ship and saw a luxurious couch covered with robes. From the ceiling hung a ball with a piece of metal extending from it. The strange man struck the piece of metal and the ball began to glow and lit up the room. There were more of these balls and they were attached to the propellers and colored lights on the outside of the ship. The man struck the balls attached to the propellers and the craft began to rise slowly. Hopkins jumped from the airship and the beings waved as they flew away. Hopkins

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was a well respected man and his wife identified the writing as his. (St. Louis [Mo] Post Dispatch, April 19, 1897)

April 16, 1897-near Minonk, Illinois-Prior to 2050, the crew and passengers of an IC train saw the airship. It showed its usual lights and moved swiftly to the north. (Bloomington [Ill] Pantagraph, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Akron, Ohio-Mrs. Thomas Kyte saw several lights moving southwest at 1900. He pointed them out to Miss Eva and J. Rohner. It seemed to be attached to an object like a balloon of prodigious size. It was just beneath the clouds. (Akron Times Democrat, April 21, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Merna, Illinois-Prior to 1945, the crew and passengers of an IC train saw the airship pass over the city. It was going northwest rapidly. (Bloomington [Ill] Pantagraph, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Marion, Ohio-H. R. Bolander saw bright lights at 2000. He looked up and saw a cigar shaped object. It had a bright, soredreading light. It was very high and going southwest. It was seen with a telescope and by others. (Marion Daily Star, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-near Danville, Illinois-At 2000, Engineer Sharpe, Conductor T. Jarvis, and 30 passengers on train saw the airship. It was going 120 mph and the faint outlines of a cigar shape was seen. It had a very bright light in front which shifted side to side and red and blue lights on the sides. It was seen for 10 minutes. (Crawfordsville [Ind] Argus, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-Many saw an unusually large and brilliant light at 2000. It was 1 mile up, to the northwest and going west. One witness watched it until 2300. (Nashville Banner, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Rankin, Illinois-Many saw the airship pass over at 2000. (Bloomington [Ill] Pantagraph, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Vandalia, Illinois-At 2000, many saw the airship. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Arrowsmith, Illinois-About 2000, the airship was seen to hover then leave toward Bloomington. (Bloomington [Ill] Pantagraph, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Tiskilwa, Illinois-Many saw the airship going northwest at 2000. It was shaped like a gunboat. Maj. Long saw it with glasses and said he thought it was a star or planet. (Princeton [Ill] Bureau County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Fairfield, Illinois-At 2000, many saw the light of the airship to the northwest. It was a light the size of the moon and moving rapidly to the northwest. It was seen for 10 minutes and a few scattered clouds occasionally obscured it. (Fairfield Wayne County Record, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Dallas, Texas-Several including Judge A. Watts and Dr. Kopesh saw the airship at 2000. It was to the north, going east to west, and was 200 feet up. (San Antonio [Tx] Express, April 17, 1897) The Dallas Times Herald of April 18th gave indication that it was seen on April 17th. It was R. C. Kopisch, light with a sort of hazy darkness behind the light, and left north.

April 16, 1897-Tuscumbia, Alabama-At 2000, several saw a large black object moving north to south. It had an immense headlight and a large barrel shaped body. The moon was shining bright. The object went down behind the mountains 3 miles away. (Chattanooga [Tn] Times, April 18, 1897) The Memphis (Tn) Commercial Appeal of April 24, 1897, said it was a kite with a lantern attached to it.

April 16, 1897-St. Joseph, Illinois-Between 1930 and 2030, Ollie Kellog, Minnie Moorhous, and many others saw a peculiar, very bright light in the sky. It was moving northwest at a good rate. (St. Joseph Record, April 24, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Williamston, Michigan-At 2010, the airship was seen to pass southwest of the village. (Lansing [Mi] State Republican, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Lawrence, Wisconsin-The airship was seen going northwest on a zigzag course at 2015. (Sharon [Wi] Reporter, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Bonham, Texas-At 2015, John German, Oscar Lusk, Will Pope, and many others saw a light moving southeast to northwest. It was approaching rapidly and passed to the north. It flashed out as large as the bottom of a half bushel. It was 1/4 mile up, seen 4 minutes, and left northwest. It made a whirring, whizzing sound. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Cuba, Missouri-The Ettinger family saw a red light at 2020. It was larger than the Evening Star and was seen until 2026. (Cuba Crawford County Telephone, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Rhome, Texas-At 2030, H. Hambricht, B. Hambricht, A. Jones and many others saw the airship going west at 150 mph. It was seen for 5 minutes and was very near the earth. It was the size of a small passenger coach with a white searchlight in front and 5 lighted windows on the sides. (Fort Worth [Tx] Register, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Hamilton, Missouri-The airship was seen at 2030. (Hamilton Farmers Advocate, April 21, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Bloomfield, Missouri-At 2030, 50 people saw the airship approach from the southeast and going northwest. It was some distance to the south and moving rapidly. It was merely a large light. (Bloomfield Vindicator, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Champaign, Illinois-Several saw a light to the southwest at 2030. It grew smaller as it moved away and rose and fell as it moved. (Champaign Daily News, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Cairo, Illinois-At 2030, many saw the airship to the west. It was gradually growing smaller. Prof. Baldwin said it was Venus. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-White Hall, Illinois-Between 2000 and 2100, many saw the airship pass over going northwest to southeast. It took 5 minutes to go from horizon to horizon. It was a red light, 1 foot in diameter, going with the wind, and was 1,000 feet up. It was not Venus since she was just disappearing to the northwest. It was possibly a balloon. (Carrollton [Ill] Patriot, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Kaufman County, Texas-Tom Camp saw the airship overhead at 2100. It was like a Chinese flying dragon, brilliantly lit, and swifter than a train. It was a monster breathing fire through its nostril. The body was dragon shaped and the legs were pin shaped and were the propellers. It left to the south. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 15, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Wellington, Kansas-At 2100, Gus Hamel and others saw a white light rise in the east. It rose rapidly to the southeast and went directly toward the moon. It was the size of a child's hand and grew to twice that size. It sailed about 40 degrees to the west of the zenith at a tremendous rate. It suddenly changed its course, swept north, then east, then south. It flew in circles which gradually grew smaller until it was less than a few hundred feet diameter. When it approached, the light grew less brilliant, but larger. It seemed to be settling several miles to the southeast. It had a cigar shaped bag above the car, huge wings, and made a low whining sound. Suddenly the noise ceased, a sharp click was heard, the wings stretched out, and the ship sank behind a cloud of smoke that rose from the round house. Later a stranger, decidedly foreign, came into town and bought all kinds of provisions. (Wellington People's Voice, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-At 2100, a light was seen low in the southwest. The reporter who recieved the call went to the top of the American Building and saw it. It soon sank out of sight. He told the rest of the people in the building. They all saw it rise and move north. At 2300, it was northwest of the city. After 2 hours, it had risen somewhat in the sky, was green, the size of a 1st magnitude star, and moved against a strong wind. (Nashville American, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Dallas, Texas-Mrs. Bins George saw a bright object at 2100. It was a few hundred yards up, moving faster than a train, and left northeast. It was a well lighted ship shaped affair. (Dallas Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Vincennes, Indiana-At 2100, many saw a sphere of golden light. Sam Judah said it had fluttering wings and moved with incredible velocity. Col. Ewing saw it for 4 minutes. Anton Simon said it was going northwest to southeast. It was seen again at 2230 and passed to the north of the city. (Vincennes Commercial, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Grand Rapids, Michigan-A letter was found attached to

travelers." The letter read: "To whoever finds this, 2,500 feet above the level of the sea, headed north at this writing, testing the airship. Afraid we are lost. We are unable to control our engine. Please notify our people. Think we are somewhere over Michigan. Arthur B. Coats, Laurel, Miss. C. C. Harris, Gulfport, Miss. C. W. Rich, Richburg, Miss. April 16th '97, 9 pm." (Grand Rapids [Mi] Press, April 17, 1897)

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April 16, 1897-Ann Arbor, Michigan-Many saw the airship pass over the southern part of the city at 2100. It had red and yellow lights and moved rapidly east. (Chicago [Il] Times Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Cranbury, Texas-At 2110, Newt Gresham saw the airship and pointed it out to others. They fired shots at it. It was like a huge fish with wings and left south. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 19, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Elkader, Iowa-At 2115, a bright light was seen to pass over and it had a bulk above the light. It was found to be a balloon. (Elkader Register, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Boynnton, Illinois-The village blacksmith saw the airship pass directly over the city at 2130. It was 150 feet long, 50 feet wide, and going southwest. It was cigar shaped, tapering at both ends, and had a large wing on each side. It was lit up with different colored lights and moved at 30 miles a minute. (Delavan [Il] Times, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Mason City, Illinois-At 2130, many saw the airship overhead. It was brighter than a star and shone bright then dark. It went south a ways, then back north, and left west. It was at a great altitude and seen for 30 minutes. (Bloomington [Il] Pantagraph, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Larimore, North Dakota-Editor Richter and 200 others saw the airship at 2130. It sailed from west to east at 150 mph. It was seen for 20 minutes and the light changed from white to red to white. The sky was very cloudy. (Grand Forks [ND] Plaindealer, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Mansfield, Texas-At 2145, several saw the airship. It was 500 feet up, dipped to 300 feet, and then suddenly rose very high and left to the southeast. It was the size of a box car, cigar shaped, and had wings or sails outstretched. It had a headlight in front, green side lights, and red taillights. It was seen by Capt. Wright, C. Witherspoon, and W. Howard. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Jackson, Ohio-John Motz, Frank Bertsch, and George Gibson saw the airship at 2200. The body resembled a water works stand-pipe and a rudder like a whale's tail. It carried a large headlight which was pointed in the direction of Washington, DC. (Jackson Standard Journal, April 21, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Lawrenceburg, Indiana-The airship was seen by Issac Crantz and John Powell at 2200. (Cincinnati [O] Post, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-near Stafford, Texas-At 2200, Mose Fletcher saw the airship going southwest. It was 100 yards up, shone like a firefly, and caused a commotion among the stock. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 20, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Dak Cliff, Texas-Prof. Laird saw a coppery red light at 2200, it was 1 mile up and going southeast. There was a hint of an object attached to the light. It was seen for 10 minutes and by others. (Dallas [Tx] Times Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Lime Springs, Iowa-At 2200, the airship was seen to rise in the west, circle around, move toward Chester, and then return to where it started. It was as large as a barrel and divided into 3 parts. It was identified as ignis fatuus. (Cresco [Ia] Times, April 21, 1897)

(H) April 16, 1897-Delphos, Ohio-At 2200, several saw the airship float over in a northerly direction. One man saw 4 men and a little girl in the ship. The little girl was waving a handkerchief at the witnesses. The airship was illuminated by many vari-colored electric lights. (Lima [O] Allen County Republican Gazette, April 20, 1897)

(H) April 16, 1897-Lansing, Michigan-A note was found at the Republican office which read: "I saw the air ship last night-10:30 pm-over my barn-about 800 feet long-big brute-row of Japanese lanterns all along top-large wide sail like a fan-tail dove-dark bag in color-and I heard voices from above-sounded like Jim Baird and Charlie Bicker-no fake-make affidavit. Bid Osborne." (Lansing State Republican, April 17, 1897)

(H) April 16, 1897-Huntingdon, Tennessee-At 2230, the airship was anchored over the city. A note was dropped and picked up by Prof. Longnaye of Southern Normal University, who interpreted it. It said: "Is Col. Tom Baker in town? If so, we will land and take him on board. We have a high-up place for Tom." (Nashville [Tn] American, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Parkersburg, West Virginia-A woman saw the airship, high and going west at 2230. It had a flaming headlight and small side light. It was slow and also seen by Henry Ogden, Wm. Mayers, and others. (Parkersburg Sentinel, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Wyandotte, Michigan-At 2230, Joseph Hoersch, Wm. Gordon, F. Murphy, and others saw a dark mass slowing going toward Canada. It had red, green, and blue lights and occasionally made the sputtering sound of an electric motor. (Detroit [Mi] Evening News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Abilene, Kansas-Between 2200 and 2300, several saw a mysterious light pass over the city. It moved rapidly to the northwest and was gone in 2 hours. (Wichita [Ks] Eagle, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Rochelle, Illinois-Between 2200 and 2300, the airship was seen to the southwest moving west. It was like a headlight and moved in a wavy, uncertain manner. (DeKalb [Ill] Evening Chronicle, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Logan, Ohio-Several young men saw a flash of light and heard loud talking in mid air at 2300. They saw a large dark object moving slowly south and settling down. Henry Rose, Fred Friesner, and Charles Wood got a buggy and went to the area. Three miles from town they found the airship within a few feet of the ground. Judging from the loud talk, the men inside it were very excited. The witnesses approached to within 50 feet of it and it suddenly rose. It was 35-40 feet long, painted black, and was like a very large boat. Rose said it reminded him of the plans for an airship he had seen at the Worlds Fair, only larger. (Columbus [O] Morning Press, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-At 2300, many saw something like a cluster of stars descending from the north. When it was about 200 yards of the ground, a strong current of wind swept it swiftly to the south. It gradually ascended and disappeared at an altitude of 1 mile. (Nashville Banner, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Tioga, Texas-James Daugherty saw the airship at 2330. It made a whirring sound as it moved rapidly to the southwest. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Grand Rapids, Michigan-At 2330, 3 men saw the airship as a bright white light to the west. It moved slowly to the north and was seen until 0300. (Grand Rapids Evening Press, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Manistee, Michigan-At 2330, 2 men saw a strange light moving slowly southwest. Field glasses revealed it was cigar shaped with many small colored lights. It made a noise like the beat of a piston engine. It rose and fell as if on water and a sudden shower of sparks sent it forward. They saw the name on the forward end and it was the "Maggie Marshall" and was loaded with salt and timber. (Manistee News, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Hamden, Ohio-Many saw the airship to the northeast about midnight. It was a monstrous cigar with brilliant lights at each end and on the sides. It was seen for over 30 minutes. (Portsmouth [O] Tribune, April 20, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Greenville, Texas-About midnight, C. G. Williams saw a strange light. It landed and was a cigar shaped craft. Three men emerge, 2 began working on the airship and the other approached Williams and asked him to mail some letters. He said the airship was built in New York and that they were testing it. It was cigar shaped, the body 30 feet long, had great wings, a wheel like that of a steamboat in front, and a fan like projection at the rear that was 45 feet long. It used electricity as a motive power and the wind blowing on the wheel. It rose and left to the northeast. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 19, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Patmos, Ohio-During the evening, Caleb Allen heard a whizzing noise several hundred feet above him. He saw an airship of monstrous size. It had a headlight of red, green and white, a balloon, and a carriage. The noise was still heard even after the airship was out of sight. (Salem [O] Daily News, April 19, 1897)

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April 16, 1897-Neenah, Wisconsin-A bright light was seen to the west in the evening. (Neenah Daily Times, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Salina, Kansas-During the evening, a fire balloon was seen and thought to be the airship. (Salina Republican Journal, April 19, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Cannelton, Indiana-During the evening, many saw a 2 colored light move slowly across the southern sky. (Cannelton Inquirer, April 24, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Delavan, Illinois-Mr. Tibbetts, Emma Tibbetts, and H. Udell saw the airship in the evening. It was a large light with red and green lights, moving rapidly to the northwest in a zigzag manner. It was seen for 15-20 minutes. (Harvard Herald, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Blue Spring, Nebraska-During the evening, a fire balloon was thought to have been the airship. (Blue Springs Weekly Sentinel, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Kingston, Illinois-The airship was seen in the evening. (Sycamore City [Ill] Weekly, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Dekalb, Illinois-Twenty people saw the airship in the evening. (Dekalb Evening Chronicle, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Gibson City, Illinois-During the evening, the airship was seen. The paper indicated that "this mornings paper announces that it is now hovering over Washington, DC." (Gibson City Courier, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Chanhassen, Minnesota-The airship was seen in the evening. (Chaska [Mn] Weekly Valley Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Belmond, Iowa-In the evening, the airship was seen in the region or just above Venus. It moved rapidly to the southwest. It was identified as Venus. (Marshalltown [Ia] Times Republican, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Texarkana, Arkansas-J. Flyod and his children saw an object to the west at night. It was a huge ball of fire and moved with fearful velocity. (Texarkana Daily Texarkanian, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Washington, Indiana-The airship was seen to the west at night. It was a dull red light, 1 foot wide and 2 foot long. (Columbus [O] Evening Press, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Monroe City, Missouri-At night, D. Youell ~~saw~~ saw a light moving rapidly to the southwest. It was larger than an arc light, but much brighter. (Monroe City News, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Manor, Texas-John Eva and his daughter ~~saw~~ saw the airship sail over at night. (Austin [Tx] Statesman, April 19, 1897) The Dallas (Tx) Morning News of April 19th reported that it was John Eve, had a large headlight, and left south.

April 16, 1897-Abilene, Kansas-At night, the airship was thought to have been seen, but it was only a balloon. (Abilene Weekly Chronicle, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Grant Park, Illinois-Frank and Gennie Partee saw 2 lights in the night sky. They were to the northwest and going northwest. The distance between the lights was constant and they were seen for 10 minutes. (Momensce [Il] Reporter, April 30, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Austin, Texas-At night, R. Cousins saw a light some distance up. It was too slow for a meteor and could be covered with a hand. It was moving west and was seen by Alderman Haynes and his family. (Austin Statesman, April 20, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Salem, Illinois-Charles Wellman, Leeton Chariton, and Frank Hart saw the airship at night. It had a brilliant headlight and a green light on the rear. It was moving rapidly toward Van Coovers Island. It left a long rail of purple sparks and a strong odor of sulphur. (Salem Marion County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Farney, Texas-Mrs. G. Volern saw the lights of the airship at night. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Paducah, Kentucky-At night George Langster and Judge Quigley saw a light move across the sky. (Paducah News Democrat, April 19, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Dallas, Iowa-Several saw a bright light at night. (Knoxville [Ia] Express, April 21, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Benson, Minnesota-At night, several saw a bright light that constantly changed colors. (Benson Swift County Monitor, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Beaver Dam, Kentucky-Fifty people saw the airship at night. There was a light and a body of a dark object. Some heard the noise of its movement. (Paducah [Ky] Sun, April 17, 1897).

April 16, 1897-Dallas, Texas-At night, Mr. M. Griffin saw the airship. He borrowed some field glasses and climbed to the top of courthouse. It was going southeast at the speed of the wind. It was shaped like a Mexican cigar, larger in the middle and smaller at the ends, and had great wings. It was brilliantly illuminated by rays of 2 great searchlight. (Dallas Morning News, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Fort Worth, Texas-Jack Farley saw the airship at night. It was way up to the west, had a big headlight, and like a big bird with wings outstretched. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Delavan, Minnesota-The airship was seen at night. (Delavan Herald, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Hoffman, Minnesota-The airship was seen at night. (Hoffman

April 16, 1897-Humboldt, Iowa-At night, Charles Glenn saw the airship. It carried an electric light and its movements were rapid and apparently under perfect control. It moved much as a bird would move. (Humboldt County Independent, April 22, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Goldsboro, North Carolina-At night, the airship was seen. (Charlotte [NC] Micklenburg Times, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Lamont, Wisconsin-At night, the airship was seen moving against the wind at an astonishing speed. (Darlington [Wisc] Democrat, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 16, 1897-Vincennes, Indiana-During the night, the airship was seen. It was to the north and going northwest. The witnesses heard voices and saw a man moving about as if adjusting the machinery. (Vincennes Commercial, April 17, 1897)

(H) April 16, 1897-Put-in-Bay, Ohio-The airship was seen to anchor during the night. Several people saw the crew of the airship roll on several barrels of wine. It rose and hovered over the bay where one of the crewmen caught several fish. (Toledo [OH] Bee, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Longview, Texas-Cooper Mott, Charles Foster, and Col. T. Kingsley saw the airship at night. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 20, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Newark, Ohio-Several saw the airship at night. (Caldwell [OH] Journal, April 22, 1897) The Coshocton [OH] Democratic Standard of April 23, 1897, said that it was a powerful light that would move rapidly a short distance, reverse its course, then remain stationary. It would brighten and fade at times.

April 16, 1897-Sherburnville, Illinois-At night, the airship was seen. (Mowence [Ill] Reporter, April 30, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Landessville, Indiana-At night, Bill Williams and Jack Johnson saw the airship. (Marion [In] Grant County News, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Richmond, Indiana-Vern Smith and others saw the airship at night. It landed on South 5th Street at night. (Richmond Daily Telegram, April 18, 1897)

(H) April 16, 1897-Cleburne, Texas-At night, G. Duncan and J. Wade saw the airship. It had 2 white lights in front and a green light at the rear. It was moving at a moderate speed to the southwest, just above the houses. Wade said it was so low that he could see one of the passengers and he gave him the go ahead sign. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-Col. Bennett Young and others saw a small light for 2 minutes. (Louisville Courier Herald, April 19, 1897)

April 16, 1897-West Chicago, Illinois-The airship was seen 3 miles to the northwest. The light changed from white to red and was going due northwest. (Chicago Times Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Greenville, Illinois-Many saw the airship to the northwest. It had white, red, and green lights and slowly left northwest. (Chicago [Ill] Times Herald, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Jefferson, Illinois-Ward Smyers, Will and Mrs. Helmuth, Richard Baskerville, and Paul Volk saw the airship at night. It was cigar shaped and had a headlight at each end. It came from the northeast and was 2 miles away. It stopped, descended to 1,000 feet, veered to east, and rose to the south. (New York [NY] Herald, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Essexville, Michigan-The airship was seen. Suddenly, it sank to the ground not very far from Bay City. (Saginaw [Mi] Courier Herald, April 16, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Garland, Texas-Col. Robertson and others on a train saw a blaze of light ahead of them. It was 150 to 200 feet long, going northwest faster than the train, and was in view for 2 minutes. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 17, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Paradise Ridge, Tennessee-Twenty people saw the airship dip down and almost hit the ridge. One of the occupants waved at the witnesses before it left north. (Nashville [Tn] Banner, April 17, 1897) (H)

April 16, 1897-Kyte River, Illinois-A group of men saw a light, quite high, and moving toward Oregon. (Rockford [Ill] Gazette, April 20, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Mannon, Illinois-The airship was seen. (Aledo [Ill] Democrat, April 20, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Leighton, Illinois-The airship was seen. (Libertyville [Ill] Lake County Independent, April 23, 1897)

April 16, 1897-Sleepy Eye, Minnesota-F. Meilke saw the airship and heard a whirring sound. (Sleepy Eye Dispatch, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Childress, Texas-At 0116, Rev. J. Smith saw an aerial monster. He pointed it out to Charly Norris and Mr. Bates. It was 2,000 feet up, very fast, and left west. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-Lt. Henry Curran heard an explosion like a pistol shot at 0130. He was hit on the head with a champagne cork. He looked up and saw a dark object surrounded by bright lights. From it came the sound of merry laughter and he was certain he heard Herman Haslock and Col. Wm. Slater. It left showing red and green lights. (Nashville American, April 17, 1897) (H)

April 17, 1897-Beaumont, Texas-At 0130, R. Draughan saw the airship come from the southeast, going northwest. It had a globular shaped bright light at one end and was very high. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 16, 1897-West Chicago, Illinois-The airship was seen 3 miles to the northwest. The light changed from white to red and was going due northwest. (Chicago Times Herald, April 17, 1897)

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April 17, 1897-Beaumont, Texas-At 0130, R. Draughan saw the airship come from the southeast, going northwest. It had a globular shaped bright light at one end and was very high. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Guthrie, Kentucky-Several saw the airship sailing at a considerable elevation in the morning. (Nashville [Tn] Banner, April 17, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Wild Horse, Colorado-In the morning, Sam McClanathan was hunting bear when he saw a strange object. It was made of a wicker frame covered with a thin filament. It was propelled by many flutter wheels and nearly the whole length on each side was a thin wing that "hemmed around some like a caterpillar walking." Beneath the nose, was a bright light that smelled of brimston and rosom. There were 5 occupants, 4 of which he felt were newly married couples for they were "mighty lovin." They all gave the feeling of having "heaps of knowing in their little round heads." They were small and covered with a soft down; the males being fawn colored and the females a light rose tint. The males had beards and the females long blond tresses. They had little round mouths and spoke in a series of whistles. They all had a caudal extremity that extended halfway to the knees. He went on board the airship and found that they ate condensed food in the form of pellets the size of beans. McClanathan was awaken by the moon striking his face and found that the airship was gone. He felt that it was a bridal party from Venus on their honeymoon. This letter was signed "Thos. Tucker." (Union [Mo] Franklin County Tribune, April 23, 1897)

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April 17, 1897-Rushville, Indiana-Charles Wothington and John Rodabaugh saw the airship in the morning. The 3 men in it were taking water. It had huge wings and left northwest. (Rushville Republican, April 20, 1897)

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April 17, 1897-Stephenville, Texas-In the morning, C. McIlhany found the airship had landed for repairs and there were 2 men in it. He returned to town and got many other people to go back with him. It was cigar shaped, 60 feet long, had 2 immense aeroplanes, and was powered by battery operated windmill like wheel. The men gave their names as S. E. Tillman and A. E. Dolbear. They were making an experimental trip and were under contract with certain capitalists of New York. They refused a close inspection and gave no further details. When the repairs were made, the craft rose and left. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 19, 1897) Of interest, it should be noted that the New Orleans [La] Times Democrat of April 21, 1897, reported that S. E. Tillman and A. E. Dolbear registered at the Grunewald Hotel on April 20th.

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April 17, 1897-Aurora, Texas-At 0600, many were astonished at the sudden appearance of the airship traveling due north. Evidently some of the machinery was out of order, for it was making a speed of only ten or twelve miles an hour and gradually descending. It sailed directly over the public square, and crashed into the tower of Judge Proctor's windmill and exploded, scattering debris, wrecking the windmill, water tank, and destroying the judge's flower garden. The pilots remains were badly disfigured, enough remained to show that he was not an inhabitant of this world. T. J. Weems, the United States signal service officer and an authority on astronomy, said he was probably from Mars. Papers were found and they were written in some unknown hieroglyphics, and can not be deciphered. The ship was too badly wrecked to form any conclusion as to its construction or motive power. It was built of an unknown metal,

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like a mixture of aluminum and silver, and it must have weighed several tons. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Antwerp, Ohio-At 0800, many saw the airship going southwest at a rapid rate. When it was near the town, it lowered and one republican saw the word 'Prosperity' painted on the side. When it had passed over the town, it rose and left. (Paulding [O] Democrat, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Cameron, Texas-Col. Tom Peoples saw a dark shadow cover some men working. It was 1500 and the sky was clear with no clouds. Some field glasses revealed a huge body coming at a fearful rate from the northwest. It was like a great whaleback ship, had immense wings, fore and aft, and great fans beneath and on the sides. It made a humming sound. It came down low and almost stopped near the lake. There was a great commotion on board and many apparent signals were given with strange colored banners. Streaks of dazzling white light shot up from the craft towards the sky. After many rapid evolutions of the great wings and more humming sounds, it shot up and left to the southwest. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 19, 1897)

(H) April 17, 1897-Allerton, Illinois-At 1500, 80 people saw the airship land near the outskirts of town. Several people boarded it. (Danville [Ill] Weekly Press, April 21, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Waxahachie, Texas-Judge Love and Mr. Beatty were fishing, when about 1730-1800, they saw a strange machine and 3 peculiarly dressed men. Love and Beatty went to them and was informed that it was one of the airships. It was 32 feet long, 14 feet wide, and tapered at both ends. It had 3 pairs of wings that flapped. It was capable of 250 mph, but usually traveled at 125-150 mph. They said the came from the region of the North Pole and learned English from the polar expedition of St. Hugh Willoughby of 1552. Energy there was produced by separating water. On the first of March, 1897, 10 airships were sent to Europe and 10 to the United States. The ten airships in the United States were to meet at the Centennial Exposition in Nashville, Tennessee, of June 18 and 19, 1897. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-Sam Roeder saw the airship to the southwest at 1930. It crossed the sky to the northeast and gradually got smaller. (Bloomington [Ill] Pantagraph, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Linden, Missouri-At 2000, Jake Logue and others saw a large bright flickering light. (Rockport [Mo] Atchison County Mail, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 17, 1897-Huntington, Indiana-At 2000, a balloon was described as an airship that hovered for 30 minutes. One man said he heard voices and saw a shape to it. (Huntington News Democrat, April 21, 1897)

(H) April 17, 1897-Prairieburg, Iowa-The airship was seen to land at 2000. The general manager of it made arrangements with a business man to sell tickets to Mars at "one fare plus \$2" with the privilege to stop

April 17, 1897-Princeton, Kentucky-The Sam McElbrich family saw a rapidly moving, lighted object at 2100. (Paducah [Ky] Daily News, April 24, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Hamilton, Missouri-At 2100, the airship was seen. (Hamilton Farmer's Advocate, April 21, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Woonsocket, South Dakota-The airship was seen moving west at 2100. It displayed green and white lights. (Nebraska City [Nb] News, April 18, 1897)

(H) April 17, 1897-Ashtubula, Ohio-At 2100, the airship was seen hovering over Main's Circus tent. The occupants were seen looking at the tent with spy glasses that used X-rays so they could see inside the tent. It left east after awhile. At 2300, near Bunker Hill, 4 men and a boy heard a peculiar whizzing noise. They saw a large ship, 1 mile and 32 feet up. It was apparently stuck in a heavy cloud bank and voices were heard. Three of the men saw 2 airships, but 1 man and the boy saw only 1. (Jefferson [O] Ashtubula Sentinel, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-Anne Richardson, Eisie Caldwell, Will Jackson, and many others at a 'Tally-ho' party saw the airship at 2115. It was 1/2 mile up and going northwest at 10 mph. It was cigar shaped, 60 feet long, a large bright headlight, and 2 small red lights at the rear. (Nashville American, April 18, 1897)

(H) April 17, 1897-Bedford, Iowa-At 2115, John Derickson saw the airship coming from the southeast. It was cigar shaped, had a rudder shaped like a Dutch windmill, and propelled by bat like wings. In the middle of the ship was a pilot house large enough for 1 person and there was a gas engine in the hold. An anchor was thrown over and it caught the cable of a house and tore it off. Two miles from town, the anchor caught a cow and carried it half a mile. The pilot wore a full set of whiskers and was large and portly. He was medium height and wore a jaunty little cap. The crew were dressed in regulation Navy uniforms. (Bedford Free Press, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Sleepy Eye, Minnesota-At 2115, many saw the airship approach from the southeast. It veered north and left. As it turned, they saw lights on the side of a cigar shaped hull. (Sleepy Eye Dispatch, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Metropolis, Illinois-At 2130, George Langstaff, A. Starks, and others saw a light. Some said it shone on the deck of a ship on the river. (Paducah [Ky] Sun, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Buffalo Center, Iowa-Many saw a great ball of fire at 30 degrees to the northwest at 2130. It would raise and lower as it left northwest. (Elmore [Mn] Eye, April 23, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Lawrence, Kansas-At 2130, the airship was seen to the south and it left northeast. It was found to be a fire balloon. (Lawrence Journal, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Fargo, North Dakota-About 2130, a man felt himself grabbed around the waist and drawn high into the sky. He found himself aboard the airship, surround by men, evidently populists, who each had a beard of a different color. He learned that the colored lights of the airship was a reflection from the beards. They said they were fishing when they caught him. He learned that the airship was from Kansas and would be used by Bryan for campaigning in 1900. The men debated about what to do with him. One suggested throwing him overboard, and another suggested tying him to the propeller. The captain said "...he shall kill a cloth covered volume of The First Battle and swear by the beard of Billy Bryan that what he has seen shall ever remain locked in his inner innermost.." He was let down easily. (Fargo Sunday Argus, April 18, 1897)

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April 17, 1897-Muncie, Indiana-The airship was seen at 2130 and described as a swift moving, dimly outlined object with green and white lights. It was only a balloon. (Indianapolis [In] Sentinel, April 19, 1897) Interestingly enough, the Muncie Times of April 19, 1897, said it was a kite with a red light on the tail.

April 17, 1897-Coolville, Ohio-Between 2100 and 2200, several saw the airship to the north. It was like an illumined star with different colored lights. (Athens [O] Messenger and Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Delaware, Ohio-At 2300, B. Thomas saw the airship for 3 minutes going east. It was a very large egg shaped object. (Delaware Semi-Weekly Gazette, April 23, 1897)

April 17, 1897-West, Texas-Prof. Hickman saw the airship moving southeast at 2230. It had a whaleback body with bat-like wings and windows with lights. It was not over 200 feet up, had a powerful headlight, and moved at meteor-like speed. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-At 2230, Albert Ewing saw the airship. (Nashville American, April 18, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-At 2300, the airship was seen going north, then south. (Nashville American, April 18, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Ashland, Ohio-A man saw the airship approach from the northwest at 2300. It was 1 mile high, appeared spiral or snake like in form, and had 6 green lights. It went south rapidly and, when directly over the city, it seemed to sink toward the earth 3 miles away. He lost sight of it for a few minutes then it rose again, and went northeast. It settled again, but did not rise back up. (Ashland Gazette, April 20, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Elwood, Indiana-At 2300, a strange man called on Jacob Loomis. He was stout, heavy built, about 30 years old, dark complexioned, had a mustache, and dressed in a sailor suit. He said he was the captain of the airship and needed Loomis to help repair a broken shaft. Loomis went with him and fixed the shaft. He would not give any

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details of the airship, but did show marks left on the trees where it anchored. (Elwood Labor Record, April 20, 1897)

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April 17, 1897-Lafayette, Indiana-The airship was seen at 2300. Several figures were seen near the galley. The witnesses heard the command: "Pipe all hands to plum duff and grog." It was going at 7 knots/minute. (Lafayette Times, April 18, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Abilene, Texas-At 2330, 2 men saw the airship. It was 700 feet long, windows that were brilliantly lighted and faint strains of orchestra music was heard. It moved southwest at terrific speed, and then left southeast. (Abilene Reporter, April 20, 1897)

April 17, 1897-St. Louis, Missouri-Henry Drummon and Mr. Houston saw the airship at 2330. It had red and green side lights and had something running up over it with a bright point like a lightning rod. (St. Louis Post Dispatch, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Coffeyville, Kansas-The airship was seen hovering to the west in the evening. (Coffeyville [Ka] Journal, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Winthrop, Minnesota-In the evening, Drs. Stone and Krogstad saw a red light to the southwest. It changed from red to blue. (Winthrop News, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Brant, Michigan-Many saw the airship pass over in the evening. It was 1 mile up and 200 feet long. (Muskegon [Mi] Chronicle, April 20, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Pender, Nebraska-The airship was seen in the evening to pass over, descend, rise and leave to the southeast. It turned out to be a fire balloon. (Pender Thurston Republic, April 23, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Hildreth, Nebraska-During the evening, several saw the airship. The first ones to see it saw 2 lights. Later observers saw 3 lights or eyes. Others who saw it in the wee, small hours saw 6 eyes and a 300 foot long tail. (Hildreth Telescope, April 23, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Derry, Pennsylvania-Several saw the airship in the evening. It was cigar shaped and had red and green lights. The very small center light was white and very brilliant. It was 500 feet up, moving east very rapidly, and had an enclosed car hanging 10 feet beneath it. (Pittsburg [Pa] Dispatch, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Sunderland, Iowa-During the evening, a red light was seen to the west but it was only a fire balloon. (Sunderland Courier, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Ebenezer, Illinois-A bright light was seen for 15 minutes going northwest in an unsteady motion. (Chester [Il] Tribune, April 29, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Dallas, Texas-At night, the airship was seen by S. Williams. It had 2 searchlights, colored lights, and was going southeast. (Dallas Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Murfreesboro, Tennessee-W. Baird saw the airship going northwest at night. It was seen for 5 minutes and moving at a mile a minute. (Nashville [Tn] Sun, April 20, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Sandstone, Minnesota-Sumpter Thomlinson saw the airship hovering over a quarry at night. (Sandstone Pine County Courier, April 21, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Toulon, Illinois-Residents saw the airship going northwest at night. (Toulon Stark County News, April 20, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Colorado, Texas-Several saw the airship at night. It was a great black craft, cigar shaped with tremendous flapping wings on either side, and a tail like a windmill. It hovered over the city and carried 2 powerful searchlights which were cast on the city. It moved very slowly and settled down. (Robert Lee [Tx] Coke County Rusler, April 24, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Independence, Kansas-The crew of a train saw the airship near the moving train. The conductor and rear brakeman exchanged tobacco with the crew of the airship. It was cigar shaped, 67 feet 4 inches long, 8 feet 7 inches wide, made of aluminum, silk wings, used gas as lifting power, and electricity as motive power. It was built in Chicago and being tested in Kansas. (Buffalo [Ks] Advocate, April 23, 1897)

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April 17, 1897-Vandalia, Illinois-At night, a balloon was seen and thought to be the airship. (Vandalia Union, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Toledo, Ohio-Several railroad men saw the airship at night. It was 3/4 mile high and looked like a house. A bright light preceded it as it went southwest. It was seen by others at different locations. (Lima [O] Allen County Republican Gazette, April 20, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Harlan, Iowa-Many saw a light several times larger than a star. It appeared near the eastern horizon and went west. When it was directly over the city, it stopped, dropped a considerable distance and stopped. It then described several circles and left rapidly southwest. A telescope revealed red and green lights and an outline of something swaying in the wind. (Harlan Tribune, April 21, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Port Huron, Michigan-At night, many saw the airship. It was 800 feet long and came from the west in a zigzag manner. There was an army of men moving around on the deck. (Port Huron Daily Times, April 19, 1897)

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April 17, 1897-Lake Mills, Iowa-At night, the airship was seen but it turned out to be a kite with red and blue lights attached to it. (Lake Mills Graphic, April 21, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Sleepy Eye, Minnesota-C. Prescott saw a light for over an hour at night. It was barrel shaped, carried colored lights, and acted like a kite. (Sleepy Eye Dispatch, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Bagley, Wisconsin-The airship was seen at night. (Fennimore [Wi] Times, April 21, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Mawaka, Indiana-Operator Schwab saw the airship at night. (Ligonier [In] Banner, April 22, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Three Rivers, Michigan-The airship was seen at night. (Port Huron [Mi] Daily Times, April 20, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Ennis, Texas-C. Beale and F. Hahnsbeen saw the airship at night. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 19, 1897)

(H) April 17, 1897-Bartonville, Illinois-Several men on a train saw a landed airship and several people about it. They stopped the train and went to investigate. They found 3 men and a young woman; the men being dressed in blue uniforms with brass buttons like a United States officer. They said the ship had been built on Grosse Island, in the Maumee River near Toledo, Ohio, and that 5 more were being built to be sent to Greece. The ship was 29 feet long, 14 feet wide, and consisted of 2 cigar shaped bodies side by side. It had a canvas house, a headlight, and a rear propeller. (Peoria [Ill] Herald, April 18, 1897) The Peoria Times of April 19, 1897, said that it was a lie by one of the trainmen.

April 17, 1897-Ardmore, Oklahoma-A fire balloon was thought to be the airship when seen at night. (Ardmore Ardmoreite, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Landessville, Indiana-Charlie Keefer saw the airship sailing from the southeast at night. (Marion [In] Grant County News, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 17, 1897-Park Rapids, Minnesota-The airship was seen by a large number of our citizens. Joe Blood declared that it was a flying drugstore, the green and red light indicating that; Frank Rice was positive that it was a Baptist church with wings because in the car a fellow and pretty girl were hugging-close communion, you know; Adrian declared that it was a German ship. In the bow of the ship, he said, saw John Hauser of Straight River, whose red whiskers accounted for the red light; J. Y. Smith thought it was "the advance agent of prosperity," while another thought it was Mr. Bryan on his way to Salt Creek. When directly over Fish Hook Lake the ship exploded. Mr. Pratt, who lives on the lake shore, says that the explosion was a terrible and awful scene, legs and arms flying in all directions. So frightened were the fish that many of them crawled up into the woods and there died. (Park Rapids Hubbard County Clipper, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 17, 1897-Ann Arbor, Michigan-The airship was seen to land and it had 2 men in it. It started a fire in the field where it landed. This was a hoax, and did not happen. (Detroit [Mi] Journal, April 19, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Bryan, Texas-A number of people saw the airship pass over going north. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 20, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Franklin Grove, Illinois-The airship was seen. (Dixon [Ill] Telegraph, April 21, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Andrew, Iowa-A lone man saw the airship land at Sim's Hollow and it was 100 by 600 feet and made of a peculiar metal. Its motive power was wings that were operated by batteries. The man at the helm said the airship visited the Earth every century for the last 7,000 years. He said that he was from the Earth and had been taken up in it 7,000 years ago. They had been to many other worlds and had a being from each on the airship. The man from Mars was 18 feet tall and had no nostrils. He was saluting his wife whom he could see as she was on Mars. People on Mars could see everything that went on on the Earth. (Bellview [Ia] Leader, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 17, 1897-North Dallas, Texas-Mr. Vintas and many others saw the airship. (Dallas Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Axtel, Ohio-Several saw the airship going toward Vermillion. It was 50 feet long with propelling wings on the sides. It was 200 feet up and there were 2 cushion wheels in front and 2 in the rear. Several people on it were recognized. (Huron [O] Reporter, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 17, 1897-Humboldt, Tennessee-Sam McLeary saw an object partly on the ground and partly suspended in a tree where it had evidently fallen and lodged. The larger portion consisted of a thin shell of bright, white metal about 100 feet in length and 30 feet in diameter. It was pointed at each end and there was a tubular rib that extended along each side. From this was a suspended frame for carrying the machinery with compartments for crew or passengers. The occupant was unable to tell his story for though the weather was not cold, his body and water barrel were solid blocks of ice. The machine had evidently reached too high an altitude and he had succumbed to the cold and it fell out of control. The engines were strange and unknown and probably run by nitroglycerine automatically fed and ignited by electricity. There were screw propellers above and at each end and horizontal wings at each side which seemed to combine all principles of sea and air navigation. It seemed to weight 4,000 pounds with a carrying capacity of 2,000 pounds. The shell was made in 2 sections, 1 sliding into the other like parts of a quinine capsule, reducing or increasing the capacity of the cylinder by means of a horizontal screw shaft extending from end to end and operated by engines. Gas was not used for buoyancy, but vacuum was. (Nashville [Tn] American, April 18, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-Dan Schroeder and another boy found a brown paper package in a tree near Lincoln Park. It was a box containing remnants of a lunch and a card reading: "Dropped from the airship Saratoga Friday April 16, 1897." The card was folded and in the upper corner was written "airship" and below this was a boy standing on outstretched wings. Also written was: "9:41pm-Due northwest, 2,000 feet" (H)

61 N. Lat., 33 Long, Descending. Dense fog. Drizzling 'spods.'" (Sioux Falls [SD] Argus Leader, April 21, 1897)

April 17, 1897-Noblesville, Indiana-Several men from Horton said they had seen the airship, but they had not. (Noblesville Hamilton County Ledger, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 17, 1897-It was reported that a fleet of 300-400 airships had hovered over the city all day. They were on their way from Chicago to Cuba, all heavily armed, and under the command of Julio Sanguilly. They were picking up volunteers from the area and were to pick up more at Jacksonville and Key West. The tonnage of the ships varied from 200 to 2,500 and were going to aid the insurgents. (Nashville [Tn] American, April 18, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Califf, Texas-At 0030, W. Hanny, W. Gray, and Sam Butler saw the airship. (Fort Worth [Tx] Register, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 18, 1897-Cincinnati, Ohio-At 0036, the airship was seen to pass over. It was 1/2 mile up and going south at 30 mph. It was generally described as cigar shaped with flapping wings. The many witnesses heard the sound of an engine, voices, music, and song. One of the witnesses saw a man with his arms and legs hanging out working the propeller with a bicycle attachment. It carried a lantern of 18 colors. Another witness saw a man hanging onto the rudder. Still another saw 25 men astride the craft. (Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 18, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Waxahachie, Texas-W. Patterson and John Phillips saw the airship at 0100. It was 400 feet up and going toward Dallas. When it flashed its searchlight at them, they fled. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, April 18, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Hearne, Texas-A man saw the airship at 0200 and it was as described in the papers. It was just above the trees and had Spanish words painted on the sides. He was sure it was equipping a filibustering expedition to Cuba. (Galveston [Tx] News, April 19, 1897)

(H) April 18, 1897-Rensselaer, Indiana-At 0230, a man saw the airship hovering over the court house. It was 1 1/2 miles up and he thought he saw 4 men in it. (Rensselaer Republican, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 18, 1897-Dallas, Texas-At 0300, Mr. L. Smith saw an oblong object approach from the east. It slowed and landed on the spire of the federal building. Through its windows, he saw small, decorative apartments and 8-10 people in the airship. Several were ladies, dressed in Easter clothes. Two men came out; one descended to the steeple, presumable to drop a letter, and the other applied oil to the wings. After 3 minutes, the airship left to the south. (Dallas Morning News, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Harve, Montana-Two men saw the airship at 0530. (Fort Benton [Mt] River Press, April 21, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Cripple Creek, Colorado-At 1300, T. J. Moynahan and many others saw a bright light that was 2 miles up. It was a cigar shaped

object moving slowly north toward Mt. Pisgah. It seemed to be dropping earthward, then saw what appeared to be a cloud of papers falling from it. These were dropped when it was over Mineral Hill. It had a polished surface and a field glass revealed wings or propellers. (Denver [Co] Rocky Mountain News, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-9 miles west of Dallas, Texas-Alf Nussbaumer, B. Marshall, and Wm. Ball saw a long cylindrical body moving at a fearful velocity. They saw a wing on each side that moved with great rapidity. It was 60 feet long and had a wheel behind it. It left southeast in the cloudless sky. (Dallas Times Herald, April 20, 1897) The Dallas Morning News of April 20, 1897, said it was at 1400 and that it landed.

April 18, 1897-near Caldwell, Texas-During the afternoon, the airship landed on the banks of the Brazos River. The witnesses reported that it took on water and that 2 of its sailors caught a colored man and took him with them. The craft rose and left east. (Galveston [Tx] News, April 20, 1897) (H)

April 18, 1897-Wheeling, West Virginia-At 1600, several saw the airship. On the side was painted, in large letters, "You run no risk in buying a Krakauer Piano at F. W. Baumer, Co." (Wheeling Intelligencer, April 19, 1897) (H)

April 18, 1897-Lake Osakis, Minnesota-Shortly before 1800, many sober people saw the airship land on the shore of the lake near Buck Point. It was shaped like a sugar boat and the decks were alive with people loading tons of ice either for "ballast or ice cream." It flew a flag thought to be the national ensign of Mars. The men were 20 feet tall and wore ulster, and the women were handsome and wore red bloomers. After 20 minutes, it rose and left northeast. (Osakia Lake Review, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 18, 1897-Bowling Green, Kentucky-Several saw a large moving light to the west at 1900. It was seen for over an hour and left west. (Louisville [Ky] Evening Post, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Columbus, Indiana-At 1900, Postmaster Rush saw the airship. It frightened the horse and the buggy tipped over. It was brightly lit and had a red light at the rear. (Columbus Republican, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Table Rock, Nebraska-Several saw a strange light above the eastern horizon at 2000. It was like a large illuminated balloon with a light attached. It hovered, wavered, rose, and left after 15 minutes. (Lincoln [Nb] Nebraska State Journal, April 20, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Salem, Ohio-At 2000, several saw a bright white light and several red and green lights in a bunch. They were going east at a rapid rate. (Salem Daily Herald, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Three Rivers, Michigan-The lights of the airship were seen going southeast at 2000. (Centreville [Mi] Observer, April 24, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Beloit, Wisconsin-At 2000, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Allen, Mr. and Mrs. A. Allen, and others saw the airship to the northwest. It was 1 mile up and moved with great rapidity. (Beloit Free Press, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Noblesville, Indiana-At 2015, a meteor was seen and thought to be the airship. (Noblesville Ledger, April 23, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Elkhart, Indiana-Hundreds saw a strange dark yellow light at 2015. It was 24 inches in diameter and 4,000 feet up. It went east, then south, and took 6-8 minutes to cross sky. (Indianapolis [In] Sentinel, April 20, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Marion, Indiana-At 2030, J. Mills and family saw 3 bright light to the southwest, going north. The one in front was red, then a blue one, and the last was white. The lights were 2 feet apart. They would stop, turn south, and repeated this several times. They left to the southwest. When they turned, the lights got closer together. (Marion Morning News, April 20, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Sistersville, West Virginia-Several saw a light, high over the river at 2030. It was a large white light like a searchlight on a boat. At times a smaller light was seen behind the large one. It moved generally northwest and sometimes rose and fell quickly. At times it reversed and retraced its course. It was seen by Elmer Hardy, Little Kinnard, and many others and it left at nearly midnight. (Parkersburg [WV] Sentinel, April 20, 1897) It was said to have been a conical ship, 180 feet long, fins on either side, and flashing red, green, and white light. (Leslie)

April 18, 1897-Juniata, Nebraska-At 2030, several saw a large white light suddenly appear to the northwest. It would go out then reappear and was seen 30 minutes before it left toward North Platte. (Juniata Herald, April 21, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Plano, Texas-At 2030, the airship landed on the school roof. It turned out to be a buzzard with a burning cotton ball tied to its leg. (Dallas [Tx] News, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Elbow Lake, Minnesota-Many saw 2 airships at 2045. One was in advance of the other and farther away. The rear light was not as large as the moon and no outlines were seen. The light changed from white to deep green and this was done every 2-3 minutes. It moved west against a strong gale and seen for 15 minutes. Once it was hidden by a cloud. (Elbow Lake Grant County Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Jasper, Alabama-Between 2000 and 2100, T. Dorsey saw a light pass over. Some people said it was the reflection of the moon. (Jasper Mountain Eagle, April 21, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Jordan, Illinois-At 2100, a man saw a cigar shaped airship going east to west. It landed at Bressler's mill and took on water. It then rose straight up to 1,573 feet and left west. (Sterling

April 18, 1897-North Platte, Nebraska-Wm. Smallwood, George Russell, and David Day saw alternating red and green lights to the west at 2100. It left west rapidly. (North Platte Daily Telegraph, April 20, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Unadilla, Nebraska-At 2100, W. Hair and his wife saw a moving light to the west. (Unadilla Union, April 24, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Rapid City, South Dakota-At 2100, a cigar shaped airship with people in it was seen. However, it proved to be a balloon hoax. (Rapid City Journal, April 20, 1897) (H)

April 18, 1897-Marion, Kentucky-Robert Hodges and J. Elder saw a huge light far up to the southwest at 2100. It diminished to a mere speck to the west after 30 minutes. (Paducah [Ky] News, April 23, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Bradshaw, Nebraska-At 2100, George Myers saw a bright light to the west. It moved rapidly to the north and he pointed it out to others. (Bradshaw Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Clearwater, Minnesota-Several saw the airship at 2100. It carried red and blue lights and darted about. (St. Cloud [Mn] Daily Times, April 21, 1897)

April 18, 1897-West Point, Nebraska-At 2120, many saw a huge dazzling light pass over the city going northeast to southwest. Above the white light was a smaller reddish light. (West Point Cuming County Advertiser, April 20, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Lyons, Nebraska-Many saw the airship to the southeast at 2130. It was 8 miles away and was 1 1/2 to 2 miles up. It had a head and a tail light with outlines between resembling the fans of a windmill. It was going northwest at 4-6 mph. When it was south of Bancroft, it made a large circuit 2-3 times. It was seen until almost midnight. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 20, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Angola, Indiana-At 2130, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Work and Dr. T. Williams saw the airship to the south. It was like a full moon in size and appearance and seen for several minutes. (Angola Steuben Republican, April 21, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Lovelady, Texas-At 2135, a man saw the airship to the northwest. It was going northeast very rapidly and about 150 feet up. It was shaped like a dragon fly with wide wings that were curved instead of straight. It had a long, cone shaped attachment which swung underneath and extended 2/3 the length of the machine. The machine was 150 to 200 feet long and had a green light. There was something that looked like a man moving about in the lower attachment. It altered its course several times. After it left, he found an empty cigar box and peach can. (Galveston [Tx] News, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 18, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-Between 2100 and 2200, Conductor John Pindar and Brakemen Shock and Medland saw a number of swiftly moving lights overhead. They were on a train moving north and the light was approaching them from the north. As it passed overhead, they saw a green

and a red light. It left swiftly to the southeast in the cloudy sky. (Logansport Journal, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Coolville, Ohio-between 2100 and 2200, several saw the airship to the north. It was immense and had 3 different colored lights. (Athens [O] Messenger and Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Onward, Indiana-between 2100 and 2200, Conductor Tower and the crew of a train saw a great white light to the northwest. It moved in a straight course that was slightly oblique to that of the train. It passed over going southeast, 300-400 feet up, and showed red, green, and blue lights. (Logansport [In] Journal, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Fontana, Wisconsin-At 2200, many saw a very bright white light to the southeast. It was seen for 2 minutes and had red lights on the port side. (DeWen [WI] Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Kiowa, Kansas-The airship was seen between 2000 and 2300. (Kiowa Review, April 21, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Davison, Michigan-James Style, John Whipple, Henry Stackley, and Harry Daniel saw a strange light directly north at 2230. It came nearer and they heard a whizzing sound. It was 30 feet long and left southwest. They saw a piece of paper fall from it. It read: "This paper is written by occupants of the air ship. We started from the shores of China last November and have been sailing ever since. In a gale which occurred shortly after we left China we lost the cord to the air valve and being unable to reach it, we are unable to come to the earth. Pray for us." (Flint [MI] Daily News, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Bethune, Illinois-Several saw the airship going northwest in the evening. (Centralia [IL] Centinel, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Moundville, West Virginia-During the evening, a large number saw the airship pass over the eastern part of the city. (Moundville Daily Echo, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Dog Run, Ohio-Dr. Orson Wheeler saw the airship pass over in the evening. (Caldwell [O] Press, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Flemingville, Iowa-The airship was seen in the evening. (Walker [Ia] News, April 23, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Wetmore, Kansas-During the evening, several including Dr. Graham, Charlie Thomas, and William Gordon saw the airship. (Wetmore News, April 23, 1897)

April 18, 1897-St. Charles, Illinois-At night, Vernon Allen saw a moving light from a train window. Its course was parallel with the train but faster. It was seen as far as Lily Lake. (Wetmore City [IL] Weekly, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Stuart, Nebraska-Mary saw the airship directly over - the

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undulating manner to the southwest at a great speed. (Stuart Ledger, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Sweetser, Indiana-The airship was seen going southwest at night. (Marion [In] Grant County News, April 23, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Princeton, Kentucky-At night, several saw the airship moving west. One person said he saw it until midnight. The next morning, a farmer found a letter from the airship. It read: "Enroute, April 17, 1897. Dear Friends. Pardon me for taking up your time, but I am th inventor of a machine which turns the wind at the rate of 175 miles an hour and am now testing it. Have been on the road now several days and have not descended for fear some one will beat me out of my patent right. I haven't any news except that I am enjoying myself hugely. XYZ" (Paducah [Ky] News, April 23, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Paducah, Kentucky-Charles Weille, Frank Fisher, C. Spellman and others saw a light to the northwest. It moved a considerable space, but not in a straight line. (Paducah Sun, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Atchison, Kansas-Several families saw what looked like a large brilliant star. It traveled about in different directions and at intervals various colored light could be seen about it. It left to the west. (Atchison Daily Champion, April 19, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Bryan, Texas-Several saw the airship going north at night. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Florence, Colorado-Charles Bates saw the airship at night. It was going slowly to the south. (Florence Daily Herald, April 20, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Cripple Creek, Colorado-At night, James Graham heard something fall of his barn roof. He found a small sardine box stuffed with paper and a note. The note read: "In midair, April 17.-To whoever finds this note: There are 3 of us to sail in an airship. Our names and addresses are C. J. Pillsbury, 180 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.; Pierre Humbert, City Engineer, Boston; C. D. Novine, 72 rue Traffant, Paris. On April 8 last we were on terra firma. Upon that day we descended upon a town on the Missouri Pacific in eastern Kansas named Weeks, which is about 17 miles north of Emporia. We have since been sailing, we know not where. We are out of water and have given up all hope, and we trust that whoever finds this note will immediately wire the addresses given." He saw a speck above Mt. Pisgah. This appeared in the Cripple Creek Citizen of April 18, 1897. (Denver [Co] Rocky Mountain News, April 20, 1897)

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April 18, 1897-Laurensburg, North Carolina-Many saw the airship at night. It appeared to be a huge basket with wings and shedding a brilliant light in the sky. Once in awhile, a beautiful display of fireworks came from it. Its movements seemed to be control by some human agency. (Rockingham [NC] Rocket, April 29, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Elmer, Missouri-Residents saw a strange light for some time. One night it moved to the north and became a fiery red ball. Once it appeared at 3 lights that soon merged into one. On this date a man said it was followed by a trail of light. (Linneus [Mo] Bulletin, April 21, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Fort Worth, Texas-J. Johnson saw the airship pass over at night. (Dallas [Tx] Times Herald, April 20, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Hallock, Minnesota-Strange lights were seen at night. (Hallock Weekly News, April 24, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Osgood, Indiana-John Young saw the airship at night. (Osgood Journal, April 24, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Carrollton, Missouri-Several saw the airship at night. (Carrollton Daily Democrat, April 19, 1897)

(H) April 18, 1897-Ronfield, Illinois-Will Henry saw the airship at night. It was canoe shaped, gold plated, studded with diamonds, and satin lined. Beautiful music and perfume came from it. He saw a lovely woman who smiled and beckoned to him. (Kankakee [Ill] Gazette, April 22, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Guthrie, Oklahoma-A large crowd saw the airship for 30 minutes. It was to the northwest and was a glaring light. (Enid [Ok] Daily Wave, April 19, 1897)

(H) April 18, 1897-Gallipolis, Ohio-Jacob Soden heard a noise like an engine blowing off steam. He saw the airship coming from the direction of Parkersburg at a slow speed and going toward Omaha. It was 20 feet higher than the Hotel LaSka. It had a great flaming bottle green headlight and a flaming red taillight. It was cigar shaped with huge wings that extended from the sides and flapped up and down. He thought he heard voices coming from it. He ran after it as it circled. It stopped at the reservoir and took on water. He halloped at the crew and they answered in a strange tongue. It flapped its wings and left. The next day he found a bottle with a note in it. (Gallipolis Tribune, April 23, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Dallas, Texas-Several saw the airship pass over. Its approach was preceded by a blinding flash of light as it came from the northeast. It was very high, moving at great speed, and was over 100 feet long. It cast a dim shadow and carried a strong searchlight and smaller side lights. (Dallas Times Herald, April 18, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Franklin Grove, Illinois-The airship was seen. (Dixon [Ill] Telegraph, April 21, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Alvin, Texas-A vulture with streamers hanging from its tail was thought to be the airship. (Galveston [Tx] News, April 20, 1897)

April 18, 1897-Nora, Illinois-A station agent heard the distant rumbling of what he thought was a train. He saw an airship descending to 150

feet and the wind was blowing it west. He ran after it and found it landed. Several men got out and were trying to fix a shaft. The witness helped them for 1/2 hour. As payment, one of the beings gave him a bird in an iron cage. It was a rare "zuxaakta zuzlok," which means a black parrot. It spoke a strange language, but has learned to cackle like a hen. (Warren (Il) Sentinel, April 21, 1897)

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April 18, 1897-Austin, Texas-Apparently it was reported somewhere that the airship had been seen, but newsmen could not locate anyone who had seen it. (Austin Evening News, April 19, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Atlanta, Texas-Just after midnight (April 18/19), Jim Nelson heard a peculiar noise and saw an object descending rapidly. He thought it was a meteor. When it was within 200-300 feet of the ground, it came to a sudden stop and then began moving toward the city at the speed of a train. When first seen it had a faint gleam of red, blue, and green, but when moving horizontally it shot out a glaring white light. This was directed towards the earth at a 45 degree angle in front of it. It lit up a 30 foot circle as bright as day. It passed over the city at 5-15 mph, going due east. Just after it passed the city limits, the bright beam of light was shut off. It was seen by Mr. Boothe, Lee Wicks, Dr. Crossly, Jack Banges, Dr. Connerly, and many others. Wick said it was 30 feet long, had a hull like a skiff, propelled by revolving wings, and had sails. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-El Paso, Texas-At 0200, a man saw a very bright star to the east. It was moving rapidly and getting brighter. It was 500 feet up, silent, and moving steadily toward the city. He thought he heard the voices of 2 or more people. It changed its course, rose higher, and slowed down. It sailed over the city for over an hour. It was 40-60 feet long, cigar shaped with large wings, lighted port holes, and tremendous searchlight on both front and rear. It had 2 large propellers on each end and on top and all of them were revolving rapidly. It was seen by several others. (El Paso Herald, April 20, 1897)

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April 19, 1897-Yonkers, New York-Ambrose Harvey, Charles Barry, and Henry Folkersamb saw a light in the sky at 0230. It was the size of a light bulb and getting bigger. When it reached the size of a train headlight, it began to disappear. When it was last seen it was crescent shape. It was going west, then turned north, and was 1/2 mile up. (Yonkers Herald, May 1, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Leavenworth, Kansas-At 0315, Joseph Kingley and Wm. Thornley saw a brilliant light about 1 mile up. It was going northwest and a strong wind caused it to swerve south. It was seen for 20 minutes, going 30-40 mph, and at times the outlines of a boiler like arrangement could be seen. (Leavenworth Standard, April 19, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Delaware, Ohio-Five people saw the airship at 0400. (Delaware Democratic Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Elysian, Minnesota-At 0600, a man saw the airship land and it was manned by 3 men. (Mankato [Mn] Review, April 20, 1897)

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April 19, 1897-Pittsburg, Pennsylvania-In the early morning, P. McKeever and John Connors saw the airship. It was a bunch of lights that were 500 feet up. (Pittsburg Leader, April 21, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Rice, Texas-Several saw the airship to the south in the morning. It was seen for a few moments as it went east at a rapid rate. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Galveston, Texas-Tom Moore saw the airship pass over in the morning. He heard a buzzing sound. (Galveston Daily News, April 20, 1897)

(H) April 19, 1897-Montpelier, Indiana-At 1000, W. Barr said the airship landed in a field, he fed them, and they gave him \$18. (Marion [In] Chronicle, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 19, 1897-Lake Charles, Louisiana-The information in this report came in the form of a letter, the author/witness having died 1 week after the alleged incident. About noon, he saw a large object land and a man came down a rope ladder. He was followed by another man and they approached the witness. They were Americans and invited him to inspect the ship, which he did. When on deck, he met Mr. Water, the engineer and the two men on the ground were Mr. Wilson, the owner, and Mr. Scott Warren. They saw in a 14 feet by 8 feet room that had 3 reclining chairs and lights that hung from the ceiling. He was told that it was powered and sustained by a gas that had the property of great compressibility and expansion. Wilson said he had invented an engine that worked automatically once it started and had to have a governor to regulate speed. Everything on the ship was made of aluminum. It had a set of wheels within wheels that revolved at 65,000 rpm. He was told that one time they had travelled 1,000 miles in 8 hours. The ship was raised and lowered by changing the weight of the ship by changing the direction of a current of electricity. They had not been higher than 2,000 feet and had been experimenting with it for 2 weeks. The ship was 75 feet long, 25 feet wide, and had a propeller that was 10 feet long. Warren furnished the money to build 3 of these ships and they did not know where the other 2 were at this time. As soon as they prove the practicability of the airship, they plan to set up lines between the major cities. (Dallas [Tx] Morning News, May 16, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Saline, Michigan-In the afternoon, residents heard a severe explosion in the air. They saw a large dark object, high up, and moving rapidly west. (Saline Evening News, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Milan, Indiana-Operator Beatty sent word to Osgood that the airship had been seen here in the afternoon. It circled Milan and left west toward Osgood. (Osgood [In] Journal, April 24, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Knoxville, Tennessee-Between 1500 and 1600, many saw the airship. Many gathered on the roof of City Hall, including Chief Atkins and Comptroller McMullan. It soon hovered 30 feet above them. It was made of bright white metal, 100 feet long, 30 feet wide, and pointed at

were probably run by nitro-glycerine fed and ignited by electricity. It had screw propellers above and at each end and wings. It would weigh about 4,000 pounds with a capacity of 6,000 pounds, giving 2,000 pounds of payload. The shell was made in two sections, 1 sliding into the other by means of a horizontal screw the full length of the craft. It used a vacuum for bouyancy. This was one airship of a fleet headed for Cuba. The fleet was in command of Julio Sanguilly and was picking up volunteers at Louisville, Jacksonville, and Key West. This ship was named "White Wings". (Knoxville Tribune, April 20, 1897)

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April 19, 1897-Dallas, Texas-At 1900, many saw the airship moving at a good rate. It had a filmy red light about it. (Dallas Times Herald, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Marion, Indiana-Gid Leas saw the airship at 1930. It was going northwest and had red and white lights. (Marion Chronicle, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-North Dallas, Texas-At 1945, Col. W. Wolf and others saw a bright light pass over. It made a whining, whizzing noise, was 1 mile up, and left to the northwest. (Dallas Times Herald, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Philadelphia, Pennsylvania-Between 1950 and 2000, a man saw 2 brilliant lights moving among the clouds. It seemed to come from Point Breeze, pass over the city, and leave to the northwest. The lights were 60 feet apart with a dim shadow between the lights. (Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, April 29, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Vistula, Indiana-Al 2000, many saw a bright light approach from the southwest. It hovered 1,000 feet over the city, then left rapidly to the northeast. (Goshen [In] Weekly Times, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Wanowoc, Wisconsin-J. Smith saw a bright light to the west at 2000. It was going north at a rapid rate. It was like a street lamp at 1/2 block and was pointed out to many others. It left to the northwest, reappeared for 5 minutes, and left again. (Wanowoc Gazette, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Camden, New Jersey-A group of people saw a dark, cigar shaped object at 2000. It emitted flashes of red fire and darted in and out of the clouds. It was possibly explained as a very high cloud still be illuminated by the already set sun. (Philadelphia [Pa] Inquirer, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Genesco, Illinois-The airship was seen at 2015. (Princeton [Ill] Bureau County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Lintonville, Minnesota-At 2015, J. Feddena and F. Minette saw the airship going southwest. It had red and green lights and seen for 1 hour. It was moving at a fast rate and was 800-1,000 feet up. (St. Cloud [Mn] Daily Times, April 21, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Mankato, Minnesota-The airship was seen for 20 minutes at 2020. It had red, green, and pale red lights and was headed for New Ulm. It was also seen by passengers on a train. (Mankato Review, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Marietta, Ohio-At 2030, Pat Highland saw a brilliant light moving rapidly. It was like a double light of whiter color than ordinary lights. It swooped down to 100 feet, veered off horizontally, rose, and left. It was seen for 2 1/2 minutes. It was only a balloon. (Marietta Register, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Saginaw, Michigan-Between 2000 and 2100, 4 people saw the airship pass over going rapidly north. (Saginaw Courier Herald, April 21, 1897)

(H) April 19, 1897-New Ulm, Minnesota-At 2100, the airship was seen to pass over. When over the city, it stopped, hovered, descended 100 feet, stopped, shot upward, and left west. It was reported to have dropped several type written pages which described how it was built. (Mankato [Mn] Review, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Oklahoma City, Oklahoma-At 2100, some boys pulled a kite with a lantern to the tail and it was reported as the airship. (Oklahoma City Daily Oklahoman, April 21, 1897)

(H) April 19, 1897-Palo Pinto, Texas-C. McDonald and R. Peak saw the airship going north at 2100. It was huge and had a very large headlight. The next day they found a letter attached to 2-3 large nails. It read: "In the air of Texas, April 19, '97, to the people of your town. Dear Friends, We passed over your little village at 9:15 pm. There not being many lights burning thought probably we were unnoticed. We are on our way home in New York where we will make improvement in our vessel, and then we shall make another trip to Texas soon. Truly, William Sveign and Bentus." (Palo Pinto County Star, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 19, 1897-Bolivar, Tennessee-At 2100, Col. Kirk Pankey and Maj. Thomas McDowell heard a roaring sound and a splashing of water. They saw a light just above the trees coming down river. It seemed that the motive power was under water and the light was attached to it by a chain. It hit the bridge, the cable snapped, and the airship flew off to the south. The monster serpent showed its full length in the air and dropped back into the water. Pankey said there were 2 airship and McDowell said 1. This was due to the fact that Pankey visited the Palace Saloon twice and McDowell only once. (Bolivar Hardeman Free Press, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Cochransville, Ohio-A bright light was seen to approach from the northwest at 2100. It hovered over the city, flashing red, white, and green lights. Strong glasses showed that it was a cone shaped object, 180 feet long with large fins on each side. The lights were all on one end and it left southwest after 20 minutes. (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Gray, Iowa-At 2100, a red light to the east turned out to be a kite with a lantern. (Audubon [Ia] Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Dallas, Texas-At 2100, James Williamson saw the airship pass over. It was going 200 mph and was so fast that the eye could not follow it. (Dallas Times Herald, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Dallas, Texas-At 2100, J. Bruit saw a very bulky airship going toward Oak Cliff. (Dallas Morning News, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Verona, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship to the southwest at 2100. (Middletown [Wi] Times, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Linton, Indiana-At 2100, the airship was seen to approach from the southwest. It landed at shaft #2 mine and took of 3 tons of coal. Two male occupants said they were on there way to Canada and would stop at Brazil, Indiana, to take on coal again. It was seen by 200 people, left at 2130, and moved at 200 feet up. (Indianapolis [In] Sentinel, April 21, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Indianapolis, Indiana-Frank Johns saw 2 lights swinging through the air at 2115. The yellow light was the size of an electric arc light and in front of the green one. It was very high, going southwest at a good speed, and seen for 3 minutes. It swung as if attached to a balloon and the lights were clear and strong. (Indianapolis News, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Longview, Texas-At 2130, a family saw a bright light the size of Venus. It was moving swiftly to the northwest and disappeared over the horizon. A few minutes later, it reappeared, rose nearly to the zenith, and left east. It emitted a series of intermittent flashes of a steel color. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Belleville, Illinois-Several including Irwin Wangelin and Curt Heinfeldten saw a bright red light at 2130. It moved at great speed, undulating, and was seen for 1 hour. (St. Louis [Mo] Post Dispatch, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Lake Station, Indiana-Between 2100 and 2200, Engineer Smutzer, Fireman Austin, and rest of crew of train saw a strange object going west. It had red and green lights which changed at intervals to white. (Michigan City [In] Evening News, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Long Prairie, Minnesota-Between 2100 and 2200, Mrs. Fuller and others saw the airship low to the southwest. It passed rapidly to the west and was a bright light that was seen for 20 minutes. (Long Prairie Leader, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Ridgeville, Indiana-Residents saw a light in the sky at 2200. It was larger than a train headlight. (Richmond [In] Daily Register, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Atchison, Kansas-A fire balloon was seen at 2200 and thought to be the airship. (Atchison Daily Champion, April 28, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Dallas, Texas-At 2200, George Saunderson saw the airship making fast time. It had 3 large windows. (Dallas Morning News, April 20, 1897)

(H) April 19, 1897-Le Sueur, Minnesota-At 2230, several boys told a story that they had seen the airship with people in it. It was only the reflection of a person in a mirror through a house window. (Le Sueur News, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Ashland, Ohio-Wm. McNabb and Seth Green saw the airship at 2230. It came from the east and moved west rapidly. It had a strong headlight and a brilliant light that flashed from it at intervals. (Ashland Gazette, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Ovid, Iowa-The airship was seen at 2300 and said to be flying the American flag. It turned out to be a kite with lantern, (Corydon Daily Times Republican, April 29, 1897)

(H) April 19, 1897-Beaumont, Texas-At 2300, J. R. Ligon saw the airship land and found a man emove it. They asked if they could get some water and they were told they could. One of the men said his name was Wilson and that they were returning to Iowa, where the ship had been built. It was 136 feet long, 20 feet wide, had 2 wings on each side, and propellers at both ends. It was powered by electricity, made of steel, and had compartments filled with compressed air. It used water as ballast, being pumped to the bow when descending and to the stern when ascending. Wilson said that this was 1 of 6 that had been built in Iowa. (Howston [Tx] Post, April 21, 1897)

(H) April 19, 1897-Beiton, Texas-At 2330, the airship was seen going southwest to northwest very rapidly. It had to alter its course a little to avoid hitting a tent. As it went by, 10 passengers were seen. They spoke as they went by, but was not understood. (Terrell [Tx] Times Star, April 30, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Thomaston, Michigan-About midnight, Mr. Widosky, a testotaler, saw the reflection of 3 lights in a mud puddle. He looked up and saw a red, a green, and a white light. They moved rapidly and kept the same relative position to each other. They moved southwest and as if something was carrying them and bobbing up and down. (Marquette [Mi] Mining News, April 24, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Cowgill, Missouri-F. Pryor, James Freek, and Wm. Barnes saw the airship about midnight. It came from direction of Chillicothe and landed for a few minutes. It rose and left northwest. Its wing spread was like that of a South American condor, its headlight was as dazzling as the sun, and it carried red and green lights. (Hamilton [Mo] Farmer's Advocate, April 28, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Hutchison, Kansas-About midnight, Undertaker Johnson saw a large lighted body 500 feet up. It was moving rapidly to the southwest. It was like a huge rowboat with great wings and carrying red lights. It was seen by others including Druggist Henderson and Editor Coffin. (Nevada [Mo] Daily Mail, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Denver, Colorado-During the evening, Ed. Goggerty and others saw the airship. (Denver Times, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-McConneville, Ohio-Charley Conklin and Charley Gaylord were fishing when they met a stranger. He was of medium height, dark complexion, dressed in a grey suit, grey cap, and patent leather shoes. He bought a mess of fish from the 2 men and told them that he was from the airship. They went with him to the airship and saw a partly inflated cigar shaped balloon. It had wings, a huge fan like propeller, and rested on standards. There were 2 other men working around the ship. The car was 60 feet long, 10-15 feet wide, made of aluminum, and the wings were covered with a material of his own invention. They were told that the airship was en route for Greece to act as war correspondents. It tested at 100 mph for 10 hours and was to load up with provisions at Columbus. The witnesses met the airship man 2 days later and again sold him some fish. They again were taken to the airship, but gave no further details. (McConneville Herald, April 28, 1897) (H)

April 19, 1897-Blandinsville, Illinois-The airship was seen at night. It was like the headlight of a train and flashed beautiful rays. A glass gave it a peculiar shape and colors of red, green, and yellow. (La Harp Ill] La Harper, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Goodrich, Illinois-Many saw the searchlight of the airship to the northwest and going west at night. Robert Gregg aimed a telescope at it and saw a crescent shaped object with fan like projections on each side. (Kankakee Ill] Gazette, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Shickley, Nebraska-A kite with a lantern was thought to be the airship at night. (Shickley Herald, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Cushing, Oklahoma-At night, George Heavner, and others, saw a bright light to the north. It was larger than the Evening Star, to the south, and going east to west. (Cushing Herald, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Harrisville, Michigan-Jo Lincoln saw the airship at night. It was slow and had red, green, and white lights. (Harrisville Alcona County Review, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Terrell, Texas-A fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Terrell Times Star, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Parkersburg, West Virginia-At night, W. Wolfe and others saw a light on the ridge, 1 mile away, 50 feet up, and the size of a lantern. It was moving east parallel with the ridge at 15-20 mph. (Parkersburg Sentinel, April 21, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Galton, Illinois-The airship was seen, at night, moving slowly, 100 feet up. It was 50 feet long, 20 feet wide, and made a whirring noise. The lone witness saw people in it dancing and could hear the music. There were 2 men standing on the deck and one of the asked, "I wonder who the gentleman is burning bush?" They threw an apple out, which landed near him. (Chicago Ill] InterOcean, April 26, 1897) (H)

April 19, 1897-Texarkana; Texas-Mary saw a light that moved from place to place in the night. It was seen for hours. (Dallas [TX] Morning News, April 21, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Mayfield, Kentucky-At night, the airship was seen but it was only a lightning bug. (Mayfield Monitor, April 21, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Bryan, Texas-During the night, J. Minkert, Dr. Edge, and Dick Jones saw a strange light approach from the south. It came closer and they saw a cigar shape with windows, great wings, and a fan shaped rudder. It landed and they went to it. They found that it had a deck around the cigar shaped body and numerous people were walking on the deck while workmen were making repairs. They found that a party of English millionaires and French scientists had built this airship and more like it. The motive power was electricity and the witness were taken on board. They met Prof. Svenbovygollivros, who put them to sleep with a wave of a hand. They were told to open their eyes and watch. A button was pushed and a fifty thousand horsepower engine started! The wings began to work! scenes of the earth began to fade from view! and the ship was headed for the North Star. Then the spell changed, and the boys turned and looked at the crowd. They were sitting by a table in the Kandy Kitchen (Bryan headquarters for airship news) while a party of Bryan amateur hypnotists were laughing at them. (Bryan Daily Eagle, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Cutler, Ohio-A doctor saw the airship at night. It was the size of a steambot with enormous wings. It had a big searchlight in front and made a noise like gas engines. It was 1,000 feet up, moving rapidly east, and seen by others. (Marietta [OH] Register, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Manistique, Michigan-Mary saw the airship going west at night. It was like a Washington cigar with a bright light in the center and going 1,000 mph. (Saulte Ste. Marie [MI] News, April 24, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Oroesbeck, Texas-B. Johnson and others saw the airship at night. (Houston [TX] Post, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Greenfield, Illinois-Postmaster M. G. Sisson heard a noise and saw the airship approaching, 100 feet up and moving slowly. At the bow was a woman catching pigeons with a net. When the occupants of the airship saw him, it accelerated, rose and left. It was 100 feet long, 15 feet wide, 25 feet deep, and metallic. It had wings that were 20 feet wide and stretched nearly the length of the ship. The front part of the wings could be raised or lowered to caused the ship to ascend or descend. Behind the pilot house, was a large fan that revolved rapidly. Near Hagaman, a letter was found by Tom Bradburg. It read: "Airmen Co., Oakland, Cal. We are having a delightful time and plenty to eat. Mollier's scheme for running down birds and catching them with a net works excellently! we feast daily upon pigeon pie. Since starting out we have greatly increased the velocity of the ship. The following figures will give some idea of the speed which we are now able to make; St. Louis, April 15, 9:30 p.m.; Chicago, same evening, 9:33; Kansas City, one hour and forty minutes later." (St. Louis [MO] Star, April 20, 1897)

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April 19, 1897-Swedenboro, New Jersey-A crowd saw a strange meteor to the north. It suddenly veered to the west and appeared like a great ball of fire. It was at tree level and moved slowly. (Philadelphia [Pa] Public Ledger, April 21, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Galesburg, Illinois-Many saw the airship rise from the northwest part of the city. It passed around to the north side, then to the southeast where it was lost to view. The light was bright and had a reddish tint. At times it would make a great dip, stop suddenly, then shoot forward. It left toward Peoria. (Galesburg Evening Mail, April 20, 1897) The Galesburg Weekly Mail of April 22nd said it was a kite with a lantern.

April 19, 1897-Swansea, Illinois-The airship was seen. (St. Louis [Mo] Post Dispatch, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Madison Lake, Minnesota-The airship was seen. (Mankato [Mn] Review, April 20, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Dunlap Springs, Tennessee-The airship was seen for a few minutes. (Bolivar [Tn] Hardeman Free Press, April 23, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Albany, Ohio-Many saw the airship. (Athens [O] Messenger Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Osgood, Indiana-A cigar shaped airship was seen. (Osgood Journal, April 24, 1897)

April 19, 1897-Tangier, Indiana-The airship was seen to settle in a field. It was only a kite. (Rockville [In] Parke County Journal, April 23, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Walnut Grove, Minnesota-At 0100, a conductor saw the airship. (Mankato [Mn] Review, April 20, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Nachitoches, Louisiana-Many saw the airship to the west and going north at 0130. It was balloon shaped with a cigar beneath it. It was illuminated with a fluctating light, had undulating motion, and bore a striking resemblance to a huge bird. It was 1,000 feet up and seen for 30 minutes. As it neared the city, the light became very low, but when it was past the city the light became very bright again. (Austin [Tx] Statesman, April 23, 1897.)

April 20, 1897-Sabinal, Texas-At 0200, Charles McGar saw the airship, 300 feet up, and moving west. The bottom resembled the keel of a steamboat and it was accompanied by a strange whirring sound. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 23, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Manistee, Michigan-At 0300, several saw an object making desperate attempts to rise. The operator seemed to be gigantic with spider like legs. It was only a man on a bicycle. (Manistee Advocate, April 20, 1897) (H)

April 20, 1897-near Hutchison, Kansas-In the early morning, the airship was seen to land. Pete Wiggins saw it at 0400. (Nevada [Mo] Daily Mail, April 20, 1897)

(H) April 20, 1897-Mineral Wells, Texas-At 0400, the airship landed and the crew met with a number of citizens. It was cigar shaped, 80 feet long, and had a paddle wheel at each end and on each side. They had sold it to a New York syndicate provided that they made a trip from New York to Liverpool. They thought they had better make 3-4 successful trips between New York and San Francisco before attempting to cross the ocean. (Dallas [Tx] Times Herald, April 20, 1897)

(H) April 20, 1897-Columbus, Ohio-At 0430, George Nettles and some men at the East Side pumping station saw the airship. It was a huge cigar shaped object that landed and several men got out. It was 30-40 feet long, pointed at both ends, 8 feet wide, 6 feet deep, and had 2 huge wings on the sides of the aluminum body. The men secured a couple tons of coal and barrels of water. It landed on feet or props and there was no balloon attachments. (Columbus Dispatch, April 20, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Galveston, Texas-Charles Schott saw a big white object for a minute at 0520. It was about 75 feet long, appeared to roll over slowly, and going south. It was pretty well up and was occasionally hidden by buildings. (Galveston Daily News, April 20, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Columbian Heights, Ohio-At 0900, Mrs. Jacob Burkhart, Mrs. James and others saw the airship. It was like a small yacht in shape, carried a small sail, and was propelled by a wheel at the rear. It was 2,000 feet up and going south. (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Denver, Colorado-Mrs. Mead and Mrs. Herner saw an object to the west and going north at 1100. It gave the appearance of rolling over since it would show a white side, then a flash. It was lost in the clouds. (Denver Rocky Mountain News, April 21, 1897)

(H) April 20, 1897-Golden, Colorado-At dusk, what first looked like a silver cloud, was seen over South Table Mountain. It was moving slowly toward Mt. Zion. A pair of field glasses showed a bright metallic, cigar shaped car with 3 men in it. Two of the men were smoking and one man was operating a Kodak. (Golden Globe, April 24, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Elwood, Indiana-Between 1900 and 2000, D. Leeson and Pony Melrose saw the airship. It had 3 lights and when they saw a fetter drop, it darted out of sight. (Elwood Labor Record, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Murray, Kentucky-At 1930, Burnett Holland and J. McDonald saw the airship to the east. (Paducah [Ky] Daily News, April 28, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Madisonville, Kentucky-Many saw the airship pass over at 2000. It carried 2 kinds of colored lights and moved west in a zigzag pattern. (Madisonville Hustler, April 23, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Murray, Kentucky- At 2000, a large cigar shaped craft was seen. It had immense wings, guy ropes and rods, and a searchlight in the front. There were four men in it waving frantically and the ship seemed to be unmanagable. -Taken from the Murray Ledger. (Mayfield [Ky] Monitor, April 28, 1897)

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April 20, 1897-Glenwood Springs, Colorado-Between 2030 and 2100, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dugard saw 2 white light overhead. They were about 2 feet apart and moving slowly to the east. Its lights seemed to be fastened to a car and it threw a searchlight around. It was about 1 mile up and was seen for over an hour. (Glenwood Springs Avalanche, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Irving, Kansas-At 2100, J. Rodgers saw a light going southwest rapidly. It moved with a peculiar motion and flickered like an arc light. It disappeared below the western horizon and covered 1/8th of the sky. (Atchison [Ks] Daily Champion, April 22, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Madisonville, Kentucky-Several saw the airship at 2100. It came from the northeast and went southwest. (Louisville [Ky] Courier Journal, April 22, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Lyons, Nebraska-A bright light was seen at 2130 to the southeast, going northwest. As it got closer, they saw large fans like those on a windmill and they were revolving very rapidly. They could hear a faint whirring noise. Through some opera glasses, they saw a large man in a grey coat presiding over the steering apparatus. The craft had a red light at the rear. (Lyons Sun, April 21, 1897)

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April 20, 1897-Akron, Ohio-At 2200, John, Robert, and Ralph Hoagland, and others saw the airship. (Akron Times Democrat, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Uvalde, Texas-At 2200, the airship was seen by Sheriff Henry Baylor. There were 3 men in it and they said they were on a trial trip. One of the men said his name was Wilson and he was from Goshen, New York. He asked about Capt. C. C. Akers and was told that he was in Eagle Pass. Then men got some water and left toward San Angelo. (San Antonio [Tx] Express, April 24, 1897) The Victoria [Tx] Advocate of May 11, 1897, printed a dispatch from Uvalde inwhich Sheriff Baylor denied the above story.

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April 20, 1897-Wahoo, Nebraska-About midnight, Ray Longinecker and Alber Safrnec saw the airship to the northeast. It was like a kite with lanterns attached. (Wahoo Democrat, April 22, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-About midnight, Ed Farrell, C. Myers, John Tully, Mike McCue, and others, including policemen, saw a pillar of fire to the north. It was dull red, 2 1/2 feet wide, 20 feet long, transparent, and stood perpendicular. It remained stationary for 5 minutes, then began to fade away. (Louisville Courier Journal, April 22, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Wahoo, Nebraska-During the evening, many saw a large bright light to the southwest. (Wahoo Wasp, April 22, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Hanover, Minnesota-Several saw the airship moving rapidly to the southwest in the evening. (Buffalo [Mn] Journal, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Hubble, Kansas-At night, the airship was seen hovering to the west. It left to the northwest. (Marka [Ks] News, April 23, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Allegan, Michigan-The airship was seen to collapse and fall but it was a kite with 3 lanterns on it. (Allegan Gazette, April 24, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Hebron, Nebraska-The airship was seen hovering to the west. It moved north until it was to the northwest and disappeared. (Hebron Journal, April 23, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Havana, Illinois-At night, Prof. Everhart and many others saw a light moving slowly and steadily. (Virginia [Ill] Enquirer, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 20, 1897-Clarksburg, West Virginia-At night, Harry Hutchins, a traveling salesman, was walking when he saw a large balloon hovering a few hundred feet up. There was a bright searchlight and he ran toward it. It was cigar shaped and had a number of rapidly working small fan shaped wings that were made of steel. There were 3 people in it who wore long gowns and long hair, flowing to their shoulders. The ship suddenly rose and left east. (Pittsburg [Pa] Daily Leader, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 20, 1897-Bemidji, Minnesota-During the night, a funnel shaped object was seen. It was 22 feet long and had different colored lights. It circled over the lake and 4 occupants were seen. (Bemidji Pioneer, April 22, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Jacksonville, Illinois-Several saw the lights of the airship to the northwest at night. There were the occasional dim outlines of a ship with "Fairbanks" and other emblems on the side. It veered northwest to north and left after being seen for 15-20 minutes. (Jacksonville Journal, April 21, 1897)

→ April 20, 1897-Bartlett, Texas-At night, many saw a very large ball of fire moving southwest. It dropped 3 smaller balls of light. (Houston [TX] Post, April 24, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Barnesville, Ohio-A bright light was seen hovering. It was 3-4 degrees in length and brighter than Venus. After 15 minutes, it suddenly went out. (Barnesville Enterprise, April 29, 1897)

(H) April 20, 1897-South Bristol, New York-At night, R. Martin and others saw a large object surrounded by twinkling lights. The next day they found a bamboo cane loaded with sand and a card attached. It read: "Airship Pegasus, April 15, 1:30 AM.-We have covered the distance of Pacific Coast to Atlantic Coast in 4 days, traveling nights. Are now on way back to West. Aerial meter shows 400 miles tonight. Captain Pegasus." A. Oaks found a letter signed the same and dated 1:45 AM. (Mexico [Mo] Weekly Ledger) The Palmyra (NY) Journal of April 28, 1897, said the object was 1/4 mile up and made a noise like escaping steam.

There is a possibility that the sighting was on April 16. This story was taken from the Rochester Union.

April 20, 1897-Meriden, Illinois-At night, 4-5 people saw a large bright light. (Mendota [Ill] Reporter, April 24, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Ridgeville, Ohio-Crew and passengers of a train saw strange lights that were going twice as fast as the train at night. (Columbus [O] Dispatch, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Rich Pond, Kentucky-H. Jordan saw the airship at night. It was well lighted, 300 feet up, and moving as the speed of a train. (Owensville [Ky] Messenger, April 24, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Batavia, Ohio-The airship was seen. (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Massillon, Ohio-Fifteen people saw the airship. Frank Reed found a letter which read: "On Board Airship Bound for Cuba, April 20, 1897. To the Finder: Please mail enclosed letter and send your address to Mr. Edison who will reward you. William R. Harris." (Toledo [O] Blade, April 22, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Ashland, Ohio-Five people saw an oblong bar of light that was very high up. It changed directions several times. A 12 year old girl saw the lights and a boat like shape. (Cleveland [O] Leader, May 7, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Newport, Arkansas-The airship was seen. (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Jacksonville, Florida-The airship was seen. (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Lincoln, Nebraska-A letter was found and said to be from the airship. "On board the Airship Pegasus, April 20, 1897" and was a long letter. It stated that the airship was built in southern West Virginia. It is a long oval balloon, pointed at both ends, 30,000 cu. ft. capacity, not hydrogen, weighed 2500 pounds and lifting power of 1,200 pounds. He has been up for 42 days. It was signed "J. F. Calipha, Capt. of the Pegasus." (Lincoln Evening Post, April 21, 1897)

April 21, 1897-New Orleans, Louisiana-At 0030, a man saw a 50-60 foot long airship. It was going northwest and had a powerful searchlight which played around. (New Orleans Time Picayune, April 21, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Aspen, Colorado-Twenty miners saw a bright light going west at 0100. It was in view for 10 minutes. (Aspen Daily Times, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Harrisburg, Arkansas-At 0100, Ex-Senator Harris was awoken by a noise and saw the airship land. On board was an elderly man, who wore a heavy set of dark, silken whiskers, jet black eyes, and a firm, deep expression. There were also a woman and 2 young men. The

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elderly man said that 26 years ago his uncle developed a method to overcome gravity and hid the secret in a vault under New York City. He said that he had found it 7 years ago and has been experimenting since. He can overcome gravity by placing a wire around any object. On the ship was a 4 ton Hotchkiss gun and 10 tons of ammunition. He had planned to go to Cuba and destroy the Spanish army but might go to the aid of the Armenians. The gun fires at 63,000 times a minute. Harris declined an offer to take a ride and the airship left. (Harrisburg Modern News, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Silverton, Colorado-At 0100, T. Holden saw 2 yellow lights that came from the west. They were 8 feet apart, 1,000 feet up, and going east. They were attached to an object that was 24 feet long and 8 feet wide. It was going 60 mph and rose to clear Mt. Soloman by 75 feet. (Silverton Standard, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Elyria, Ohio-Judge Hinman awoke at 0200 and saw the airship. It was shaped like a Pittsburgh Stogie and had lights. It hovered for 10 minutes at 1-3,000 feet. Its lights were intense and glittering, had a short blue tail, and had a brass ring around it. (Toledo [O] Blade, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Thibodeaux, Louisiana-At 0300, a man saw a strange craft pass over. (Thibodeaux Weekly Sentinel, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Green Forest, Arkansas-T. Roberts saw the airship for 3 minutes at 0400. It came from the northeast, passed over the northern part of the city, and was 300 yards up. He heard the gentle beating of its wings and it looked like a row boat with large spreading wings. It was the size of a passenger coach but wider. It turned west and he saw something fall from it. It was a plain, unaddressed envelope with a short note in a delicate hand. It read: "Aboard the Stratus, April 21, 1897. With pleasure we send greetings to the people of the beautiful little city below. We will see you again and learn more of you and you will learn more of our wonderful ship, the Stratus. A. Passenger." (Green Forest Tribune, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-McCausland, Iowa-At 0700, a cigar shaped craft was seen to land. It was 40 feet long, 2 propellers operated by a small, complicated gasoline engine, and 4 wings on each side, operated by still another gasoline engine. When first seen, it moved as if something was wrong. It landed on a main street and 5 men emerged. One of them went to the blacksmith and bought several small steel rods. They fixed the ship and left toward the east in 1 hour and 50 minutes. (Chicago [Ill] Inter-ocean, April 26, 1897)

April 21, 1897-South Bristol, New York-In the early morning, Michael Connell saw the airship. (Mexico [Mo] Weekly Ledger, April 29, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Napoleon, Indiana-The airship landed at the farm of Albert Hicks at noon. A paddle in the propeller had become loose. The airship remained on the ground for about a minute. (Osgood [Ind] Journal, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Sharon, Pennsylvania-At dusk, Jay Larimore, C. Wallace, and E. Andrews saw the airship pass over. It was 2,000 feet up, headed for Lake Erie rapidly, and there were 3 men on board. (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 22, 1897) The Erie (Pa) Daily Times of April 22nd reported that it was cigar shaped, had wings, and a propeller. The Delaware (O) Semi-Weekly Gazette of April 23, said this happened in Youngstown, O., and was seen by "re(lie)able" men. (H)

April 21, 1897-Kewanee, Illinois-At 1900, hundreds saw a light of unusual brightness going northeast. (Princeton [Ill] Bureau County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Tipton, Indiana-The airship was seen at 2000. (Kokomo [Ind] Tribune, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Vienne, Missouri-At 2015, many saw the airship going northwest. In a short time it disappeared over the horizon. It was nearly as large as the moon and gave out a peculiar, bright light. (Cuba [Mo] Crawford County Telephone, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Colorado Springs, Colorado-F. Bissell, Eddie Hobbs, Charles Rafield, and Charles Drapper heard a crash at 2030. It was a sealed beer bottle which shattered and revealed a note inside. It read: "April 21, 1897. To whoever finds this note. We are in air about 2 miles above the earth. Our valve is jammed so that we can not let the gas escape. We have no food except crackers and bottled olives. Our names are: C. J. Pillsbury, 108 Washington St., Boston; Pierre Humbert, city engineer of Boston; and C. De Novina, 17 rue Traffant, Paris. Please let our friends know where we are. We cannot possibly live 48 hours longer, as we have no water." One of the witnesses saw a light to the southwest. Several others saw a strange light at 2100 toward Ivywild. It moved at 30-40 mph. (Colorado Springs Gazette, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Benton Harbor, Michigan-At 2030, many saw a light that circled and zigzagged, some saw a cigar shape. It was only a kite with a lantern attached to it. (Benton Harbor Evening News, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Idaville, Indiana-At 2030, John Moorman and others saw a light approaching from the south and went east. It was 1 mile away, 500 feet up, and was a bright white light with a weaker red light. (Logansport [Ind] Journal, April 22, 1897) It turned out to be a balloon.

April 21, 1897-Burnettsville, Indiana-At 2038, the airship was seen to go east. It was like seen at Idaville. (Kokomo [Ind] Dispatch, April 24, 1897) The Logansport [Ind] Journal of April 22, 1897, said it moved southeast to northwest, to the east, and 500 feet up.

April 21, 1897-Star City, Indiana-At 2040, the airship was seen. (Kokomo [Ind] Dispatch, April 24, 1897) The Logansport (In) Journal of April 22, 1897, said it was seen at 2038 and was a light moving rapidly northwest.

April 21, 1897-Ashland, Ohio-Between 2000 and 2100, many saw a very bright light to the south. It was moving west and growing fainter. It

was a vertical line of light, several hundred feet long. (Ashland [O] Gazette, April 23, 1897) The Cleveland [O] Leader of May 4, 1897, said it was a string of lights with a head like a comet and a glare behind it. It had an appearance of luminous vapor streaming behind it. The light was tinged with red. It was going northeast, seen 25 minutes, and the lights seemed to be on a long, narrow, tubular object.

April 21, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-The airship was seen at 2100. (Princeton [I] Bureau County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Rockport, Ohio-At 2100 Conductor Eggleston and 8 passengers saw the airship going south. It had its headlight turned toward the earth. (Columbus [O] Evening Press, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-near Lorain, Ohio-Motorman Krautter and Clark Daniel saw the airship coming south towards Elyria at 2100. (Columbus [O] Evening Press, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Franklin, Nebraska-At 2200, many saw the airship for 30 minutes. It was like a comet with a bright tail and was brighter and larger than a star. It was to the southwest and moved in a straight line north to south. (Lincoln [NB] Nebraska State Journal, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Fulton, Missouri-Several heard the flapping of wings at 2300. They saw a huge fish shaped object combined with that of a bird. It moved at a lightning like speed and changed direction. (Fulton Gazette, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Erie, Pennsylvania-J. Scheer, Frank King, and Frank Mulich saw the airship pass over at 2300. It was moving south to north at a high rate and was 2,000 feet up. It was a long cigar shaped craft. 2 wing like fans on each side, huge propeller on stern, and a bright light on the bow. (Erie Daily Times, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Ohio-At 2300, J. Caldwell, John Holt, and others saw the airship on the ground. They heard voices in side talking in an unintelligible gabble. It ascended, spread its wings, and left. (Credo [WV] Advance, April 28, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Riverton, Nebraska-Dr. and Mrs. Spencer saw a huge light and 2 smaller lights to the northwest at 2300. (Riverton Review, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Jackson, Tennessee-At 2300, several saw a strange light over the city for over an hour. It appeared in the northeast, rose rapidly, drifted east, and grew larger and brighter all the time. It moved in lunges and often it would go out and come back on. It was the size of a train headlight and hovered. (Memphis [Tn] Commercial Appeal, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Kingston, Missouri-About midnight, Dr. Gailside saw a bright light to the northwest. It moved slowly north, quivered, and was

accompanied by several smaller lights. (Breckenridge [Mo] Bulletin, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Barien, Wisconsin-The airship was seen in the evening and said to have green light. It turned out to be a balloon. (Elkhorn [Wi] Independent, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-During the evening, Prof. Dutton saw a light to the west. It was brilliant and like a comet with 2 tails, one above the other. It was dazzling and moved slowly. (Cleveland Leader, April 27, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Fort Wayne, Indiana-Members of the First Spiritual Circle saw the airship pass over rapidly to the northwest in the evening. It carried 2 lights, red in front and blue in rear. The medium went into a trance and said there were 2 men and a dog in the airship. (Fort Wayne Weekly Gazette, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Bucyrus, Ohio-In the evening a kite with a lantern was seen as a flickering light to the south. (Bucyrus Evening Telegram, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Carrothers, Ohio-The airship was seen to the southeast and again later to the north. (Tiffin [O] Daily Advertiser, April 29, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Jamestown, Nebraska-During an evening storm, several saw an object seemingly out of control. It went into a flock of geese and killed 7-8 of them and they were found scattered about. (Fremont [NE] Daily Tribune, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Voyer Valley Township, Iowa-During the evening, a strange light was seen in a field. The next morning, the witness found the airship with 7 crewmen who could not speak English. (Early [Ia] News, April 30, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Fremont, Nebraska-During an evening storm, a farmer saw something large and winged come down low over his chicken yard. A man appeared, threw out a rope into the yard. It caught a chicken and it was pulled into the airship. As the airship rose, a paper came fluttering down. It read: "I have been in this infernal airship several weeks and can not make the blamed thing land on account of having broken some of the machinery. I am now entirely out of food, hence was force to catch one of your chickens; charge it and present your bill first of month." The man had a wild, crazy appearance, wore a shaggy beard, bare headed, and had large fierce eyes. (Fremont Daily Tribune, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Bloomington, Nebraska-Col. Carter saw a bright light that left northwest. (Bloomington Echo, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Pataskala, Ohio-During the evening, Squire Miller, C. Caner, Harry Joseph and others saw a large ball of fire to the southwest and rapidly approaching. It had a faint outline of an object in its rear and it made a dip toward the earth. It was an elongated car with huge fan

(H) like wings and a tail piece or steering apparatus. They saw several persons in the car and heard voices. It then left east. (Pataskala Standard, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Berea, Ohio-At night, many saw a bright light that made several circuits of the town. It would be in a horizontal position, then change to perpendicular. (St. Louis [Mo] Star, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Muncie, Indiana-The airship landed during the night. The lone witness said an occupant got out and asked for some milk. He said they had been out since leaving Evanston, Ill. The witness gave him some milk, he went into the ship, pulled a cord, and it left north. (Chicago [Ill] Inter-ocean, April 26, 1897) This is probably a hoax since none of the Muncie papers made even a mention of it, plus the source.

April 21, 1897-Edna, Texas-Editor Frank Dickson saw 2 airships pass over the southern part of the city. He heard a distant rumbling, then saw 2 aerial monsters, 400 yards apart. They were communicating with each other by means of red and green lights. After 5 minutes, 1 left north and the other left south. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Between Ashland and Polk, Ohio-At night, Mike Rickalder and crew of a train saw a ball of fire in the heavens. It moved smoothly along and they thought they could distinguish figures in it. (Mansfield [O] Richland Shield and Banner, April 27, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Galion, Ohio-The airship was seen at night. (Mansfield [O] Richland Shield and Banner, April 27, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Cripple Creek, Colorado-The airship was seen flying around Pikes Peak. Residents became concerned that it might be driven by the populist party or some insane Knights of Labor Organization with the intention of capturing the cog-wheel railway and the gold field of Cripple Creek. Some Cripple Creek boys went up in a balloon to capture the airship. It was found to be a large 2 seated chair with the legs attached to the backs of 4 large birds. In the chair were 2 small, well dressed, and educated men and they fired bullets at each other. However, the air was too light to hold a bullet. The airship was captured and taken to Denver. They were red men and came for the South Pacific island of Damoly. Their hair was long and red like blood and their eyes shone like electric lights. (Moberly [Mo] Daily Monitor, April 28, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Fergus Falls, Minnesota-The airship was seen at night. (Elbow Lake [Mn] Grant County Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Mineral Point, Illinois-The airship was seen at night. (Galena [Ill] Gazette, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Youngstown, Ohio-Residents saw the airship at night. It was like a giant centipede with revolving sails. They could not make out the passengers, but they had voices like thunder. (Youngstown Weekly Telegram, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Terre Haute, Indiana-Patrolmen Kotsch, Budd, and Charles Scheydt saw the airship. It was pointed at both ends and gradually disappeared. (Terre Haute Evening Gazette, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Atlantic, Iowa-The airship was seen to come from the northwest and going southwest. It appeared as a heavy black cloud that was dimly illuminated. It was 3 times as long as wide and 1/2 as tall as wide. It was slow and made a rumbling sound. (Atlantic Telegraph, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Opelousas, Louisiana-Several saw the airship going west. (Opelousas St. Landry Clarion, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Cutler, Ohio-The airship stopped at Calamity Oil Company's well and took on a supply of oil to lubricate the bearings. (Marietta [O] Register, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Holdenville, Oklahoma-The airship was seen with a bright red searchlight. (Tecumseh [Ok] Herald, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Jackson, Michigan-George Mitchell saw the airship and it had lights at each end. (Detroit [Mi] Evening News, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Elbow Lake, Minnesota-The airship was seen and it was just like the one seen on the 18th. (Elbow Lake Grant County Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Fort Worth, Texas-Charles West and Col. Donaldson saw the airship land and spoke with Captain Nemo of the airship "Dauntless." They had to land to make repairs. They were told all about the airship, but were sworn to secrecy. (Fort Worth Register, April 23, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Savannah, Ohio-The airship was seen. (Ashland [O] Times, April 28, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Grand Junction, Colorado-The airship landed and C. J. Pillsbury, of Boston, said that his 2 companions had regained control of the ship and were alright. He agreed to bring the airship to town and address the people of "bloon day". A dispatch to the Times "the other day" said that Pillsbury was in Boston and had never been on an airship. (Denver [Co] Times, April 22, 1897) (H)

→ April 22, 1897-Brenham, Texas-At 0400, several including John R. Pennington, saw the airship pass over. It was pretty high and going south. They saw the lights and hulk, heard a roaring noise, and heard a noise on board like the rattling of glassware. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Ashland, Nebraska-Miss Helme saw the airship hovering over Doc Jones' house at 0430. It was very large, 100 feet up, and left west after 30 minutes. (Wahoo [Nb] Wasp, April 29, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Washington, D. C.-The airship was seen by many to come down the Potomac and gradually disappear over the hills of Virginia. It

was seen by officers and soldiers at Fort Meyer. It was like an oblong balloon floating along with a slight pitch in the direction of travel. Glasses revealed it was a double-barrel arrangement, shaped like a catamaran, hanging vertically, rocking side to side, and often shifting position. There was no smoke, smokestack, wings, or other means of propulsion seen. (Harrison [O] County Democrat, April 28, 1897) The Washington (D.C.) Star of April 22, 1897, reported that it was seen at 0900 and that glasses revealed it was like a canvas box and oblong. It was 1 mile or more up and 3 feet or more in size. It swayed in the wind and rocked side to side. There were 2 dark objects faintly seen in the ship. It was high and hovered over Fort Meyer and Arlington. It was in view until 1100 and left south. It was found to be a weather bureau kite sent up behind Arlington.

April 22, 1897-Jimes, Ohio-During the afternoon, the airship was seen. It was high and passed over going southeast. (Portsmouth [O] Blade, April 24, 1897)

(A) April 22, 1897-Kenly, North Carolina-At 1930, the airship with its sails or webbing plainly seen. The outlines of 2 person was seen also. It moved very slowly to the southwest. It was seen by many prominent citizens. (Wilmington [NC] Messenger, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Westerville, Ohio-Many saw a strange light to the west at 2000. It was like a very large star, but duller. It was several miles away, but not at a great height. It changed position and began to approach the city. As it came nearer, a rapid sweep carried it far to the south. It was seen by hundreds as it moved against the wind. At 2300, it left east. (Columbus [O] Ohio State Journal, April 24, 1897) The Columbus [O] Evening Press of April 23, 1897, said it was a red light that hovered for 30 minutes. It then went south toward Columbus and returned in the direction of Pittsburg. Signals were given by the witnesses and it answered by moving, in order, a green, red, and white light.

April 22, 1897-Cripple Creek, Colorado-At 2000, thousands saw the airship for 30 minutes. It turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Denver [Co] Rocky Mountain News, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Wheeling, West Virginia-At 2000, several boys said they had seen the airship, but they were lying. (Wheeling Intelligencer, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Carmi, Illinois-At 2000, a bright light was seen, moving rapidly to the northwest. It was as large as a train headlight and was seen for 15-20 minutes. (Grayville [Ill] Mercury, April 28, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Girardsville, Pennsylvania-The airship was seen to the north at 2030. There were 3 lights and soon 2 of them faded away. It was oblong, 3 feet long, and 1 foot wide. It narrowed towards the center where it was only 2 inches wide. A dark streak surround it. Near the lower end a short arm projected obliquely from the ship. The light appeared to be showing behind the body and varied in brightness. It hovered for 2 hours. (Pottsville [Pa] Republican, April 23, 1897)

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April 22, 1897-Marquette, Michigan-At 2045, 50 people saw the airship going northeast; against the wind. It was a white light and the outline of a black body could be seen. It would go level and then dive like a kite. It was going at 60 mph. It was seen again at 2115 going east. (Marquette Mining Journal, April 23, 1897) The April 24th issue of the same paper revealed that it was a kite.

April 22, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-Patrolman James Kleckner and his wife, Rev. West and his wife, and several others saw a light to the northwest at 2100. It was 500 feet up and several inches in diameter. It moved in an aimless manner for several minutes, then left west. (Logansport Daily Reporter, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Lake Mills, Wisconsin-At 2100, several saw 2 lights, several feet apart, moving against the wind. (Ft. Atkinson [WI] Jefferson County Union, April 30, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Hiawatha, Kansas-Many, including Deputy Leibengood, Councilman Malglott, and others, saw the airship at 2115. It was the size of an arc light and moved slowly south. There were clouds seen passing between it and the ground and it was seen for 15 minutes. (Hiawatha Brown County World, April 30, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Lynchburg, Virginia-Between 2100 and 2200, a young man saw a strange looking cloud. It rose rapidly above the horizon and gradually approached the zenith. He pointed it out to others. It had a big searchlight that sent out penetrating rays and had rows of twinkling lights on the sides. It was immense in size and had tremendous outspreading wings. It moved at a tremendous speed and crossed the zenith. It past directly over the west part of Lynchburg and left east. As it began to drop from view, it assumed the appearance of a white cloud. (Lynchburg News, April 24, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Glouster, Ohio-A journalist saw the airship land on Mine No. 9 at 2200 and it took on coal and water. (Columbus [OH] Evening Press, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Flatonina, Texas-At 2200, Albert Moch saw the airship pass directly overhead. It was 100 feet up and going southeast. He heard a sound like the rapid whirring of wings. Different colored lights flashed from it. As it receded from view, it cast a bright streak of light from the rear and slanting toward the ground. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 24, 1897) The San Antonio (Tx) Express of April 25, 1897, reported that it was 30 feet long, 2,000 feet up, and propelled by a fly wheel. It descended to 200 feet, turned on a powerful searchlight, and left east.

April 22, 1897-Kokomo, Indiana-William Sollenbergen saw the airship at 2200 going northeast. It was a red light moving very rapidly. Lindell Darby said he thought he could see the framework and the light was white. Officer Ross Taylor said it carried a red, white, and blue light and was going northeast. It turned and left northwest. It was seen by many others. (Kokomo Dispatch, April 23, 1897) The Kokomo Tribune of April 23rd reported that some saw the faint outlines of a long cigar

shaped object with wings or arms. It was the size of a dinner plate, moved at 30-40 mph, and was seen for 3 minutes.

(H) April 22, 1897-Rockland, Texas-At 2300, John Barclay was alarmed by his dogs barking and a whining noise. He saw an oblong object with wings, a variety of side attachments, and very brilliant lights hovering 50 yards up. It circled a few times then landed. He took his gun and went to investigate. He met an ordinary mortal who told him to put the gun down and that no harm was intended. He said his name was Smith and, giving Barclay \$10, told him to get some oil, cold chisels, and a bluestone. He was able to get the oil and the chisels, but not the bluestone. Smith said they were from anywhere and they would be in Greece the day after tomorrow. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 25, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Hewlock, Michigan-At 2300, 2 men saw the airship sailing at a rapid rate to the south. (Saginaw [Mich] Courier Herald, April 28, 1897)

(H) April 22, 1897-Josserand, Texas-About midnight, Frank Nichols was awoken by a whirring noise. He saw 2 strange lights and found that the airship had landed. He went toward it but met 2 men with buckets who asked permission to get some water, which was granted. He went to the ship and conversed with the 6-8 people on it. It was built of a new material that had the property of self-sustenance in the air and the motive power was condensed electricity. There were 3 of these ship built in Iowa. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 26, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Plankinton, South Dakota-Rev. Davies saw the airship sailing south in the evening. It discharged, at intervals, different colored lights. (Plankinton Herald, April 28, 1897)

April 22, 1897-between Chicago, Illinois, and Logansport, Indiana-Conductor Joe Kenney saw a red and a green light floating in the west. (Logansport Journal, April 27, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Struble, Kansas-A large luminous body was seen near the horizon in the evening. It changed to many brilliant colors before it faded from view. (La Mars [Ia] Globe, April 24, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Coffeyville, Kansas-Venus was seen in the evening and thought to be the airship. (Coffeyville Journal, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Alexandria, Minnesota-In the night, Bob Brough saw the airship to the west. (Alexandria Republican, April 28, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Scribner, Nebraska-At night, the airship passed over. It was so low that it broke a pane of glass in front of Milligan's store and collided with the smoke stack on Dieh's mill. (Scribner News, April 30, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Yonkers, New York-Several saw the airship at night. It was just like the one seen on the 19th. (Yonkers Herald, May 1, 1897)

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April 22, 1897-Cumberland County, Virginia-Two negroes saw the airship at night. It moved at a rapid rate, seen a short time, and was just like those described in the papers. (Lynchburg [Va] News, May 2, 1897)

April 22, 1897-York Mill, Ohio-At night, several saw the airship pass over. (Portsmouth [O] Republican, April 24, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Baird, Texas-Fayette Jones saw a huge airship land at night. It was a cigar shaped object, 100 feet long, and had wings on the sides and at the rear. There were 2 men and a woman on board and they were beautiful people. The furnishing were gold colored. They said they were experimenting with the airship which was sent out by some New York people to hunt curios for a museum. They had stopped to see Mr. J. Rushing since he was a gold bug (a goldstandard man). When Jones said he was a gold bug, they said he was the curio they were looking for. They pulled him in, shut the door, and rose at 100 mph. He became frightened and said he did not want to go to heaven yet and that no gold bug would dare go there. They agreed and gradually eased down on top of Mount Airy and let him out. (Baird Star, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Moxahala, Ohio-For the last 3 nights, residents had seen the airship. There were 3 lights when it was flying and 2, a red and a green, when it was hovering. Later it stopped for coal, but found the wrong quality and dumped it in Scott Wiggins field. (Columbus [O] Evening Press, April 22, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Emporia, Kansas-During a storm, the airship came down and was recharged with electricity at the Emporia Electric Light Company plant. (Emporia Gazette, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Pauls' Valley, Indian Territory-Several saw the airship. It was like an ordinary box car. Some said it was like an oil tank, and it left north. (Wichita [Ks] Beacon, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Muncie, Indiana-Ed. C. Knupp, agent for the Main Circus, had made arrangements with Prof. Galaski to bring his airship to the circus grounds at 1830. Galaski had left Canada and was on his way to the Tennessee Centennial, but would stop over at Muncie. (Muncie Daily Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Conroe, Texas-Three strangers came into town and said they were sailing an airship from San Francisco. They were going to Cuba via El Paso, Conroe, and New Orleans. About an hour later, residents saw a bright light rise to the east. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 24, 1897)

April 22, 1897-New London, Iowa-A letter was found and it was on brown paper, tied with twine, and had a piece of iron attached to it. The letter read: "From Airship Ian Chang. If this message is found send to Mrs. John Randolph, 22303 Vine Street, St. Louis, Missouri. Dear Mother: I have been taken prisoner by Japanese officers from near Wahachow plantation near Honolulu. The republic of Hawaii is doomed. The Japanese have several thousand soldiers on Island as laborers. It has remained for the Japs to solve the air navigator. Five have been made by the

government. Three are carrying troops from Japan to Hawaii. Two are carrying arms from United States. We are west bound with load from near Hartford. Communicate with government. Haste, your son, J. Rudolph." (Burlington [Ia] Hawkeye, April 23, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Wabash, Indiana-At 0030, a bright red light that was seen turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Wabash Times, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Nevada, Missouri-At 0200, Will Joy and engineer Dowdy saw the airship. It came from the south and moved at will for over an hour. It had red and blue lights hanging from the sides and the main light was larger than a train headlight. They saw people peering over the sides. (Nevada Mail, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Sheridan and Arkwright, New York-At 0430, Arthur Wilkins of Arkwright and John Wetterburn of Sheridan saw the airship from their respective farms. It was 2,000 feet up, going south at a great speed, and looked like a queer shaped cloud. A bright light streamed out from the front, then went out. They saw a cigar shaped craft with wings like fans on each side. It was seen less than a minute. Wetterburn said he saw a light on the bow and stern, and a man or 2 in it. (Dunkirk [NY] Evening Observer, April 23, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Logansport, Louisiana-w. Branam, J. Mores, and another saw a large object approaching from the north at 0530. It moved rapidly and was 1,500 feet up. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-6 miles west of Calla, Ohio-In the early morning, Frank Rogers and Scott Ebert saw the airship going northwest. It was brilliantly illuminated, cigar shaped, and had a fan shaped apparatus on the sides. (Norwalk [OH] Daily Reflector, April 26, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-In the morning a reporter was in a bar when a strange man came in and bought 25 boxes of Yale Mixture, a tobacco. He was about 35, low, heavy build, wore a corduroy suit, and had a determined look on his face. When he left, the reporter followed him and they ended up at the Centennial grounds. Here the reporter found the airship anchored to a tree. It was 50 feet long, tapered at both ends, and its greatest diameter was 15 feet. It had 6 propellers on one side and these had 12 foot blades. The wings were only slightly moving, just enough to keep the anchor rope taut. The hull appeared to be made of aluminum. A door opened and a rope came down. The stranger unfastened the anchor rope and was pulled aboard the craft, which soon rose and left. (Nashville American, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Fort Worth, Texas-At 0930, Woodford Brooks saw the airship on the ground and he, and Mr. Edwards, approached it. The met a man named Randall who said he was the captain of the airship. There were 12 other men on it and they were headed for the City of Mexico. When asked if he thought 13 was an unlucky number for a crew, Randall said they were all protected by wearing Mexican opals. The ship was powered by storage batteries and had mistook the park for an electric plant. The ship then left for San Antonio. (Fort Worth Register, April 24, 1897)

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April 23, 1897-Burton, Michigan-Daniel Gray heard a terrible rumbling and whizzing sound directly overhead. He saw a dark object flying with lightning like rapidity. It soon passed from view. He saw something fall and found it to be a Toronto, Canada, paper dated October 5, 1896. It was dry and well preserved. (Saginaw [Mi] Globe, April 26, 1897) The Flint (Mi) Daily News of April 24, 1897, reported that it happened about noon.

April 23, 1897-Winchester, Kentucky-Several students saw the airship while at school. It glistened like polished tin, bottom was dark, and had immense wings. It left to the northeast. (Winchester Democrat, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-St. Joseph, Missouri-In the afternoon, many thought they saw the airship but it was a kite that could be inflated. (St. Joseph Gazette, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Nevada, Iowa-During the afternoon, the airship landed and on board was Mr. and Mrs. Neptuniandustireceas, of Neptune, and Mr. Saturnicusbalsan, of Saturn. They spoke English fluently and Mrs. N. could speak all Earth languages, especially the tongue of Finland. She said that people of the Sun, Moon, Mars, and other planets had had airships since "the year Foley Langland of the Slater News left Norway." She said there was a dwarf race on the moon that lived in volcanoes. All of the larger planets were connected by railways and the trains moved at 50,000 mph. On the other planets, rebellions are unknown and the people are honest and upright, just like those of Finland. She felt that the election of McKinley was proper and that Harden would be appointed postmaster at Ames. They plan to establish regular stations in the United States with the headquarters at Rolland and would run excursions to all the planets. (Nevada Representative, April 28, 1897) (H)

April 23, 1897-Rochester, New York-At 1820, a couple saw something to the south and it was too high and moved on a too regular course to be a kite. It was 1 mile up, 2 miles away, and moved steadily and rapidly due west with the wind. It was seen with glasses and appeared 25-30 feet long, resembled a life boat, and the bow was slightly higher than the stern. At times it would drop a little and when it did it accelerated. There was a projection on the top like the dorsal fin of a fish and it extended 1/2 the length of the hull, sloping gradually up from the forward end and descending sharply toward the stern. It seemed to roll a little and the fin seemed to be broken into 3 parts and as if men were sitting in these fissures. It was seen for 20 minutes and left toward Fairport. (Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Miles City, Montana-At 1900, the airship was seen circling to the northwest. It proved to be a kite with a lantern attached to the tail. (Miles City Weekly Yellowstone Journal, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Rochester, New York-Between 2000 and 2030, several saw a long rakish craft moving east. It was 1 mile up and moved at a swift and even rate. It was brilliantly illuminated and had a long tail like attachment with fan shaped wings. It kept a uniform distance from the

earth and gave off a white light. (Rochester [NY] Democrat and Chronicle, April 25, 1897) The airship turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Buffalo [NY] Express, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Newport, Kentucky-At 2030, many saw the airship. Mrs. G. Phillips saw a light to the west moving about. It grew closer, passed overhead, revealing a very long cigar shaped object. Mr. Ezra Van Duzen saw a light come from the west. He and others heard something drop and found a bag of sand and a letter. The letter read: "Airship Pegasus, April 23, 9:30 pm.-Passed over Newport, Ky., at 8:25 pm, traveling at the rate of forty miles an hour, due west. Aerometer recorded 200 miles since 4:30 pm. Expect to arrive at Nashville, Tenn., at 3 am, Sunday. Captgain Pegasus." (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Aspen, Colorado-At 2100, a fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Aspen Rocky Mountain Sun, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Markham, Illinois-A letter was found and it reads: "Omaha April 23, '97 To the finders I left Omaha at 8:30 pm and drop this notice at 11:25 pm to show you people that my airship is the greatest wonder of the age, and will be on exhibition at the Omaha Exposition and I take this method of advertising. By presenting this letter you will be entitled to one ride free of charge during the time my airship will be on exhibition. Serial Navigator" (Jacksonville [Ill] Journal, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Saginaw, Michigan, During the evening, a bright light was seen to the southwest and it had red and green lights. It proved to be a star. (Saginaw Globe, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Terra Alta, West Virginia-In the evening, the airship passed over. "It was clothed in a dazzling shirt front and milk-white pants and was admired by a host of people." (Kingwood [WV] Preston County Journal, April 29, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Delavan, Illinois-During the evening, Mrs. Tibbits, Emma Tibbits, and H. Udell saw a large light moving rapidly northwest. It moved in a zigzag manner, showed red and green lights, and was seen for 15-20 minutes. (Harvard [Ill] Herald, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Brownington, Missouri-The airship was seen hovering over a coal chute and several occupants alighted and loaded 10 to 50 tons of coal. The object raised its huge wings and flew 50 yards. It landed and took on 75 barrels of water. The occupants tried to get the agent to go with them, but he would not. It rose to 300 miles and left west. (Clinton [Mo] Eye, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Galton, Illinois-During the night, a man heard a whizzing noise. He looked up and saw the airship. It was 75 feet long, 25 feet wide, and there were 5 men in it. Two of the men were wrestling as the other 3 watched. When one of the men saw the witness, he threw down a piece of blue paper which read: "The great airship William J. Bryan bound for the Holy Land, No stop over allowed." (Ironton [O] Register, April 29, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Long Prairie, Minnesota-Rev. Nicholson and J. Van Dyke saw the airship for several minutes at night. It flashed different colored lights and was going southwest. (Long Prairie Leader, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Grant Park, Illinois-At night, Ted Laking saw a light to the northwest. It was going north in an undulating manner. (Momence [Ill] Reporter, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Galesville, Wisconsin-John Jones and his family saw a moving body overhead at night. It had colored lights, resembled a wagon box, moved at 50 knots per hour, and left toward Arcadia. (Galesville Independent, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Portsmouth, Ohio-At night, Billy Barker saw the airship. It was a dark object carrying 2 red lights. It was high and left toward New Boston rapidly. (Portsmouth Blade, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Bartlett, Texas-At night, a man thought he saw the airship but it was a boiler on a wagon with lanterns on the side. (Terrell [Tx] Times Star, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Cerrillos, New Mexico-At night, 30 people saw the airship. (Las Vegas [NM] Daily Optic, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Lewisburg, Kentucky-Many saw light moving southwest at a great height at night. (Owensboro [Ky] Daily Inquirer, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Somerville, Tennessee-At night, several saw a coal oil lamp and thought it was the airship. (Memphis [Tn] Commercial Appeal, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Kountze, Texas-Capt. H. Hooks and A. Hodges said the airship landed at night due to a puncture in an "air department". It was 50 feet long, 20 feet wide, and cigar shaped. There were 2 men on it, Wilson and Jackson, and they will remain on the ground until Monday. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 25, 1897)

(H)

April 23, 1897-Washington, Indiana-J. Miller, his wife, Ida Stephens, and others saw a dull red light moving northwest rapidly. It was 1 foot wide, 3 feet long, and a short distance up. Some heard a buzzing noise but did not see it. (Washington Daviess County Democrat, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Lincoln, Nebraska-Many saw the airship going towards Plattsinbuth. Some said it had large green eyes and a long tail, and some said the eyes were red. (Lincoln Nebraska State Journal, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-McKinney Bayou, Arkansas-Judge Lawrence A. Byrne saw the airship on the ground. It was manned by three men who looked like Japs and who spoke a foreign language. He was shown through the ship and said it was made of aluminum. It rose and fell by means of pumping gas into a tank. (Texarkana [Ark] Texarkanian, April 25, 1897)

(H)

(H)

April 23, 1897-Dupont, Ohio-A man saw the airship rise and fly away. He found a note from the crew saying they had traveled 4,000 miles and were going to find the North Pole. (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Fitchville, Ohio-The airship was seen moving slowly to the southeast. It was shaped like a huge fish and seen for 2 hours. Some said it was a large balloon. (Columbus [O] Sunday Press, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Hiawatha, Kansas-The airship was seen. (Atchison [Ks] Globe, April 24, 1897)

(H)

April 23, 1897-Chattanooga, Tennessee-The airship landed nearby in order for repairs to be made. The craft was "the exact shape of a shad, minus head and tail" and had two large wings equipped with knuckle and socket joints so that the wings could be moved up and down, back and forth. It was equipped with two engines, one electrical and one gasoline. It had a nine foot diameter propeller which turned at 900 rpm. The body was filled with hydrogen and had a lifting capacity of 1800 pounds. The passenger car was nine by four feet and made of aluminum and bamboo. The propeller was connected to a generator which produced the electricity for the searchlight. A News reporter saw it land and immediately went to the spot. He found two men doing some hammering on it. One of the men identified himself as "Prof. Charles Davidson" and said the airship was his invention. "The speaker was a slight, energetic man, apparently about 45 years old. He was attired in a suit of serviceable tweed, with sack coat. His companion, who was probably ten years his junior, whom he introduced as Henry J. Morris, of Sacramento, Cal., also the home of the professor, was similarly attired." Davidson stated that he had been born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and settled near Wilmington, NC, 18 years ago. He began working on the airship at that time. He met Morris and they became partners. They moved to Denver and then to Sacramento. They built the ship with parts from different sections of the country. They left Sacramento about a month ago, went down the coast, passed over Los Angeles, and since has passed over every state. They averaged about 93 miles per hour. Once the repairs were completed they left. "The reporter who wrote the above article is sometimes in the habit of stretching his imagination instead of his legs. The editor does not undertake to say which he relied on in getting up the above story.-Editor." (Knoxville [Tn] Tribune, April 25, 1897)

(H)

April 24, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-A strange buzzing sound was heard in the morning. The witnesses saw the airship going south, 200 feet up, and at 100 mph. A man was standing in the rear of the lower part of the cigar shaped craft. There were 2 other men sitting in the helm. The man in the rear dropped a card which bore the words "Mattoon, Illinois." (Louisville Courier-Journal, April 25, 1897)

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April 24, 1897-Columbus, Ohio-At 1900, the airship passed over the house of S. Beebe. It came to the ground with a "dull heavy, sickening thud" in an alley behind the house. It set fire to a barn and the airship was completely burned. (Columbus Sunday Press, April 25, 1897) The Akron [O] Beacon and Republican of April 26th reported that it was a meteor bursting.

April 24, 1897-Greenfield, Indiana-Emma Stephens, Mrs. George Johnson, and others saw the airship at 1930. It rose from the Greenfield Paper Mill filter to 50 feet up. It went northeast and carried a light at each end. A man was seen in front of a boat shaped basket. (Hancock [In] Weekly Democrat, April 29, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Interior, Michigan-At 2015, F. Waggoner and others saw a moving object to the southwest and going west. It veered to the north and south and up and down. It carried white, red, and pale green lights and was seen for 30 minutes. (Chicago [Il] Record, April 30, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Carthage, Missouri-T. B. House saw a sudden flash of white light flame out three times at 2030. Then there were 3 more flashes further to the northeast. He called out the rest of his family and the saw it for 20 minutes. It was a light like a searchlight and the 3 flashes were in quick succession and were about a minute apart. It was at a great height, moving northeast, then west, then back to the northeast. It was found to be a kite that was pulled around the city. (Carthage Press, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Lacoste, Texas-At 2050, the airship was seen by a large number of people for 10 minutes. It was going north at 60 mph at an altitude of 1/2 mile. It was 40 feet long, had a canvas covering, and circled the city. A telescope revealed 2 men in it. (San Antonio [Tx] Express, April 27, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Kansas City, Missouri-At 2100, many saw 2 bright lights to the northeast and 1/2 mile up. They were 75 feet apart with a dark shadow between the lights. The lights were reddish and much larger than stars. They were moving west to east and kept a constant distance apart. Once it gave a series of spasmodic upward leaps. It was seen by Constable Jeff Brennan. (Kansas City Times, April 25, 1897) The Kansas City Journal of April 25th reported that it was at 2200, 3 miles up, and left southeast.

April 24, 1897-Hillsboro, Wisconsin-Many saw a bright light approaching from the southeast at 2100. It came over the city, hovered, turned, and left rapidly east. It was the size of a water pail and had dark lines on the sides of the light. Some said it changed from white to red and blue. (Hillsboro Sentry, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Oxford, Mississippi-At 2230, Tom Harkins and Capt. Neill saw a cigar shaped thing coming at them. It sent forth rays of lights. They saw 5 heads looking over the sides. Attached and lying centrally beneath, there was a roll of some kind. (Greenwood [Ms] Enterprise, April 30, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Toledo, Ohio-At 2300, Howard Warn and his father saw the airship during a light rain. It was bright lights of different colors moving rapidly to the southwest. They were attached to a cigar shaped object, 500 feet up, and just beneath the clouds. There were no indication of wings or propellers. (Cleveland [O] Plain Dealer, April 28, 1897) The Toledo Bee of April 27, 1897, said it was 30 feet long and apparently round.

April 24, 1897-Laurel Heights, San Antonio, Texas-Before midnight, a man saw a strange, solitary light. (San Antonio Daily Express, April 26, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Cape May, New Jersey-During the evening, several saw a large ball of fire surmounted by a halo resembling a crow. It faded away to the south. (Scranton [Pa] Times, April 30, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Alice, Iowa-Many saw the airship in the evening sky. It carried 2 large white lights and moved rapidly. Some saw 2 great wings covered with electric lights of red, white, and blue. It was 500 feet up and some saw "Kansas City or Rust" on the lighted cupola. (Grundy Center [Ia] Grundy County Democrat, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Omer, Michigan-In the evening, "the tail of the airship seems to have brushed over Omer..." (Saginaw [Mi] Courier Herald, April 27, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Potosi, Wisconsin-A witness heard a whirring noise during the night. He saw the airship with 2 men sitting on the railing smoking cigarettes. When they saw the witness, one of them said, "Dull, get onto the bum mug" and laughed fiendishly. The witness' "face is on exhibition at Queen's Saloon for any who doubt his statement." (Chicago [Ill] Inter-ocean, April 26, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Rhanover, Illinois-At night, several saw a very bright light to the northwest and going northwest. It was rapid, moved in an unsteady manner, varied its height, and seen for 15 minutes. (Chester [Ill] Tribune, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Grano Junction, Colorado-At night, Orson Adams saw the airship going northwest at a terrific speed at 2,500 feet up. It was a cylinder like craft with outriggers and fan shaped sails with a steady light from the stern. (Denver [Col] Rocky Mountain News, April 26, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-At night, Cy Graham and Harry Purcell saw the airship. (Logansport Reporter, April 26, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Eagle River, Texas-Sheriff R. Dowe saw the airship and the 3 men on it said they had come from Uvalde where they spoke with Sheriff Baylor. They said they were going to Devils River in search of buffalo. They asked about Capt. Akers and was told he was over the river counting sheep. They got some water for the Rio Grande and left. (San Antonio [Tx] Express, April 27, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Washington, Pennsylvania-The airship was reported to have landed and the crew spent the day in town. The captain, William Gasser, was interviewed by a reporter. The story went that he and a group of men were living in the Rockies. There was a young man in the group whose name was Wonders and under his direction they built an airship. "We made the first stop at Carson City to see the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight, but as it was all a bluff we got sick and tired of it after the first four rounds and pulled out." "Why, we tried to sail by Topeka when the

populist smell that we could only go about four miles an hour." They then went to Chicago where "Altgeld heard of us and as it was but a few days before the Chicago election he came out and wanted us to help swell the Democratic majority." The rest of the article continues with political cuts like the above. It gave no real information concerning the airship nor the inventor. (Washington Observer, April 26, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Lorain, Ohio-The airship was seen and a letter was found by George Wickers. It read: "Aboard the Aurora, altitude 1,500 ft. The finder of this letter may be somewhat surprised when he reads the contents. Our ship is a simple affair. The hull or body is merely a wire netting covered with a very thin and light but extremely strong casing of oiled silk, through which neither water nor air can pass nor can the fiercest gale rent. It is filled with hydrogen gas. The hull is in the shape of a cigar and stayed with aluminum bars. It is 82 feet in length and 19 feet in diameter. The whole is supported by an egg shaped balloon about 35 feet in diameter. The motion is secured by a propeller wheel at the stern. This wheel is 15 feet in diameter and has 8 paddles run by storage batteries. The weight of the Aurora, including myself, wife, and child, bedding and edible, is only 928 pounds. It was made in an out of the way place near Santa Fe, N.M. From there our journey over the United States began. In a few days we will return to Mexico, where I have a much larger boat under construction, with which I hope to cross the seas. Hoping this letter will have the desired effect-that is solving a deep mystery-I remain sincerely yours. William R. Harris April 22, '97" (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 25, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Carlisle, Kentucky-The airship was seen. (Carlisle Mercury, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Portsmouth, Ohio-Agent Hughes found an envelope with a string and weight attached. It read: "On Board Electric Air Ship 'Buckeye' No. 5. April 23, 1897. To the people of Portsmouth: We passed over your city about 1:30 this morning at an altitude of 500. We are enroute to Washington, D.C. and want our friends to know that we are all well. Captain Air Ship no. 5 P.S. Please hand this to some paper so that our friends will be sure and hear from us. Captain 'Buckeye'" (Portsmouth Blade, April 24, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Westerville, Ohio-Three letters were found: 2 by Cyrus Riggle and 1 by Clave Boyer. One letter found by Mr. Riggle said it was written at 2,134 feet up. It described its journey through the air at 40 degrees parallel at 2130. The writer seemed to be (a friend of Arthur Burr of Columbus,) to whom the letter was directed. It was headed for Baltimore and signed Jim McX. The other letter he found was directed to Walter Hartrum of Westerville and written at 34 feet up. The letter found by Mr. Boyer was directed to him and thanked him for signal lights he had sent up. (Columbus [O] Press, April 25, 1897) (H)

April 25, 1897-San Antonio, Texas-Before 0100, many saw an object like a comet low to the northwest. It moved east, then south, and passed over the city 2 miles east of City Hall. The sky was heavily overcast and no stars were visible. It was a bright white light and as it turned and approached a dozen or more dim lights were seen on the side. There was a

cluster of green lights on one side and a cluster of red at the stern. It rose, lowered, and left southeast. (San Antonio Daily Express, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Rusk, Texas-At 0230, the witness was awoken by a roaring noise and saw a large object 100 feet up and 200 yards away. He left and returned with another witness and they found that the airship had landed and some men were working on the wings. One of the men asked for some 20 penny nails, which he was given. The wings were 45 feet long, the craft 275 feet long and 12 feet deep. It used compressed air at 150 psi. It had immense headlights at each end and 13 red and green side lights. The inventor came from Wisconsin and said he built five of the airships in a small town in Kansas. (Houston [TX] Post, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-near Austin, Texas-At 0300, George Proctor, Ted Robin, and Jno. Caldwell saw the airship during a rain. At intervals of every few seconds it would throw its searchlight. It was as big as 4 arc lights. It came from behind Mount Sennell and left north after 15 minutes. (Austin Statesman, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Roseville, Illinois-George Smith saw the airship at 0530. It was high, seen by others, and going east rapidly. (London [O] Times, April 25, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Metagorda, Texas-At 1200, several saw an object going west. (Houston [TX] Post, April 30, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Mt. Gilead, Ohio-Many saw a great light high in the air at 1000. It was moving northwest and had several lesser lights at the rear. Its headlight was like that of a train. It came down until it was just above the trees. It was very red and its movements were slow and easy like a balloon. (Mt. Gilead Union Register, May 12, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Johnson City, Illinois-At 2000, John Kopp saw the airship moving northwest. (Marion [Ill] Leader, April 29, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Clarksville, Tennessee-Many saw a bright light to the southwest at 2045. It was cloudy and raining. It moved quickly about and was 1/2 mile up. (Clarkeville Leaf Chronicle, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Marshall, Missouri-At 2100, many saw a red light going east. (Marshall Saline Citizen, April 28, 1897) The Kansas City [MO] Times of April 26, 1897, reported that it came from the southwest and had several colored lights.

April 25, 1897-Van Alstyne, Texas-At 2130, the headlight of a train was mistaken for the airship. (Dallas [TX] Morning News, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Tonganoxie, Kansas-H. Kline and others saw a moving light at 2200. It was white, then red, and would dim and brighten. It moved north, then south, and left west. It was seen the next night also. (Tonganoxie Mirror, April 29, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-At 2230, 3 men saw the airship moving erratically like a kite. It had red, white, and blue lights. (Logansport Daily Reporter, April 27, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Ogden, Utah-Many saw a long, cigar shaped object at 2300. In the center there seemed to be a cabin with different colored lights. It floated about for 2 hours before leaving west. It would hover, dart about, rise, and fall. (Salt Lake City [Ut] Daily Tribune, April 29, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Rosanky, Texas-At 2320, the airship was seen 200 feet up. It made a noise like a swarm of bees, had 3 bright lights, and was 20 feet long. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 29, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Ballyhacky, Virginia-About midnight, the airship was seen sailing over Mill Mountain. It was going toward Hollins and hovered briefly over Virginia College. The voices of O. Marston, L. Davis, W. Eberhardt, City Editor Pepper, and W. Daniel could be heard singing "Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming." The airship was white, like a large swan, and had flapping wings. A flash of light from it lit up the area and showed 2 men drinking behind a barn. It had colored lights in arrangement like the British flag. When it was last seen, it was sailing over northeast Roanoke and voices heard singing "We Won't go Home Till Morning". (Roanoke [Va] Times, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Belleplaine, Kansas-During the evening, many saw a bright light to the northeast. It had curious antics and unsteady movements. It was a little above the horizon. (Belleplaine News, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Allenton, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship with colored lights in the evening. It was only a balloon. (West Bend [Wis] Democrat, May 5, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Sunbury, Ohio-W. Whittier took a photo of lightning in the evening. It showed the flash of lightning, clouds, and the outlines of an airship. (Dayton [O] Daily Journal, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Fort Wayne, Indiana-A strange light was seen at night, but it turned out to be a steeple climber with a lantern. (Fort Wayne News, April 27, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Chanute, Kansas-At night, many saw a large dark red light. It came from the northeast and moved in a zigzag manner to the southwest. It was a fiery red light larger than a star. It went west, then south, then north, and left west. (Chanute Tribune, April 27, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Merkel, Texas-At night, many saw the airship dragging a heavy object on a large rope. It caught to a railroad track. It had a searchlight and smaller lights shining from windows. After 10 minutes, a man descended the rope and he was small and wore a blue sailor suit. He stopped when he saw the people, cut the rope, and the ship left northeast. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Callaway, Nebraska-Charly Thompson heard the sound of distant music moving rapidly northeast. The music was distinct and the notes of several instruments were heard. It was heard by Ed Bennett, Max Field, Joe Savidge, and others. Fred Hutton saw something moving in the air. (Callaway Courier, April 30, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Emporia, Kansas-The airship was seen at night. (Emporia Gazette, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Freeland, Michigan-At night, Leonard and Henry Krause saw the airship. (Saginaw [MI] Courier Herald, April 30, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Moran, Indiana-Conductor Price, Harry Fender, Robert Wilson, and David Matheman saw the airship going northwest with its headlight burning. (Frankfort [In] Daily Crescent, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Warrenton, Oregon-Several saw a very large balloon moving slowly northwest. (Warrenton Port Oregon Tribune, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 26, 1897-Salida, Colorado-At 0010, several saw a strange light directly overhead. It was like a searchlight with green, blue, and red and was going north. The next day a message was found in a broken beer bottle. It reads: "Midair, April 25, 1897. To Whomever, et al; We are three belated, bewinded, bedrizzled, and bedimmed aerialists who are awing through the heavens uncomfortably near the angels. We have risen our envisions and are living on dried apples, prunes, and navy beans. We are too full of these either for comfort or utterance. We would like to get down to pay our taxes. We would also like to behold the bosom of our families. We know when we have got enough. We have run out of water but the stock of evaporated fruit of Adam still holds out. We can't hold our jobs and stay up here. We need a change of shirts. We desire to be buried in Mother Earth, as graves can not be kept green in the clouds. We also need a change of socks. For the sake of humanity come up and pluck us down. J. W. Pillsbury, Boston, Peer Hooombert, Boston, Andon Fricasee, Paris, F.S. Please bring metallic caskets for 3 if you can't start inside the next 4 days." (Salida Mail Twice a Week, April 27, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Buena Vista, Colorado-At 0030, a light was seen passing over going north. (Salida [Col] Mail Twice a Week, April 27, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Emmettsburg, Iowa-Charly Terwiliger was awakened at 0300 by a noise like a whistle. He saw a large, bright light, with a lesser light on each side, going northeast. It passed low over a ball park. He and his wife watched it leave to the northeast. (Emmettsburg Democrat, April 28, 1897)

→ April 26, 1897-Little Rock, Arkansas-At 0515, C. Lawrence was awakened by someone saying that a large balloon was hovering over Baring Cross. He and others saw what looked like a large balloon moving south at a rapid rate. It approached toward the river, veered east, then north, and left. During the 15 minutes that it was seen, he took a photo. It showed a cigar like object, 40 feet long, with a car hanging beneath it. It had a

heavy anchor on a long rope, propeller at one end, and was going 50 mph.
(Little Rock Arkansas Democrat, April 26, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Trenton, New Jersey-People at City Hall saw an object that was 1 mile up at noon. It was moving very slowly and glittered in the sun. Glasses revealed that it was shaped like an immense cigar and probably made of aluminum. By 1300, it had worked well to the west and disappeared behind some clouds. (Trenton Evening News, April 27, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Elkton, Tennessee-At 1900, residents heard a dog barking and saw the airship. It was cigar shaped and had immense white wings and guy ropes and rods. They saw 3 men frantically waving their hands and the craft seemed to be out of working order. (Clarksville [Tn] Chronicle, May 1, 1897)

(H)

April 26, 1897-Mt. Ephrain, Ohio-At 1930, many saw the airship pass to the west of the city. (Caldwell [O] Press, April 29, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Columbus, Ohio-Sam Six heard a terrific noise like the passage of a flock of pigeons at 2030. He saw the airship 960 feet up. He saw that it was a large airship followed by 4 smaller ones. He pointed them out to others. They came from the north, gradually turned south, passed over Camp Chase, and left toward Grove City. All of them were egg shaped, pure white, and rigged in the latest styles of sailing riggings. The largest one was 80 feet long and the smallest was 25 feet. (Columbus Evening News, April 27, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Trenton, New Jersey-At 2100, Peter McAuley and about 100 others saw what appeared to be brilliant shooting stars in the rain. The next morning, McAuley found a package wrapped in manilla paper and tied with ravelings of cloth. It was a Boston baked bean can with a note inside. The note read: "In the clouds; April 26, '97; night-to whom it may interest: A terrific wind and rain storm, which has been raging has just abated. Our airship revolved like a leaf in a minature whirlwind. Nearly three weeks ago we descended upon a vast prairie, evidently in the western states. Since then we've been sailing, we know not where. We've been out of water frequently, and as often have melted snow for relief. Please notify Maurice Porter, Greenwich, New York. He knows who we are. We hourly expect to perish. We are Four." McAuley now felt that the shooting stars were distress signals. (Trenton Evening Times, April 27, 1897)

(H)

April 26, 1897-Winterset, Iowa-Between 2100 and 2200, many saw the airship to the southeast. It passed gracefully over the eastern part of the city to the northwest. It was 1/2 mile up, moved rapidly, and carried a red light. It sank out of sight to the northwest. (Winterset Review, April 28, 1897) The Winterset Semi-Weekly Madisonian of April 27th said it was a balloon.

April 26, 1897-Atchison, Kansas-Half a dozen people saw a large yellowish light to the northwest at 2200. It ascended to several thousand feet and was like a toy balloon. It was seen for 3 minutes before it left to the northwest. (Atchison Daily Globe, April 27, 1897) The Globe of the next day said it was a balloon.

April 26, 1897-Sidnaw, Michigan-At 2300, a man saw 3 large lights moving southeast at 60 mph. They were red, green, and white and were 2,000 feet up. He could plainly see a cigar shaped object with a basket beneath which resembled a street car. (Marquette [Mi] Mining News, May 1, 1897)

(H) April 26, 1897-Reno County, Kansas-A lone witness heard the sound of wings at 2300. He soon saw a large dark object with small lights in the fore and aft. It was to the northwest and going northeast at 1/2 mile up. A glass revealed that it was like an immense 3 masted schooner with sails and jibe set. He saw a man standing at the wheel steering the craft. It had a rudder shaped like a wind vane and was being followed by 5 lines of geese. (Hutchison [Ks] News, April 30, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Bayard, Nebraska-Lute Roberts saw the airship passing to the northeast at 2330. He could distinctly hear the whir of machinery and it carried a powerful light. It seemed to have wings and it moved at a very fast rate. (Bayard Transcript, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 26, 1897-Santo, Texas-At midnight, A. Lamon and Tom Humphrey saw the airship and the man in front. Dropped a letter to them. (Pale Pinto [Tx] County Star, May 7, 1897)

(H) April 26, 1897-Pigeon Roost, Ohio-The airship was seen to land, a door opened, and a man came out. The ship was 40 feet long, 8 feet wide, pointed at both ends, had slowly flapping wings, and landed on 10 legs, 5 on each side. One of the men said he invented the airship in southern California and it could go 200 mph. On it were instruments that could locate anything on earth from coal mines to prohibition drug stores. "Just then an agonizing cry attracted the attention of the men and they turned around to see the cow down on her knees, praying in an audible voice to--and we would like to make this lie a little bigger, but a storm is raging and telephone connection with Joe Mulhatton is broken and our base of supplies is cut off." (New Lexington [O] Perry County Tribune, April 29, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Norwalk, Connecticut-Many saw a fire at sea that looked like a burning vessel. However, no vessels were reported missing that night. (Brooklyn [NY] Daily Times, April 27, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Atchison, Kansas- A bright light was seen that charged color and zigzagged at night. It turned out to be a star. (Atchison Champion, April 28, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Burr Oak, Kansas-At night, the airship was seen. (Burr Oak Herald, April 29, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Carthage, Missouri-Rev. Sifton, his family, and others saw 3 lights in a row to the northeast. They were at a great height and in a horizontal row. The lights were 10 feet apart, fluttered a moment, turned south, and became 1 light. (Nevada [Mo] Mail, April 28, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Fort Wayne, Indiana-A steeple climber with a lantern was thought to be the airship. (Fort Wayne News, April 27, 1897)

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April 26, 1897-Lansing, Michigan-The airship landed at the Taylor House and the crew consisted of a correspondent for the Arizona Kicker and 3 others. After 15 minutes, they left for Cuba and from there they were going east to watch the "Greeks kick the Turks for a few hours." Then it was going to Topeka to find out all about the bribery investigating business, and how much hush money Representative Keefer got from Bailey Waggoner." (Lansing News, April 29, 1897) (H)

April 26, 1897-Devine, Texas-The airship was seen 300 feet up and going south at a rapid rate. It was 40 feet long and there were 7 or 8 people in it. A piece of paper fell from it which read, "This is the best part of Texas we have passed over. The climate seems delightful, the air pure and the scenery picturesque. In fact we are prone to pronounce this the finest country that a flying machine ever flew over. Tell them that you saw us." (San Antonio [Tx] Express, April 28, 1897) (H)

April 27, 1897-Fitzgerald, Georgia-At daybreak, several saw a huge floating vessel. It was 1/4 mile up, moving 100 mph, and the outlines and lights were plainly visible. (Atlanta [Ga] Journal, April 27, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Iola, Kansas-Frank Travis and W. Cubertson heard a whining noise above them in the afternoon. They saw a cigar shaped airship, 300-400 yards away. It had an immense turbine wheel at the stern, a balloon above, and a sort of platform beneath. It was going northeast at a rapid rate. (Iola Register, April 30, 1897)

April 27, 1897-south of Portsmouth, Ohio-A cigar shaped object was seen at 1930. It was brilliantly illuminated with at least a score of lights. The numerous witnesses saw men moving about it as if making repairs. (Portsmouth Blade, April 28, 1897) (H)

April 27, 1897-Fairplain, Pennsylvania-At 2045, a man saw a very bright light moving west rapidly. It would occasionally turn sideways and show a red light on the side and a green one on the end. It would rise and fall and was seen for 55 minutes by him and others. (Erie [Pa] Daily Times, May 4, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Meadville, Pennsylvania-Several saw the airship at 2150. It was 1,000 feet up and moving swiftly in the overcast sky. It was brilliantly illuminated and threw out bright rays. It was 30 feet long, canoe shape, and 1 man saw 4 men seated in it. These men were of ordinary size, had long snowy white beards, and one of them seemed to be propelling or guiding the machine as it left to the southwest. (Meadville Gazette, April 30, 1897) (H)

April 27, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 2230, Jud Wichham saw what looked like a train headlight with a blinding glare. It slowly turned and revealed a cigar shape with a balloon above it. It hovered briefly and left southeast. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 29, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Norwich, New York-At 2330, the airship was seen going south at an altitude of 100 feet. It was cylindrical shaped, 25 to 30 feet long and had a fan shaped screw at the stern. The witness heard a shout and saw a man's head. Something fell and hit the horse. It was a

(H) lead pipe with a note which read: "On board the 'Icarus,' April 27, 1897. Machine partly disabled; unable to proceed further north against the wind. Going back to southern station for repairs and will return to Norwich Friday forenoon next. I. Green." (Norwich Sun, April 28, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Leavenworth, Kansas-Lts. Lindsey, Wolfe, Birch, and Murphy saw the airship pass over to the northwest at midnight. (Leavenworth Times, April 28, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Philadelphia, Pennsylvania-A man saw 2 mysterious lights moving rapidly to the southwest. They were like 2 powerful calcium lights and shed rays in a number of directions. He thought it made a whirring sound and saw a 50 foot long cigar shaped shadow. (Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, April 29, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Geneseeville, Michigan-Several saw the airship with red, blue, and green light to the west. It went south, retraced its path, and left upwards. (Flint [Mi] Daily News, April 28, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Dak Mills, Kansas-Many saw 2 strange lights that were 25 feet apart and going southwest rapidly. They were the size of train headlight and seemed to be lowering very fast. The one in front seemed to be moved from side to side and up and down. The other was a small green light. When they were 1 mile away, they turned and went east. This revealed a large body between the lights. (Atchison [Ks] Daily Champion, April 28, 1897)

(H) April 27, 1897-Point Pleasant, West Virginia-Capt. Sam Parsons and others heard a rumbling and hissing sound. They saw the airship sailing rapidly to the south. It had brilliant red headlights and a cigar shaped body. After crossing the Kanwaha, it slowed and hovered. Parson saw a man at one of the openings smoking a cigar. (Point Pleasant Weekly Register, April 28, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Mattawan, Michigan-At 0330, a large light was seen going southwest at 70-80 mph. It was in view for several minutes. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Weekly Telegraph, May 5, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Austin, Texas-In the early morning, Otto Porsch was awoken by dogs barking and growling. He saw a glare of light on the clouds. All of the dogs were barking at something overhead. He saw a great light moving slowly from southeast to northwest and was 300-400 feet up. After it passed him he saw that the rear was V or fish tail shaped. There was movement on each side like the flapping of wings. It increased speed and left in the drizzling rain. It was seen by several others. (Austin Statesman, April 29, 1897) The Austin Evening News of April 28, 1897, said that it was at 0430, 250 feet up, and shaped like a skiff. It was large, wide in the center, and tapered at the ends to form a cigar shaped craft. It was seen for 10 minutes.

April 28, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 1930, a light was seen at 45 degree elevation and moved slowly east. In 15-20 minutes, it reached the zenith and was drifting east. It was 1,000 feet up and appeared like a bat of light. It was perpendicular and 2 feet long. As it came closer, it

assumed the shape of a huge kite with lights on the perpendicular part of the frame and at each outside corner. As it hung in the zenith, it appeared less brilliant. (Toledo [O] Blade, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Marietta, Indiana-At 2000, a man heard a shrill blast of a trumpet from above. He saw an object resembling a huge butterfly with a body like a torpedo boat and a caudal appendage like that of a catfish. It had 2 wings and he heard the music of a caliope. The music stopped and one of the passengers asked through a trumpet, "What town is this over here to the northwest?" The witness answered that it was Bengal. The voice said, "Well, that is the muddiest town we have seen in all our journey." A package fell and the airship left toward Smithland. The package contained a pair of boxing gloves. (Shelbyville [In] Twice a Week Republican, May 7, 1897)

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April 28, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 2000, Ralph Meyer saw a peculiarly shaped light at 40 degree elevation. It was seen until 2130. (Cleveland Leader, May 4, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 2030, Mr. and Mrs. John Rieber saw a faint light to the west. There were 3 lights arranged with 1 in front and 2 farther back beside each other. From these, extended comet like tails. (Cleveland Leader, May 3, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Auburn, Indiana-Between 2000 and 2100, Chas. Fisher saw a cigar shaped airship with 2 green lights. (Auburn Courier, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-Between 2030 and 2100, S. Blak saw something in the sky. It was 4 feet long and 15 inches wide. It grew brighter and he pointed it out to others. When it was somewhat southeast, a beam of light shot out from one end. This beam was brighter at its source than at the end of the ray which spread out. This subsided and then reappeared. This was repeated several times at 30 second intervals. It was going west very slowly. (Cleveland Leader, May 2, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Salem, Ohio-Many saw the airship at 2100. It was a bright streak of light, many feet long, and ending in a globe of light at each end. It would disappear and reappear at 2-5 minute intervals. It was 1 mile away and one end was higher than the other. It was moving northeast, turned, and left west. (Salem Daily Herald, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Monmouth, Illinois-At 2130, 2 men saw something sail over. It had 3 colored lights and left east against a wind. (Monmouth Daily News, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Richmond, Indiana-Several saw a strange light to the northwest at 2200. It was very bright, 8 feet long, and would dim and brighten. (Richmond Daily Register, April 29, 1897) The Richmond Evening Item of April 29, 1897, said it was a kite with lanterns being pulled around.

April 28, 1897-Cincinnati, Ohio-At 2200, Officer John Ringer and others saw a string of lights moving across the sky. There was 1 large light in front with a row of smaller lights. They were high and moving rapidly to the northwest. (Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Glenville, Ohio-W. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. T. Small, and others saw a large body in the evening sky. It was just lights gradually growing dimmer as they went northwest. (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Fox Lake, Minnesota-The airship was seen at night. (Sherburne [Mn] Advance, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 28, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-A man claimed to have taken a trip on the airship to Evansville. There were 5 men on it and one of them took ill and was left at Evansville. He was returned and landed near Jeffersonville. He said they were leaving for London, England, and that he would send a cablegram to the Journal. (Louisville Journal, April 30, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Conroe, Texas-B. Hord saw the airship at a great distance and going southwest. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Salida, Colorado-At 0020, hundreds saw the light of the airship. It seemed to go straight up, then sailed over the city. When it was over the town, a bright light like a searchlight was displayed. After a few seconds, it changed to red and left toward Buena Vista. (Phoenix [Az] Arizona Gazette, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Buena Vista, Colorado-A strange light was seen at 0030. (Phoenix [Az] Arizona Gazette, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 29, 1897-Dayton, Michigan-Two residents saw the airship at 0200. It was a big cigar with a basket hanging beneath it. There were lights around the basket and the forms of 3 people were seen in it. It was going south at a rapid rate. (Detroit [Mi] Free Press, May 1, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Elyria, Ohio-In the early morning, Judge Himmer and others saw the airship pass over. (Delaware [O] Semi-Weekly Gazette, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Malta, Colorado-An operator saw a red light approach from the south in the early morning. It changed its course and left west. (Phoenix [Az] Arizona Gazette, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Munroe Falls, Ohio-At 2100, C. Gaylord heard a dog barking furiously and saw the airship moving west at a rapid rate. It was about 1,000 feet up and he pointed it out to others. (Akron [O] Times Democrat, May 5, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Holton, Michigan-At 2330, the airship was seen to come from the north and descended to 200 feet. It was lit with electricity and loaded with revellers. It was 300 feet long, 90 feet wide and deep, and had a 40 foot tail. After 55 minutes, the tail began to whirl and

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it moved off toward Fremont. A grappling hook was let down and caught a man who was hoisted aboard and carried away. He returned on the 2330 train from White Cloud. (Muskegon [Mi] Daily Chronicle, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Wellsville, Ohio-The airship was seen and a letter was found. The letter was rather longwinded. It was dated April 29, 1897, 11 p.m., and said "Aboard the Aurora." The letter said they had planned to go to New York City, but were forced to return homeward as "Baby has taken the measles..." They were making 70 miles per hour with favorable wind. It indicated that another letter had been dropped last Friday and believed it was over Lorain, O. They had met with an accident last Saturday and took him three days to make repairs. It said a better ship was being built with a 40 foot wheel of 1500 rpm to give 200 mph. It was signed "William R. Harris." (Wellsville Daily Union, May 1, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Washburn, Wisconsin-Over 100 people saw the airship at night. It was like a star with 1 corner dipped in Paris green or some other color. One man said it was like one of Capt. McDougal's "whale-backs" or "pigs." (Washburn Times, May 5, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Melrose, Colorado-At night, 2 men saw a cigar shaped object and heard a voice giving orders. A message was dropped for it saying that the name of the airship was "Alpha" and that it was headed for California. A searchlight was seen and the laughter of women was heard. (Denver [Co] Times, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Mt. Vernon, Ohio-At night, several saw the airship to the northeast. It passed over their heads as it went southwest. It was seen 5-8 minutes and they felt that it was a paper balloon. (Mt. Vernon Republican, May 1, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Albuquerque, New Mexico-Two men saw a bright light to the east in the night sky. It landed and they saw the outlines of a ship and heard a buzzing sound. They approached to within 50 feet of it before they were confronted by 2 men. They were dressed in seal's fur, over 7 feet tall, and had ivory clubs in their right hands. The spoke in broken English and wanted to know what city it was and what the bright light was. They were told that it was the Metropolitan White Front Restaurant. They ordered a bucket of ice cream and pigs feet and left. As they left they said, "The White Front is out of sight." (Albuquerque Morning Democrat, April 30, 1897)

April 30, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-Robert Ray saw a strange object in the sky at 0400. It was a ball of fire the size of a cart wheel. It was to the north and moving east to west. It would decrease to a small, dim star, then burst forth again, giving off sparks like a rocket. When it was its brightest, it hurt the eyes to look at it. (Logansport Pharos, May 1, 1897)

April 30, 1897-Greenwich, Ohio-At 2100, G. Jacoby saw the airship at 45 degree elevation and going east. It was raining and the stars were not visible. It was all lit up and larger than an ordinary passenger coach. It had 2 large lights in the rear and other lights with dark objects

between them. It moved in an undulating fashion at the speed of a train.
(Cleveland [O] Leader, May 2, 1897)

(H) April 30, 1897-between Cedar Rapids, Nebraska, and Albion, Nebraska-At night, Elie Morehead, Frank Lick, George Williams, and Stark Inghram saw a bright light blaze across their path. The heard the rattling of machinery and the hum of voices. When it was first seen, it was near the ground and gradually rose to 1 mile up and left. They went to where it was and found a monkey wrench, a long necked bottle (supposed to have held "city water") and a cork screw. The bottle was empty. Dr. Brash said that when a man sees airships he should take something for his liver. (Albion Argus, May 7, 1897)

April 30, 1897-Middlesborough, Kentucky-Gillis Hendricks saw the airship at night. It was conical in shape and carried white and blue signals. It did not travel in any given direction for 30 seconds, but veered alternately to the 4 winds. (Louisville [Ky] Courier Journal, May 2, 1897)

April 30, 1897-Miles City, Montana-At night, Capt. James McNeill, Mrs. Walters, and others saw the airship. (Miles City Weekly Yellowstone Journal, May 1, 1897)

(H) April 30, 1897-Kellerton, Iowa-The airship landed at night. The occupant woke the witness and asked for a pipe of tobacco. The witness was asked to go away on the airship, but he declined. (Mt. Ayr [Ia] Record, May 6, 1897)

(H) April 30, 1897-Marion, Ohio-A reporter saw the airship land and approached it. He met 2 occupants of it and they gave him a cigar. The airship was 6 x 10 feet in size and 3 feet deep. It was suspended from a 40 foot long cylinder that was pointed at both ends. It was powered by electricity and propelled by 4 8 foot wide turbine wheels, above, behind, and on the sides. It had 2 wings that were 5 feet wide and 18 feet long. The 2 men gave their names as Charlie Ross and William Patterson and they said the name of the airship was the Air Queen. The remainder of the article concerned cuts on various Ohio cities and political figures. (Marion Daily Star, May 1, 1897)

The following is a listing of the sightings that were undated, but occurred during April. These reports are ones in which the date was not given and usually referred to as last week, a few days ago, or at least during April. There is no significance to their order and they will be presented with no date heading.

Nashville, Tennessee-Sam Keith, president of the 4th National Bank, saw a strange object sailing through the sky. He used banking terms to describe it and said that it had 2 golden yellow lights and 1 the color of a 50 cent piece. (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

Boot Lake, Michigan-At night, Henry Northrup saw the airship land in Boot Lake. Wm. Jones, C. Snell, and F. Blanot swear they saw it land on or sink into the lake. (Wayland [Mi] Globe, April 24, 1897)

Lec, Michigan-Between 2200 and 2300, a bright light was seen to emerge from the river. It was a ball of light the size of a hen's egg, 10 feet up, made a whizzing sound, and moved in a zigzag manner. (Detroit [Mi] News, April 6, 1897)

Galesburg, Michigan-A hunter found a hole in the ground saw the outlines of some iron instrument. Visions of airships and grappling hooks arose before him and he made all speed to town to report his discovery. A correspondent jumped at conclusions and that day the papers told of the anchor that had been dropped by the ship of space and the hole it had made in the earth by the force of its fall. The next day, a party found a steel trap in the entrance of a skunk's dwelling place. (Grand Rapids [Mi], April 23, 1897)

Parkersburg, West Virginia-The airship seen here was a kite with a lantern on the tail. (Parkersburg Daily State Journal, April 23, 1897)

Paducah, Kentucky-A fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Paducah Daily News, April 22, 1897)

Pillsbury, Kansas-A man named Tolliver had arrived from Weir City on the train. He said the airship had been seen by hundreds of people at Weir City and was 150 to 200 feet up. The man on it lost his Fredonia hat which fell and was found to bear the mark of a Kansas City clothier. The agent wired Weir City and was informed that no one there saw it except for Tolliver and no one believed him. (Galena [Ks] Evening Times, April 20, 1897)

Farley, Iowa-At night, some men on a train saw a blazing red light that oscillated. It was identified as Alpha Orionis. (Dubuque [Ia] Telegraph, April 14, 1897)

Saginaw, Michigan-Lumberman Quinnin said he had recieved a call from a Bay City lumberman and coal dealer who said that a lady had call him needing 250,000 to 300,000 tons of coal to fuel her airship for its return trip to the North Pole. He told her that he did not have enough and advised her to try the coal mines in Saginaw. The night force said they saw a boat shaped machine land and they heard a female voice. It said that the airship was the Pegasus and that her husband had spent 19 years inventing it. It had just been completed at the North Pole when he died and she decided to make the initial trip. She desired 300,000 tons of coal and an electric shovel on the ship loaded this in 30 minutes. Everyone who ventured to 100 feet of it recieved an electric shock. She said that no one of this earth would learn her secret. She said the story of the letter and the sailor's needle at Battle Creek was a lie. She said they were on their way to Reynolds to check on the man injured by her 9 1/2 foot tall engineer. If he was seriously hurt, she was prepared to give him \$100,000, as she was immensely wealthy. (Saginaw Courier Herald, April 22, 1897)

Shoals, Indiana-James Rogers saw the airship and on the cow-catcher saw a long white-bearded populist reading the Referendum. (Shoals Referendum, April 22, 1897)

Lacey, Michigan-The airship was seen but it was a saw in a tree reflecting light. (Marshall [Mi] Chronicle, April 27, 1897)

Winslow, Illinois-A great red light was seen to rise out of the woods north and east of town. It bounced up and down, then swung to the east and back to the west. It seemed to be a cigar shaped airship in distress. After searching fully an hour, they found on the tallest tree short pieces of peculiarly woven rope. A short distance from town was found an odd shaped hole in the ground. There was no dirt piled up about it as if something had been driven into the earth. They dug and noticed the clay about the hole had a baked appearance and was very warm. At ten or twelve feet down the spades struck some hard substance. It proved to be half of an iron wheel resembling an emery wheel some ten feet in diameter. It was of a very light metal of a greenish hue. Farther on was what must have been ballast like ashes but was twice as heavy as ordinary sand. (Freeport Ill Bulletin, April 15, 1897)

Koskonong, Wisconsin-A bright light was seen moving slowly as if looking for something. (Fort Atkinson [Wi] Jefferson County Union, April 23, 1897)

Keokuk, Iowa-A balloon was seen as the airship. (Newton [Ia] Journal, April 14, 1897)

Beaver, Wisconsin-Between 1900 and 2100, several saw the airship to the west. (Wausaukee [Wi] Independent, April 24, 1897)

Whitewater, Wisconsin-Capt. Kiser saw the airship to the west at 2100. It was several times brighter than Venus. (Whitewater Register, April 15, 1897)

Homan, Arkansas-Capt. "Jim" Hooton said he saw the airship on the ground near at 1800. It made a sound like an air pump and there was a man wearing smoked glasses working on something. The man said it was the airship. Three or four more men came out of the keel. The front of the the ship ended in a knife like edge and the sides bulged gradually to middle, then receded. There were three large wheels on each side, four paddles at rear, and aeroplanes on top. The man said they used condensed air as motive power. (Little Rock [Ark] Arkansas Gazette, April 22, 1897) The Kansas City (MO) World of April 24th printed a statement by Hooton that it was a hoax.

Hankinson, North Dakota-A kite with a lantern attached was seen as the airship. (Hankinson News, April 1897 issue)

LeRoy, Minnesota-The airship was seen in the evening. (Austin [Mn] Mower County Transcript, April 21, 1897)

Aroma, Indiana-The airship hovered over the city and a line was let down with an order for compressed natural gas which was supplied. Then another line was let down with an order for water and provisions and gold coin was supplied. These were obtained, sent up, and it left. (Noblesville [In] Hamilton County Ledger, April 23, 1897)

Sioux Falls, South Dakota-The airship was seen but it was a balloon hoax. (Madison [SD] Sentinel, April 23, 1897)

Marion, Indiana-At 0200, Ralph Johnson saw a red light in the sky. (Marion Chronicle, April 23, 1897)

East Palestine, Ohio-The reflection of the city lights were thought to be the airship. (East Palestine Revielle Echo, April 29, 1897)

Luxemburg, Nebraska-Pete Brown said that he rode in the airship and the captain was a man named Thompson. He was taken over the course "pursued by Jack McCall in his race for governorship." It was built on Phil Smith's island. Fred Morgan was the engineer and the man who struck Pat Murphy was Second Mate. "The ship is run be wind collected by following up Billy Bryan during his campaign tour." (Bellwood [Nb] Gazette, April 30, 1897)

Clarence, Iowa-The airship was seen and identified as a kite with a lantern attached. (Tipton [Ia] Advertiser, April 22, 1897)

Elburn, Illinois-It was reported that some men saw the airship land. They found 2 men with it. It weighed 500 pounds and was made of light material. They conversed with the men but learned little. They said they were going from the Pacific to the Atlantic and were following the Northwestern Railway. (Rockford [Ill] Republic, April 12, 1897)

Nashville, Tennessee-A man was up late working on Centennial Stock Certificates. He saw a huge machine pulling, blowing, and flashing different colored lights. He saw a man in the stern putting on earthbrakes. He wore a cap and put something to his face, either a telescope or a bottle. There was the sound of tingling of bells as the ship went toward the Centennial Grounds. It was about 200 feet up. (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

Eddyville, Iowa-A man said the airship landed in order for repairs to be made. On it were 25 men, and while repairs were being made, they scattered through the timber making a geological study. A whistle sounded and the men returned to the airship, it rose, and left. They found traces in the form of potatoe peel and corn husk and a man who had been left behind. His language was unknown and he was placed in a cage for exhibition. The people on it were from a country beyond the North Pole. (Eddyville Tribune, April 23, 1897)

Larned, Kansas-A kite with a lantern attached to the tail was thought to be the airship. (Santa Fe [Ks] Trail, April 15, 1897)

Waseca County, Minnesota-A man saw the airship descending toward a pond. He ran toward it and saw some men laughing at him. When he neared it, it turned tail to earth and left. (Windom [Mn] Reporter, April 22, 1897)

Nauvoo, Illinois-A balloon was thought to be the airship. (Nauvoo Rustler, April 20, 1897)

Hiawathia, Kansas-At 2100, Rev. E. Smith saw a red light. (Hiawathia Brown County World, April 16, 1897)

(H) Taos, New Mexico-At 1930, on the eve of Good Friday, the airship was seen circling several thousand feet up and music was heard. It was like an immense eagle with enormous wings, a fan shaped tail, and a very long neck ending in a head with a headlight. The cap had strange hieroglyphical characters like old English letters or German text. A cowboy fired several shots at it and it came to a stop. A clear voice said "perfuchte schwinehund" and it left south. On the tail were the words "Avril Nahr" which means "April Fool." (Pueblo [Co] Daily Chieftain, April 23, 1897)

Grand Haven, Michigan-D. Lane, A. Thomas, Rev. Richardson and others saw the airship with red and green lights at 2130. (Grand Haven Tribune, April 16, 1897)

Sandusky, Ohio-A military kite was seen as the airship on several occasions. (Sandusky Register, April 28, 1897)

(H) Deadwood, Texas- H. C. Legrone reported that he heard a commotion caused by his horses at 2000. He saw a light 1/4 mile away and 300 feet up moving southwest to northeast. It circled, hovered, then landed in a field. There were 5 in the crew, 3 of whom talked with him and the other 2 fetched some water. They said this was one of 5 airship cruising over the country and was the same one that landed at Beaumont. They were constructed in Illinois and that a factory would be built in St. Louis. They carried a good supply of food, beer, champagne, and musical instruments. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 30, 1897)

Maple Grove, Wisconsin-At 2100, Rev. Ryan saw a mysterious object bearing colored lights. It rose in the east, moved northwest, and went down behind a hill. Pat Linane went over the hill and saw it. (Brillion [Wi] News, April 30, 1897)

Camp Point, Illinois-Venus was thought to be the airship which disappeared and reappeared. (Camp Point Journal, April 21, 1897)

Joplin, Missouri-A bright light was seen to the southwest at 2015. It moved northwest and stopped 2 miles west of the city. It hovered for 30 minutes then sank rapidly to the west. The light was fan shaped, intensely bright, and had an indistinct shape of something like the hull of an airship. (Carthage [Mo] Press, April 22, 1897)

Bowling Green, Ohio-The airship turned out to be a kite with 3 red light on it. (Rushville [In] Twice a Week Republican, April 20, 1897)

(H) Racine, Wisconsin-A boy said he saw the airship land for water. He talked to one of the crew who said they were from Cuba and had been up for 62 days. They were lost and desired to get to Key West. After they filled the boiler, it rose and left toward Milwaukee. "The boy was taken down into the cellar and spanked by his mother and said he would never again tell a lie on Sunday." (Racine Journal, April 12, 1897)

Philbrook, Minnesota-The airship turned out to be a fire balloon. (Staples [Mn] World, April 22, 1897)

Sheffield, Illinois-The airship was seen to land for 10 minutes. Several people were seen oiling the machine. They left traces in the form of a small fire and a pair of tongs that took 4 men to place in a wagon. The craft was so large that it covered 20 acres and it flew the Stars and Stripes. The beings were 20 feet tall, weighed 1,000 pounds, and the women wore bloomers. When the craft left, it caused a current of air that upset people 40 rods away. After it left, a 3 inch rain fell. (St. Edward [Nb] Sun, April 23, 1897)



Milford, Indiana-An illuminated kite was thought to be the airship. (Warsaw [In] Northern Indianian, May 6, 1897)

Lockland, Kentucky-At 2000, Dr. Blanton and L. Arbegust saw the airship and heard a sharp whirring sound. It was a bright light that moved rapidly against a strong wind. After a few seconds, it went over the Indiana Hills. (Middlesboro [Ky] Weekly Herald, April 25, 1897)

Beaumont, Texas-Rabbi Levy said that the airship had landed nearby. He went and found they had landed to get a supply of water. The airship was 150 feet long, shaped like a sewing machine shuttle, and had 100 foot long wings. The machine was powered by electricity and he could not remember the name of the occupant or where they came from. (New Orleans [La] Times Picayune, April 25, 1897)



Carrollton, Louisiana-A boat shaped airship was seen, but was found to be paper blowing in the wind. (New Orleans [La] Daily States, April 24, 1897)

Mauston, Wisconsin-A long cigar shaped body with a car containing 2-10 people turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Mauston Juneau County Chronicle, April 15, 1897)



Eldridge, North Dakota-A family saw the airship to the north. It was a car attached to a large kite shaped structure with large wings. It rose and lowered, stopped, and swung around. It left south with a humming sound. (Bismarck [ND] Tribune, April 21, 1897) The Jamestown (ND) Weekly Press of April 22nd reported that it had colored lights and was seen between 2100 and 2200.

Hermann, Missouri-At 0330, Dr. Henry Johns, Judge Wensell, Mayor Leisner, Judge Herzel, and others saw a brilliant light to the southwest. It threw a flood of light on the city and darted about for 15 minutes. It was canoe shaped, had 2 wings on each side, and 25-30 feet long. Above this was a large dark hull. The light grew dim as it neared the earth. (Owensville [Mo] Republican, April 22, 1897)

Montevideo, Minnesota-Charles Ginder and Paul Soule saw the airship pass over at 0355:02. It was cigar shaped with 3 white lights and 1 red one. It moved at terrific speed. (Portage [Wi] Weekly Democrat, May 7, 1897)

Dumont, Iowa-A fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Greene [Ia] Iowa Recorder, April 20, 1897)

Walnut, Iowa-At 2100, several saw the airship to the northwest. The rumble of machinery was heard and the movement of huge wings was seen. It had an immense electric light and 3 red lights at the stern. (Walnut Bureau, April 16, 1897)

Ashland, Nebraska-Mrs. Cornelius and her son saw a small light hovering to the west at 2100. It moved rapidly to the north and it flashed a brilliant light twice. On another occasion, Prof. Cornelius saw a bright red light at 2200. It was low to the northwest, too large to be a star, and moved rapidly with a swaying motion. (Ashland Gazette, April 16, 1897)

Aitmont, Kansas-A new railroad switchlight was mistaken for the airship. (Oswego [Ka] Independent, April 16, 1897)

Adrian, Minnesota-At 2100, a red light was seen to the northwest. It was 1/2 the size of the moon, high, and moving leisurely to the southwest. (Eldorado Springs [Mo] Sun, April 20, 1897)

Roann, Indiana-The airship was seen. (Peru [In] Republican, April 23, 1897)

Milton, Iowa-The airship seen here turned out to be a kite with lanterns. (Milton Herald, April 21, 1897)

Chillicothe, Missouri-An article taken from the Chillicothe Tribune of an unspecified date stated that the airship had landed 50 feet from the electric plant house in Chillicothe at 0330 one morning. Mr. Baker and Mr. Boyd, night electricians at the plant, went out and saw it. It was cigar shaped, 50 feet long, 12 feet wide, and three men were about it. One of the men looked like A. W. Pennington. They had landed to get the accumulators charged, which was done. It left to the northwest. (Trenton [Mo] Tribune, April 16, 1897) The Trenton Republican of April 16th printed an article from the Chillicothe Constitution which said Manager Wheeler of the Gas and Electric Light Company said it was a hoax and so did Mr. Baker. They said the Mr. Boyd made the whole thing up.

Waterloo, Indiana-Dr. Welch and A. Sinclair saw the airship. (Waterloo Press, April 15, 1897)

Center, Illinois-A bright light turned out to be an illuminated kite. (Rushville [Ill] Times, April 29, 1897)

Tishomingo, Oklahoma-The airship was seen by 2 men. (Fort Smith [Ok] Daily News Record, April 28, 1897)

Atchison, Kansas-Venus was mistaken for the airship. (Atchison Globe, April 28, 1897)

Buffalo, Wyoming-At 1400, the airship was seen approaching from the southwest. It was conical, had a propeller at one end, and wings. It

(H)

stopped and hovered over the city and a telescope revealed that there were 5 men on it and they were preparing to lower something. Soon a rope with a basket on it reached the ground. Inside was a note written in Danish. It read: "In air, 3,400 feet-To the Hon. Mayor and Council-Gentlemen: We ask you for aid in the shape of feed. There are five of us in this air ship. We left Sliswig, Denmark, on the 27th day of March. We had our ship under perfect control until ten days ago, when a part of the machinery got out of order and since then we have not been able to lower the ship or keep on any direct course, but have to drift at the pleasure of the air currents. We hope to remedy the defect in a few days. We have run short of provisions and beg of you to send us some canned meats, flour, and coffee, for which we will ever thank you. C. N. Johnson, Commander." The request was filled and they sent up 2 sacks of flour and 20 can of corned beef. (Lusk [Wy] Converse County Herald, May 6, 1897) (H)

Silver Cliff, Colorado-The airship was seen. (Silver Cliff Rustler, April 7, 1897)

Decatur, Michigan-A large kite with lanterns was thought to be the airship. (Decatur Republican, April 29, 1897)

Cambridge, Ohio-The airship was seen. (Cambridge Daily Jeffersonian, April 27, 1897)

Goshen, Indiana-A fire balloon was seen as the airship. (La Grange [Ind] Standard, April 22, 1897)

Freestate, Missouri-At 2100, the airship was seen to pass over with red and green lights. It was 1/2 mile up and going southeast. He saw 10-12 ladies on it and they wore the latest fashion, including the new spring bonnets. At Freestate Springs, residents saw the airship and saw men on it. A piece of paper fell and it read: "The people of the planet Mars send greeting to the people of Freestate." (Armstrong [Mo] Herald, April 22, 1897) (H)

Oregon, Wisconsin-The reflection of street lights was thought to be strange aerial lights. (Oregon Observer, April 29, 1897)

Alliance, Ohio-The airship was seen. (Canton [O] Repository, April 20, 1897)

Bentonville, Arkansas-The airship was seen. (Gentry [Ark] Journal, April 23, 1897)

Lancaster, Iowa-A kite was seen as the airship. (Ottumwa [Ia] Courier, April 15, 1897)

Ellwood City, Pennsylvania-The airship landed and was in charge of one man. It was roped off and over 1,000 people had seen it. More were expected as special trains were coming from Pittsburg, New Castle, and Youngstown. The man said he was J. H. Ballard, lived 3 miles from Tuscon, Arizona. He had left on March 2nd and planned to be in New York by the middle of May. He could make New York City in 1 1/2 hours, but he (H)

was testing the machine. (Hutchison [Ks] Weekly Interior Herald, May 8, 1897)

Fayetteville, Arkansas-The airship was seen. (Fayetteville Arkansas Sentinel, April 26, 1897)

Manhattan, Kansas-The airship turned out to be a balloon. (Scandia [Ks] Journal, April 16, 1897)

Sherman Hill, Wyoming-The airship was seen. (Denver [Co] Post, April 27, 1897)

Sheldon, North Dakota-Peter Hoff saw the airship. (Lisbon [ND] Free Press, April 16, 1897)

Pipestone, Minnesota-At 2230, a large kite made of red and green paper was seen as the airship. (Tyler [Mn] Journal, April 30, 1897)

Downs, Kansas-A man saw the airship. (Cawker City [Ks] Public Record, April 22, 1897)

Christine, North Dakota-The airship was seen. (Wahpeton [ND] North Dakota Globe, April 22, 1897)

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Decatur, Texas-The airship landed in the city and was viewed by almost everybody in the city. There were 4 men on it and they said they had landed to add another feather to the tail to make it go faster. They were collecting valuables to put on exhibition at the Grand Royal Palladium of Wonders in Jericho from July through August. In Decatur, they picked up a copy of the Star, a box of Hayter's Eye Salve, a lock of Thad Shaw's hair, an Abe Mulkey song book, and a jug of Blind Tiger Cough Syrup. They were now headed for Hong Kong, China, to collect a Chinaman's pigtail, a box of tea, and Li Hung Chang's battle ax. When the airship took off several witnesses were standing to close to one of the tails, and they were injured: Doc Wilson had his back broke, Denson had a finger broken, and Mr. Middleton, who attempted to steal a ride, was fatally crushed. It left toward China. (It is interesting to note that the article stressed certain points, such as, that all the witnesses were "temperant" and "perfectly sober". (Decatur Star, a May issue)

Hollenberg, Kansas-Several saw the airship 1/2 mile up. It was 80 feet long, 20 feet wide and had 2 screws and 2 wings. (Washington [Ks] Republican, April 16, 1897)

Hermann, Missouri-A balloon was taken for the airship. (Pittsburg [Ks] Headlight, April 19, 1897)

Cheyenne, Wyoming-Jefferson Martin saw the airship, high up and rapid. (Cheyenne [Wy] Sun Leader, April 23, 1897)

Spokane, Washington-Some people declared they saw the airship.. Others had seen people who had seen the machine. One man, named Thurber, declares he saw a cigar shaped machine made of aluminum about 25 feet

long. It was stranded beyond Mead at the mouth of Dead Man creek, and had one propeller broken. It seemed to have been abandoned by its owners. (Spokane Chronicle, April 16, 1897)

Phillips, Wisconsin-Several saw a bright light in the evening. (Phillips Bee, April 14, 1897)

West Union, Iowa-At 2200, Judge Fellows saw the airship lengthwise. (Lansing [Ia] Mirror, April 16, 1897)

Ottawa, Kansas-Venus was thought to be the airship. (Ottawa Journal and Triumph, April 8, 1897)

Glouster, Ohio-A Press correspondent sent a very long article and stated that the airship landed and some men were loading coal. They loaded half a car of coal and several 3 barrel tanks of water. He went forward and met the men. They wore black uniforms and one said his name was Frank L. Lossing, of Denver, Co., the captain was August DeFalamath, and the other man was Mr. Gordon. The ship was built in a small town near Albuquerque, NM.. They were on a trial trip and carried 12 sailors and his family. It used a dollars worth of fuel daily and went 150 miles in 12 hours. (Columbus [O] Press, April 23, 1897) The April 25th issue of the Ohio State Journal of Columbus, O., published another dispatch from Glouster which said the whole story was a hoax.

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Martinsville, Indiana-The airship was said to have landed near on Weed Patch Hill. The operator and inventor was E. J. Pennington and he said they would remain there for several days to make repairs. In an interview, Mr. Pennington said they were on their way to Cuba to aid the patriots. He said they had three ships in the air: one would be at the Tennessee Exposition, one exploded (presumably at Kalamazoo, Mi.) and the one here. (Columbus [In] Republican, April 21, 1897) The Franklin (IN) Republican of April 23rd wrote: "However it developed as usual in such cases, that the story was a pure fabrication. None of the natives of Brown (county) have been able to see the machine and it has not been anchored on the Hill."

Belleville, Illinois-Between 2030 and 2130, the airship was seen but it was only a kite with lantern attached. (Edwardsville [Ill] Intelligencer, April 29, 1897)

Hewins, Kansas-Several saw a ball of fire that lit up the night like day. (Cedar Vale [Ks] Commercial, April 16, 1897)

Long Lake, Michigan-Mysterious lights had been seen during the past week. (Grand Traverse [Mi] Herald, April 29, 1897)

Hopkins, Missouri-At night, George Hughes, Artist Dooley, and others saw the airship. It was rather high and going northwest. It had the shape of a ship and the outline of a man was seen in it. (Hopkins Journal, April 22, 1897)

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Livermore, Iowa-The airship was seen sailing over and the town marshall flashed his badge at the pilot and blinded him enough to cause him to be

lost momentarily. When he would not come down when ordered to, one Vinton Moses threw his lariat around one wing. This caused it to go only in circles and Deck Denison shot it in the rudder and it came down. The ship was dismantled and the parts were distributed around town. The headlight was used to light a railroad crossing, the red and green lights were placed on the sidewalk to the Methodist church to lure sinners down, the wings were cut up for awnings, and the hiss was used to make fun of a company. (Livermore Gazette, April 16, 1897)

Fudge Creek, Iowa-A very beautiful light had been seen. (Eddyville [Ia] Tribune, April 16, 1897)

Elkader, Iowa-The airship was seen but it turned out to be a balloon. (New Haven [Ia] News, May 6, 1897)

Brunswick, Missouri-The airship was seen. (Brookfield [Mo] Gazette, April 24, 1897)

Wayzata, Michigan-Capt. Charles Deering took a party of hundreds to the western arm of Minnetonka. He was walking alone when he noted the smell of electricity and heard a roaring noise. In a clearing, he found a long cylindrical object with a car on top. It had a headlight at each corner. He crept closer and saw a party of a large man, a youth, a woman, and several children. The men were of a dark, swarthy complexion, with a stunted beard, lofty brow, dark hair, and the frame of Apollo. A pool of water was on fire and this was extinguished before they left. The lines of the airship were drawn in and it rose and left. (Minneapolis [Mn] Evening Press, April 14, 1897)

New Castle, Pennsylvania-Eli Houk and others saw a huge airship pass over the Energy Creamery. It was near the ground and they saw 2 occupants in it. (Salem [O] Daily Herald, April 24, 1897)

Clinton, Missouri-Several saw a strange light that moved across the sky. It dipped out of sight in a most unaccountable manner. (Clinton Eye, April 24, 1897)

Logansport, Indiana-Minor West saw a light the size of a football that was revolving rapidly. (Logansport Daily Reporter, April 17, 1897)

Alma, Colorado-Miners saw a light near Mt. Lincoln. It was brilliant and voices in distress could be heard. It left toward Breckenridge. (Denver [Co] Rocky Mountain News, April 24, 1897)

Alta Vista, Kansas-A strange light was seen in the sky. (Junction City [Ks] Union, April 23, 1897)

Vandalia, Illinois-A reporter for the paper met a C. Devonbaugh, living near Vandalia, Ill., who built the airship. The reporter was shown the airship which was kept in a barn owned by Devonbaugh. "The machine or airship was composed of two cigar-shaped spheres of aluminum, each 45 feet in length, and eight feet in diameter at the center, tapering to a point at the bow and stern. The two were bound together by slender but exceedingly strong steel rods." The floor was made of pine and a cabin,

large enough for 5 or 6 people, was fitted with divans and provisions. Devonbaugh refused to show the power source but said that it was electricity "generated by a new process which he wished to perfect and cover with letters of patent before allowing the secret to pass into other hands." It had wings that were hinged to the sides and these were the same size as the craft. "The raising and propelling power were derived from three 'rothascopes,' composed of canvass and steel ribs which were attached to revolving masts and which could be set at any desired angle." The rudder was operated by a wheel. Above the revolving masts were two more masts which supported a parachute in case of accident. At a later date, the reporter even took a trip on it. He, Mr. and Mrs. Devonbaugh, her sister, and a hired man took a flight in it. They pulled it out of the barn, threw over several large iron weights, and it rose. Devonbaugh pulled a lever and the steel mast began to revolve and it rose faster and faster. Then the wings were extended and the position of the "rothascopes" were changed and it began to move forward. He was told they were 2,000 feet up, going at 65 miles an hour, and that the destination was Chicago. When they were over Chicago, they turned on all the lights of the ship to startle the people below. The reporter tied a rock to a copy of the Republican and threw it overboard. After circling about Chicago for several hours, they headed back to Vandalia. "Mr. Devonbaugh states that he has been in correspondence with the Cuban junta and if certain arrangements can be made the ship will be taken to Cuba and used against the Spanish army. The effect which dynamite bombs may cause when they come tumbling from an invisible source, high in the air, can be imagined." (Decatur [Ill] Evening Republican, April 15, 1897)

South English, Iowa—A kite with a lantern attached was thought to be the airship. (Siqorney [Ia] News, April 22, 1897)

Shullsburg, Wisconsin—The airship was seen, high and moving rapidly. It had white and reddish lights. (Shullsburg Pic and Gad, April 15, 1897)

Rockport, Missouri—Some boys told a story that the airship had landed between here and Tarkio, but it was a lie. (Rockport Atchison County Journal, April 30, 1897)

Downing, Wisconsin—The airship was seen to pass over at night. (Baldwin [Wis] Bulletin, April 23, 1897)

Cambridge, Nebraska—Sirius was identified as what was believed to be the airship. (Holbrook [Nb] Herald, April 30, 1897)

Elmo, Missouri—"Some Elmo man who signs his name 'xxx' has a friend named J. W. Barry who has seen the air ship, and who claims it ran into his windmill and damaged it considerably." (Albany [Mo] Ledger, May 21, 1897)

New Troy, Michigan—Residents said the airship passed over 2,000 feet up. (Benton Harbor [Mi] Palladium, April 13, 1897)

North Portal, NWT, Canada—A strange object passed rapidly over the city. (Vancouver [BC, Canada] News Advertiser, May 11, 1897)

Pierre, South Dakota-The airship was seen but was only a fire balloon. (Sioux Falls [SD] Argus Leader, April 26, 1897)

Red Key, Indiana-W. Jones saw the airship pass over. (Winamac [In] Democrat Journal, April 30, 1897)

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Newport, Arkansas-Two reporters found the airship landed near the river and the crew were sitting around reading the Chicago papers. The crew consisted of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Turksley, of San Francisco, and W. B. Framley, of Chicago. Turksley was the inventor and Framley furnished the money to build it. They said they were unable to reach the speed they desired, but were capable of a pretty good clip. At 1920, it rose and left west. (Memphis [Tn] Commercial Appeal, April 22, 1897)

Lina, Missouri-The airship was seen moving 100 mph in a zigzag manner. It was cigar shaped with a light the size of a water bucket. (Brookfield [Mo] Gazette, April 24, 1897)

Armstrong, Missouri-Dr. Walker saw a red light at night. It was like a red light attached to a kite. (Armstrong Herald, April 22, 1897)

Nelson, Nebraska-A fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Superior [Nb] Daily Journal, April 20, 1897)

Seneca, Kansas-A man saw a red light that dove and rose like a kite at a great distance. (Hawathia [Ks] Brown County World, April 16, 1897)

Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin-Several saw a cigar shaped object with red and white lights. (Chippewa Falls Weekly Herald, April 16, 1897)

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Britt, Iowa-Many saw the airship and it was displaying signals of distress. They sent a kite up to it and pulled it down after awhile. Written on it in pencil was an account of the adventures of the airship. They had left Benicia, California, in the middle of March, crossed the Rocky Mountains, and had to land in the crater of an extinct volcano when their hydrogen gas ran low. They found some gas escaping from a crevice in the ground, and with the aid of a hose, filled their balloon up with this gas. The airship then ascended like a flash. The new gas set every valve and they are now unable to release any to descend. They had provisions for 10 more days and desired that their families in Benicia be notified of their predicament. They cannot decide whether to go back to the mountains and land or go on to Mars. They are able to see the people of Mars plainly. The line thought to be canals are actually bicycle paths. The Martians are 20 feet tall and have tails like monkeys. When riding their bicycles, their tails stick straight up in the air. (Algona [Ia] Republican, April 21, 1897)

Milan, Missouri-Many saw a bright light approach from the southwest. When it was over the city, it turned and left southeast. (St. Louis [Mo] Star, April 25, 1897)

Minnesota-A man saw the airship and shot at it. He could hear the pellets strike the metallic bottom. Then a brilliant light shot out from the upper deck. (Windsor [Mn] Reporter, April 22, 1897)

Argos, Indiana-A man with lanterns working late in a field was thought to be the lights of the airship. (Argos Reflector, April 29, 1897)

Seymour, Indiana-About midnight, Bert Edmonson, James Honar, J. McClellan, and others saw a 30 foot long light that moved rapidly to the east. (Columbus [In] Evening Republican, April 22, 1897)

Jefferson City, Missouri-The story went the rounds that the airship had landed and the occupant asked for and spoke to Mr. Perkins, an old friend. The story was not true. (Jefferson City Tribune, April 24, 1897) (H)

South Byron, Wisconsin-The airship was seen by a few. It was horizontal in form and had a bright headlight. (Fond du Lac [Wis] Commonwealth, April 12, 1897)

Pender, Nebraska-The airship turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Pender Thurston Republic, April 23, 1897)

Tampa, Florida-A light was seen to emerge from the river. It was a ball of fire the size of a baseball. (Jacksonville [Fl] Florida Times Union, April 16, 1897) ←

Noblesville, Indiana-Issac Edwards, Issac Forrer, Rant Ault, Alf Leeman, and John Richwine saw the airship. A line was let down with an order for compressed natural gas which was supplied. Another line was let down with a basket and money and order for water and provisions which was filled. Gold coin was used to pay for it. It hovered over the town for a few moments, circles, and left northwest. It was felt that it was from Mars. (Noblesville Hamilton County Ledger, April 23, 1897) (H)

Ashland, Pennsylvania-D. Hartman, T. Barron, and others saw the airship. They had recieved a call from Girardeville about the airship. It was very high, had a bright light at the base, and was 6 feet tall. (Easton [Pa] Express, April 24, 1897)

Boscobel, Wisconsin-In the late evening, several saw the airship approach from the direction of Elkhart, Indiana. It was 1448 feet up, of great size, and in the shape of a sweeper cigar with the sweeper being the tail. It glittered with electric lights, had fly shaped wings that moved rapidly, and moved at 60 mph toward Sleepy Eye, Minnesota. (Boscobel Dial, April 7, 1897)

Caldwell, Kansas-At night, S. Horner saw a flying machine or a serp serpent sail gracefully over the city. (Caldwell Weekly Advance, April 22, 1897)

Clay City, Kansas-Several claimed to have seen the airship, headlight, propeller, and all. (Clay City Times, April 8, 1897)

Hawardian, South Dakota-Many saw the airship and heard laughing and talking from it. They could distinguish a woman's voice. (Alexandria [SD] Herald, April 15, 1897) (H)

(H)

Lyon County, Minnesota-A man saw the airship and on its side was a sign reading "Peace on earth, good will to men." When he called, he heard voices as if in conversation with someone outside it. (Windom [Mn] Reporter, April 22, 1897)

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Minnesota-A man saw the airship and said it was so low that he heard delightful music of harps and angels singing. It then suddenly shot skyward at a tangent for the Evening Star. (Windom [Mn] Reporter, April 22, 1897)

Nashville, Tennessee-At 2300, Gen. Harvey Hannah saw the airship. His description contained many political overtones. It paused for a few moments over Capitol Hill and showed red, white, and blue lights. The "public welfare section seemed to be armed with a huge revolving wheel or propeller." (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

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Nashville, Tennessee-Dr. White saw the airship about midnight. It had 2 searchlights and the sweetest music came from it. One singer sang "Coming Thro the Rye" and "Put Me off at Buffalo." It stopped overhead for a few moments then left. (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

Nashville, Tennessee-H. Roak saw the airship overhead at night. He began to run and it gave a snort, flew over him, throwing sparks and puffing and snorting. (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

Nebraska City, Nebraska-Many saw the airship. It was 50 feet long, carried 2 red lights, and an electric flashlight. It circled around then left to the south at a great speed. (Cedar Bluffs [Nb] Standard, April 23, 1897)

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St. Mary's, West Virginia-Several saw the airship land on 4 legs. Its great wings "sent the wind howling through the streets, completely demolishing the lookout glasses in the 'easy street building." (Fairmont [WV] Free Press, April 29, 1897) The article itself was very anti-alcohol.

Alexandria, South Dakota-At 2200, many saw a very bright light pass over the city. It moved southeast to northwest and changed to red. (Alexandria Herald, April 15, 1897)

Berea, Kentucky-At 2200, Joe Johnson saw an object with a light at each end and going east. Mr. Golden saw a similar light and heard a peculiar noise. (Owensville [Ky] Messenger, April 24, 1897)

Berrien Springs, Michigan-For 10 nights, residents saw a bright light that was apparently hanging over the Union Soap Company in Michigan City, Indiana. It was 500-1,000 feet up and they were led to believe that Union Soap had placed it there. (Michigan City [In] Evening News, April 15, 1897)

Brainerd, Minnesota-Several saw a bright light darting about the sky at high speed and changing colors constantly. (Brainerd Dispatch, April 16, 1897)

Cable, Illinois-The airship was seen to the northwest. (Aledo [Ill] Democrat, April 27, 1897)

Cassville, Wisconsin-Charles Kuenster saw the airship high to the northwest. (Cassville Index, April 22, 1897)

Shenango Township, Pennsylvania-A huge airship was seen to pass over and the witnesses distinctly saw 2 occupants in it. (Salem [Pa] Herald, April 24, 1897) (H)

Fremont, Nebraska-A man saw the airship and he saw an occupant drop down a snare and pick up a chicken. He then dropped a note which read: "This dod gasted airship business is not what some people might crack it up to be. My vehicle is out of order and will not down. A goose hunter shot the flim-flam off my flying jib and a Kansas cyclone took me in its warm embrace and didn't do a thing to this blamed machine. I can't come down. The machine won't work. I have grown gray-headed in the business. Excuse hast and poor writing and search for my remains." (Kearney [Nb] Hub, April 26, 1897) (H)

Henderson, Kentucky-The Henderson Journal printed a story that Fred Frayser saw the airship with a canopy top and a rotary screw. Frayser said the story was a lie. (Owensboro [Ky] Inquirer, April 22, 1897)

Clay Center, Nebraska-Many saw a very strong light to the west, going south to north. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 17, 1897)

Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin-The airship was seen with a white light ahead and red lights at the rear. It was 50 feet long and 300 feet up. (Jacobs)

Glava, Kansas-The airship was seen to the northwest and sank about the same time each evening. One man saw a bucket of swell and potatoe peelings be thrown overboard. (McPherson [Ks] Daily Republican, April 23, 1897) (H)

Gilmer, Illinois-Will Hall saw a bright moving light approaching from the southeast in the evening. It drew nearer and passed over the city. It had red and green lights at the rear and left northwest. (Libertyville [Ill] Lake County Independent, April 30, 1897)

Horton, Kansas-A curious light was seen to the northwest for several evenings. It was a brilliant light, seen 1 1/2 to 2 hours, and then sink below the horizon. (Horton Headlight, April 22, 1897)

Humboldt, Iowa-Many saw a bright light to the east, gradually passing to the north. It turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Humboldt Republican, April 15, 1897)

Nashville, Arkansas-Several saw the airship. It was cigar shaped, had a propeller at the rear, and wheels on the sides. One witness saw a beautiful lady on board and he spoke to her for a few moments. (Nashville News, April 1897) (H)

Mackford, Wisconsin-A man saw the airship going north and it had lights of 7 different shades. (Berlin [Wi] Daily Journal, April 24, 1897)

Millbrook, Illinois-Several saw a light moving east to west in the northern sky. It was the size of the moon, seen 1 hour, and changed from white to red. It would frequently disappear, then reappear. (Piano [Ill] Kendall County News, April 21, 1897)

Morocco, Indiana-At night, 2 airship was seen for 30 minutes hanging to the northwest. (Kentland [Ind] Democrat, April 30, 1897)

Ortonville, Minnesota-Several saw the airship showing red and green lights to the west. (Ortonville Big Stone County Journal, April 23, 1897)

Oxford, Nebraska-A light was seen 2-3 miles to the northwest. Faint rays of light shot upward from it and it was seen for 15 minutes before it left northwest. (Arapahoe [Nb] Public Mirror, April 15, 1897)

Shelbyville, Indiana-Harry Lane, Albert Chriecken, Forest Buell, and others saw the airship. It was 4 times the size of a balloon and left west. (Indianapolis [Ind] Sentinel, April 20, 1897)

Spearfish, Arizona-Several saw several 3 lights moving west to east. When 3 miles west of town, the lights separated. One went toward Whitewood, one toward Bellefourche, and one toward Ragged Top. (Kingman [Az] Our Mineral Wealth, April 30, 1897)

St. Bonifacius, Minnesota-The airship had been seen all week. (Chaska [Mn] Weekly Valley Herald, April 22, 1897)

Watervliet, Michigan-A couple saw the airship moving rapidly northwest. (Benton Harbor [Mi] Evening News, April 15, 1897)

Ypsilanti, Michigan-During the evening, several saw the airship 1/2 mile up and going southwest. It had red and green lights that were 30 feet apart. (Ypsilanti Commercial, April 22, 1897)

Greeley County, Nebraska-Frank Gay saw the airship and it was close enough to talk to the inmates. (Fullerton [Nb] Post, April 16, 1897)

Forest, Indiana-Albert Betts, Joe Zoar, and Doc Hunt saw the airship pass over going northwest. It took 30 minutes to do so. (Frankfort [Ind] Daily Crescent, April 23, 1897)

Lexington, Nebraska-At night, James Breedlove and 30 others saw the airship from a train. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 17, 1897)

Lancaster, Ohio-Several evenings ago, a man was on his way home between Baltimore, O., and Lancaster between 8 and 9 o'clock. Suddenly, his horse became highly agitated. He looked around and saw the airship descending nearby with a hissing noise. He saw the forms of two men who were conversing in an unknown language. He went closer and met the men. One was apparently Oriental and the other was American or English. They

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Near Ashland, Ohio-The airship was seen to rapidly descend to the earth. It was all but caught in the act of scooping up 5 tons of coal. Attached to the tail was a large grapple fork, operated by a series of pulleys, which scooped the coal. It looked like a large snake with the mouth being the grapple fork. (Ashland Gazette, April 20, 1897)

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Several miles south of Ashland, Ohio-The airship was seen sucking eggs. (Ashland Gazette, April 20, 1897)

Wanowoc, Wisconsin-The airship was invented by "Prof. Bald of the Insane Infirmary of San Francisco" and he stole his idea from "Darius Green." Since his tests were successful, he made arrangements to fly to Washington but "as he expected to get the contract for delivering the mail, he would have to stop over at Wanowoc, and see the future postmaster of the thriving city, and arrange for the service there as Wanowoc is fast becoming the greatest mail order town in the world. He stopped and picked up Harve Douglass and they flew on to Washington. "Having dined with Postmaster Gerry, Harve proceeded to business and soon convinced Gerry of the magnitude of the mail order business carried on in Wanowoc, and also secured his promise of appointment as postmaster." They even visited with President McKinley. They then headed back to Wanowoc after "stopping for dinner in Cleveland and supper at Chicago." (Wanowoc Gazette, April 15, 1897)

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east of Roweburg, Ohio-The airship was seen milking cows. A circular was dropped saying that "this airship is a remarkable success and is on its way from San Francisco to New York and return by way of Texas, all to be accomplished this Saturday night. The details of the invention will be made public in a few days by the inventor." (Ashland [O] Gazette, April 20, 1897)

Stillman Valley, Illinois-Many saw a bright light moving rapidly to the northeast with a zigzag motion. (Stillman Valley Graphic, April 16, 1897)

Superior, Nebraska-Thousands saw the airship approach from the northeast, hover, and leave to the south. It was like a fish in constant motion with many fins on its sides. The long tail was a steady stream of fire. On the top was a large promenade deck with cork floor for the passengers to take a walk. Beneath this was a swinging platform to catch passengers who might fall. It had a large light in front and 2 red lights at the rear. It was rumored that it returned and took several thousand volts from the powerhouse. (Superior Sun, April 22, 1897)

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Butler, Missouri-A strange light had been seen almost nightly going southeast to northwest. (Butler Weekly Times, April 15, 1897)

Downs, Illinois-In the evening, Haney Savage saw a cigar shaped airship land. There were 6 people on it and they conversed with him. (Bloomington [I] Pantagraph, April 17, 1897)

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Doniphan, Nebraska-Agent Kern saw an 80 foot long airship. There were several ladies in white in it and a man who was a dude, smoking a cigar. On the side of the ship was written, "The Milky Way Limited." He heard

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Swedish sounding words: "Aye bane booty dired ofdese mokay work. Ay skull foreuquich eshaal ven eye get to da end vfdese journey." (Doniphan Index, April 17, 1897)

(H) Rockport, Missouri-Rev. Bogar and Jim Hamilton heard the sound of a swiftly moving object in the air. They saw a large raft shaped object passing over. Bogar saw people moving around in it. One handsome lady waved her handkerchief at him. Hamilton said it had a tail like a kite and that the tail was a copy of the Dingley Tariff Bill. Bogar was afraid that the lady was going to fall. (Rockport Atchison County Mail, May 7, 1897)

(H) Gallatin, Missouri-Three youths saw the airship. It was cigar shaped and had colored lights that changed at intervals. One of the witnesses saw a man sweeping the deck and another saw an airship attache scraping barnacles from the hull. (Gallatin North Missourian, April 30, 1897)

Eminence, Illinois-At midnight, a resident was awoken by a cry of distress. He saw 2 men in some kind of conveyance with a cover. They asked for the loan of a hatchet. He heard a noise like the starting of a motor, the sound of flapping wings, and it left to the northwest. (Lincoln Ill Semi-Weekly Courier, April 23, 1897)

(H) Harrodsburg, Kentucky-Sam Bunnell saw the airship. He put a telescope on it and saw that the passengers had wings and were dressed gorgeously. They seemed to be playing some kind of instruments and he heard the sound of symbols. Another man said it was Elijah's chariot. (Louisville [Ky] Times, April 19, 1897)

Kingwood, West Virginia-The airship was seen. It was probably a fire on a mountain to the east. (Kingwood West Virginia Argus, April 27, 1897)

May 1, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 0130, W. Buswell saw a white light flitting across the tree tops. It was a 75 foot long object like a whale back ship going north toward the lake. The stern was lighted up with a purple and on the bow was a strong searchlight. It was seen for 5 minutes before it suddenly disappeared. (Cleveland Leader, May 2, 1897)

(H) May 1, 1897-Laurel Run, Ohio-About dusk, a party of loafers heard a strange rumbling and saw a dark object approaching. It landed near the water and they rushed to it. The Vice Admiral said they meant no harm, but they had to keep their distance. The craft carried guns and they took on 4 barrels of water. They had left Cincinnati at 1700 and were on their way to Washington to patent some new inventions. It rose and left with a rumbling noise. (Logan [O] Journal Gazette, May 6, 1897)

May 1, 1897-Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada-A light was seen near the eastern horizon at 2100. When it had crossed over the city, it veered and left northwest. It was in view for 15 minutes and most felt that it was a balloon. (Winnipeg Manitoba Free Press, May 3 and 4, 1897)

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May 1, 1897-Wellington, Kansas-At 2100, 4 people saw the airship and it was like a huge fish with immense fins with which it propelled itself. It had no lights and moved rapidly. (Wellington Sumner County Star, May 6, 1897)

May 1, 1897-Shiloh, Ohio-John Chamberlain and others saw a well lighted airship. It was supported by a narrow oblong, cylindrical shaped vessel that looked to be inflated. Beneath this was a car that hung by ropes. It sailed at an angle against the wind, the upper inflated part being turned parallel with the wind. There were small sails attached to the lower part and several propellers which rotated at a high rate of speed. The upper part was 70 foot long and the lower part was much smaller. Suddenly the sails changed and it rose high into the sky, but it was driven back by the wind. Then it went south at a great angle to the wind and sailed at a good rate, gradually descending. After having gone 12 miles, it rose higher and went northwest. After 5 miles in this direction, it repeated the above and left toward Greenwich. (Wellsville [O] Daily Union, May 7, 1897)

May 1, 1897-Hilledale, Indiana-At night, the airship was seen and it dropped a note. It read: "Chateaux en Espagne" which means castles in the air. (Newport [In] Hoosier State, May 5, 1897) (H)

May 1, 1897-Coppersville, Michigan-At night, a strange light was seen but it turned out to be a kite with a cotton ball saturated and ignited. (Coppersville Observer, May 1, 1897)

May 1, 1897-Austin, Texas-Representative Hill saw the airship land at Hyde Park. He met the captain who told him in ancient Greek that he was the rear admiral of a Greek squadron of airships on duty over America and that the ship before him was the Eureka. It was in the shape of a crane and operated by an immense storage battery. It carried no guns but it had a stock of dynamite shells that could be dropped. The officers were a captain, 2 lieutenants, 2 lookouts, 2 electric engineers, 4 shell droppers, and 1 linguist. The men were of different nationalities and different languages. In the hold was Mr. Blackburn, who had been there since he left. They were filling him with dynamite to be dropped on the capitol to blow up the Texas 25th legislature. (Austin Daily Statesman, May 7, 1897) (H)

May 1, 1897-Lake George, Florida-Several saw the airship pass over. It was 50 feet long and going toward Cuba. (Jacksonville [Fl] Florida Times Union, May 2, 1897)

May 1, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-A letter was found and it said the airship was named Eaglet. It started from Los Angeles, Ca. It has landed once near Denver and they were interviewed. It is made of aluminum and linen, has two propellers, and bat wings. It averages a speed of 83 miles per hour. It will hold 5 passengers and it is operated by compressed air. The letter was signed "R. L. Snelling." (Louisville Courier Journal, May 1, 1897) (H)

May 2, 1897-Warren, Pennsylvania-At 0100, a man saw the airship moving slowly west. It was a faint red light at 45 degree elevation. It came

around a sharp turn. It was floating perpendicular, 2 feet long, and covered with pretty lights. (Warren Evening Democrat, May 3, 1897) The whole story read as very dubious.

May 2, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-At 0100, Robert Ray saw a ball of fire the size of a cart wheel. It was to the north and moved east to west. It would dim and then brighten and gave off sparks. (Logansport Pharos, May 3, 1897)

May 2, 1897-Willis, Kansas-In the early morning, a man saw the airship. (Horton [Ks] Commercial, May 6, 1897)

(H) May 2, 1897-Jenny Lind, Arkansas-At 1930, many saw the airship pass over the city going northeast to southwest. It landed near Old Town and several went to it. The manager and owner of the vessel was George Alutzerlitz and another man named Joseph Eddleman. On board, they had a swan they said they had caught in flight. They said they ate a lot of birds that they caught. They offered a free ride to anyone and James Davis was the only one to accept. They took him to Huntington and made the 15 mile trip in 10 minutes. (St. Louis [Mo] Post Dispatch, May 4, 1897)

May 2, 1897-Buffalo, Kansas-At 2100, Nathan Holt saw a light moving rapidly, bouncing up and down, a short distance away, and then it went out. Later, his family saw a similar light rise in the east from a cornfield. It split, one part falling to the ground and the other gradually left slowly upward. (Buffalo Advocate, May 7, 1897)

May 2, 1897-Hendrickson, Missouri-G. Thompson and his family saw a great light going north in the evening. It changed its course to the west and left. (Popular Bluff [Mo] Republican, May 6, 1897)

May 2, 1897-Norman, South Dakota-During the evening, a man on a bicycle was mistaken for the airship. (Minot [SD] Reporter, May 7, 1897)

May 2, 1897-Emmett, Kansas-At night, George Jones and his wife saw a light to the west going northwest. It disappeared rapidly to the south with a motion like riding on waves. (Bonner Springs [Ks] Wyandotte Chieftain, May 6, 1897)

May 2, 1897-Kenton, Ohio-Officer Will Ries saw the airship approaching from the east at night. It passed within 200 yards of the C & E depot. It was shaped like a huge cigar with a bright red headlight. It probably intended to take on coal but did not due to his brass buttons. (Kenton News Republican, May 3, 1897)

(H) May 3, 1897-Cassville, Indiana-At 0100, Edwin Shaffer saw the airship. It was cigar shaped, 40 feet long, and handsomely furnished. It was inhabited by a crew of foreign tongued midgets who spoke no English. (Kokomo [In] Tribune, May 4, 1897)

(H) May 3, 1897-Shannondale, Indiana-At 0200, Fred McCallister saw the airship and the man controlling it said he was in quest of Uncle Jimmy Mounts' model farm, but failed to locate it. He had noticed the

extremely nice farm and wanted to find the owner. Fred said it was the Willowdale farm and owned by the Governor. The airship then headed for the capitol city and the man said, "I'll own Willowdale farm if I have to part with my aerial steed to purchase it." Crawfordsville [In] Weekly Argus News, May 8, 1897)

May 3, 1897-McArthur, Ohio-During the afternoon, residents saw a strange shooting star. (McArthur Democrat Enquirer, May 6, 1897)

May 3, 1897-South McAlister, Oklahoma-At 2000, several saw a large luminous body emerge over the tops of the western hills. It approached and descended towards the New Moon. It seemed to come nearer as it got higher for several minutes then it changed its course and left west. It was seen for 15 minutes. (South McAlister Daily Capital, May 4, 1897)

May 3, 1897-Lumberton, North Carolina-Several saw a brilliant light moving rapidly southwest at 2100. It would dart up and down and would sometimes disappear and reappear. (Wilmington [NC] Messenger, May 5, 1897)

May 3, 1897-Eureka, Kansas-Several saw an object to the northwest between 2100 and 2200. It was crescent shaped and bore lights. It was above the White Building, passed down behind the building, then rose again with a swaying motion. It was seen by Mrs. J. Durkee, Mrs. A. Shaw, and others. (Eureka Democratic Messenger, May 6, 1897)

May 3, 1897-Atkins, Wyoming-At 2210, engineer Thompson, fireman Evans, and other crewmembers of the train saw a very brilliant floating object. It was 200 feet up and going steadily west. The brilliant light seemed to reflect in a framework above. It was seen for 7 minutes. (Cheyenne [Wyo] Sun Leader, May 4, 1897)

May 3, 1897-Matteawan, New York-At 2230, the airship was seen for 20 minutes. It was at 45 degree elevation to the west and going north. It shone with a radiant white light. They saw what they thought was a seaman heaving the lead and a green cabin boy came to the rail and chucked a large pan of hot ashes to windward. Bright green light streaked with yellow was seen flashing at intervals. A bright white light was shot upward at times. It was thought to register 200 tons. (Newburgh [NY] News, May 5, 1897)

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May 3, 1897-Reno County, Kansas-A man was returning home at 2300 and was 3/4 asleep. He suddenly woke up and found his horse standing still and shivering with fear. He heard the sound of a mighty bird rushing through the air. He saw a large object with small lights fore and aft to the northwest. It was 1/2 mile up and going northeast. He pulled out a "glass" and saw that it looked like an immense 3 masted schooner with all its sails and jibs set. He saw a man standing at the wheel steering it. The rudder was shaped like a vane of a windmill. Following the vessel were 5 lines of geese or Brant at least 1/2 mile long with the object at the head of the column. (Hutchison [Ks] News, May 6, 1897)

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May 3, 1897-Hattiesburg, Mississippi-At night, several saw a strange light in the sky. (Jackson [Ms] Clarion Ledger, May 6, 1897)

May 3, 1897-Salem, Ohio-A can was found and inside was a note signed "William Harris." It was a hoax by some boys. (Salem Herald, May 4, 1897)

May 4, 1897-Iola, Kansas-In the afternoon, Frank Travis and W. Culbertson heard a whining noise above them. They saw the airship 300-400 yards away. It was cigar shaped, had an immense turbine wheel at the stern, a balloon above, and a sort of platform underneath. It was going northeast at a rapid rate. (Larned [Ks] Eagle Optic, May 7, 1897)

May 4, 1897-Waveland, Indiana-Jno. Moore saw the airship going northeast at 1700. It was 200 feet away, 150 feet up, 50 feet wide, and he could see flapping wings. It was seen by others. (Crawfordsville [In] Daily Argus News, May 15, 1897)

May 4, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 1945, L. Woolwine and S. Gless saw 2 exceedingly bright lights going southwest. It was going 4-5 mph and had a light at each end. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 5, 1897) The Cleveland Leader of May 5, 1897, reported that the balloon did not appear over 2 1/2 feet long and 1 1/2 feet wide. It was several hundred yards high. It had 2 lights on the front, a bright light on the bottom and lights at the rear. It moved like balloons tied together.

May 4, 1897-7 miles from Atkins, Arkansas-About 2000, several reporters met J. Whiteside who said that the airship passed over so low and so fast that it uprooted some trees. They went about a mile to an opening and smelled coffee and frying fish. They saw the airship and it was 60 feet long, 25 feet wide, 20 feet high, made of steel, and painted red. The wings were steel 6 feet long and 4 feet wide. It had a cabin in the middle and they saw a man with a heavy red beard. He stated his name was R. K. Flyer, from Parsons, Kansas, and he was the inventor of the airship. It was powered by electricity and had a bullet proof net around it. On board was Mr. Biequies, also of Kansas, and a Negro cook. The craft suddenly rose and the witnesses had to jump from it. It left to the south at great speed. (Atkins Chronicle, May 7, 1897)

May 4, 1897-Terre Haute, Indiana-At 2030, several saw a light several times larger than a star to the west. It was seen 10 minutes, gave out flashes of light, and slowly sank to the west. (Terre Haute Evening Gazette, May 5, 1897)

May 4, 1897-Cincinnati, Ohio-A number saw the airship at 2100. Dr. Louis Domhoff said it was egg shaped, red, and appearing as though a portion was covered with a curtain with rays escaping in the center and at each end. It was going southeast and took 5 minutes to cover 20 miles. It moved in a zigzag course and undulated. (Cincinnati Enquirer, May 5, 1897)

May 4, 1897-Madison, Virginia-During the evening, the airship was seen here and at Amherst and Lynchburg. It was actually a kite with a red lantern. (Lynchburg News, May 5, 1897)

May 4, 1897-New Haven, Connecticut-At night, Capt. T. Bouns saw the airship. It changed course several times, moved east to west, and was a light with a body behind it. (New Haven Evening Register, May 6, 1897)

May 5, 1897-Girardsville, Pennsylvania-Between 0200 and 0300, the crew of Preston No. 3 trolley saw the airship directly overhead. It remained stationary for 20 minutes then left north. (Pottsville [Pa] Republican, May 5, 1897)

May 5, 1897-Natchez, Mississippi-The crew of a ferry saw the airship going northwest at 0600. (Natchez Daily Democrat, May 6, 1897)

May 5, 1897-Ariba, Colorado-The airship was seen and in it was a man seen working a lever. The ship had an outstretched sail. (Hugo [Co] Ledger, May 7, 1897)

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May 5, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 2030, John Merkle saw the airship. It was like a pool table with lights hanging down in the place of pockets. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 10, 1897)

May 5, 1897-Florence, Colorado-Prof. G. Kellar and Mayor Lewis saw the airship at 2230. It was cigar shaped and the bow and stern were curved upward. It lit up a cloud as it passed through it. It changed its appearance to a wedge and left northwest after being in view for 10-12 minutes. (Florence Daily Herald, May 6, 1897)



May 5, 1897-Burtrum, Minnesota-During the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Barrows, Mr. and Mrs. McDoon, and the Walker family saw the airship. It was seen for 25 minutes, going southwest, and flashed different colored lights. (Long Prairie [Mn] Leader, May 7, 1897)

May 5, 1897-Kenesaw, Nebraska-Several railroadmen were on a train at night, when they saw a red light swinging across the track. The train stopped and a man with the red light approached and asked if he could borrow a bushel of coal. He said that he needed it for the airship. The man asked what kind of coal they used on the train. When he was told Newcastle, he said, "Newcastle be d--d, do you suppose I could trust myself up a mile in the air and depend upon that stuff..." (Hastings [Nb] Tribune, May 7, 1897)

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May 5, 1897-Bashville, New York-Several farmers saw the airship. It was 40 feet long, cigar shaped, had large wings, 2 masts, and no means of propulsion. (Canaseraga [NY] Times, May 14, 1897) The May 7 issue of the Rochester (NY) Union and Advertiser reported that the farmers were questioned and denied the story.

May 6, 1897-Emporia, Kansas-At 1930, Charley Harris and others saw a black object in the sky. It had a headlight, going west, but turned and left north. (Emporia Gazette, May 7, 1897) The Gazette of May 6th dated this at May 5, 1897, and said it was a balloon. The Kansas City (Mo) Times of May 6th reported that it was seen by hundreds as a bright light, 1 mile up, and going east. It changed and left north. Often it had motions as if wings working.

May 6, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-Several saw a moving light at 2000. It was going east and some felt that it was a balloon. (Cleveland Leader, May 7, 1897)

May 6, 1897-Silver Plume, Colorado-At 2130, several saw a red light to the west and moving rapidly. (Silver Plume Silver Standard, May 8, 1897)

(H) May 6, 1897-Hot Springs, Arkansas-At night, Constable John Sumpter and Deputy John McLemore saw a strange light which detended behind a hill. They went to the area and suddenly the horses refused to go further. They saw 2 men moving around the light. The witnesses got their guns and asked the men who they were. An old man with a long dark beard and a lantern said he, a young man, and a woman were traveling about the country in an airship. The airship was cigar shaped and 60 feet long. The young man was filling a sack with water and the woman was hiding in the dark holding an umbrella, as it was raining. The witnesses declined the offer to take a ride. They were going to Hot Springs for a few days, then continue on to Nashville, Tennessee. (Fort Smith [Ark] Daily News Record, May 13, 1897)

(H) May 6, 1897-Cardington, Ohio-The airship was seen to circle and land. It was cigar shaped, had great spreading wings, propellers, dynamos, headlight, etc. An old man got out and anchored it to a tree with a steel cable. The reporter followed him back into the craft, where he met a beautiful woman. Both of them appeared to be Jewish. She said he was the first man she had a chance to talk to in 1800 years and that the old man was the "Wandering Jew." He then questioned the old man about the airship. He said he built it because he had gotten tired of walking. It was propelled by electricity and its buoyancy was from ideas. There was a tank filled with a "double distilled ether extracted from the production of men like Plato, Washington, Jefferson, and Wm. J. Bryan, by a process that has cost me hundreds of years of hard toil. Occasionally, I shove in a bunch of ideas composed of sophistry and false reasoning, and when they come in contact with that ether they immediately explode and produce a pressure that is unconceivable." He then threw in a copy of the St. Louis republican convention and the pressure went from 60 to 100 pounds. He threw in an article from a Mt. Gilead republican paper and the pressure went to 1000 pounds. The craft suddenly lifted. The reporter jumped out, used the paper as a parachute, and landed safely. (Mt. Gilead [O] Union Register, May 12, 1897)

May 7, 1897-Bridgeport, Connecticut-At 0215, Officer Campana saw strange flashes. Then he saw a bright light which was projected to the ground and it lit up a 100 square foot area. He saw a long mass from which patches of light shone like portholes. It was 100 feet up and left slowly to the southwest. He pointed it out to Officer Hayes. John Colgan said the it moved in different directions and he heard the whir of fans and the click of machinery. (Bridgeport Union, May 7, 1897)

May 7, 1897-Saugatuck, Connecticut-At 0300, Robert Hossack saw a strange light beaming down on a slant. He saw a dim, long dark object with round dots of lights. It was 1/8 mile up and away and moving slowly west. The light went out and the dark mass left over the Sound. (Norwalk [Ct] Evening Hour, May 7, 1897)

May 7, 1897-Bridgeport, Connecticut-Harry Ford and another saw a strange object to the northwest at 1200. It was very high, far away, and left toward the Sound. It was cigar shaped with wing or fan attachments. (Bridgeport Union, May 8, 1897)

May 7, 1897-St. Louis, Missouri-At 1745, George Lubke saw an object to the southeast and moving north. It turned slowly revealing a cigar shape with a stern like a canoe. It had a white object in the center of the side. It made half a circle turn and left northwest. (St. Louis Post Dispatch, May 9, 1897)

May 7, 1897-Seymour, Indiana-Several saw a bright light approach rapidly from the south at 2100. (Indianapolis [In] Journal, May 9, 1897)

May 7, 1897-Cochrannton, Pennsylvania-At night, the airship was seen. It had a light the size of a train headlight. (Meadville [Pa] Gazette, May 14, 1897)

May 7, 1897-Greenwood County, Kansas-Several saw the airship about midnight. It had a large light near the center and 2 smaller lights at each end. It was 50 feet long, had an undulating motion, and was seen for 5 minutes. (Severy [Ks] Severyite, May 14, 1897)

May 7, 1897-Memphis, Tennessee-Hannah Nixon saw a dark object to the west, moving rapidly north to south. It was cigar shaped, 5 feet long, had a streak of light at the top, and a row of lights along the top. It was in view for 4-6 minutes. (Memphis Commercial Appeal, May 8, 1897)

May 7, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-A military experimental kite with red sections was thought to be the airship. (Cleveland Leader, May 8, 1897)

May 8, 1897-Cincinnati, Ohio-Many saw the airship pass over at 2000 going southeast to northwest. It was at a great height and going 100 mph. It was a brilliant light, but some saw no shape and some saw a cigar shape. (Canton [O] Repository, May 9, 1897)

May 8, 1897-Llano, Texas-At 2200, several saw the airship going slowly to the northwest. It paused over the Algona Hotel and left after 10 minutes. (Austin [Tx] Daily Statesman, May 10, 1897)

May 8, 1897-Southwest Union, Michigan-At night, several saw a light on top of the court house and thought it was the airship. (Mt. Pleasant [Mi] Enterprise, May 14, 1897)

May 9, 1897-Barble, Washington-Many saw an object during the daytime. They saw fans or propellers and it left to the north. (Ellensburg [Wa] Localizer, May 15, 1897)

May 9, 1897-Norwalk, Ohio-At 2000, several saw a bright light like a balloon going north. It was said to have been a balloon hoax. (Norwalk Reflector, May 11, 1897) The Cleveland [O] Plain Dealer of May 11, 1897, reported that it had 10-12 red and white lights. Some heard music and one person said it was round and that it cast a round shadow. It was

May 9, 1897-Salida, Colorado-Several saw a light like a searchlight at night. It moved in the direction of Calumet. (Salida Mail Twice a Week, May 11, 1897)

May 9, 1897-Silver Plume, Colorado-A strange red light was seen. (Silver Plume Silver Standard, May 15, 1897)

May 10, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-At 2045, many saw a brilliant light to the east. It was the size of a hat and was moving rapidly to the northwest. When it was nearly overhead, it veered north, described a circle, and left toward Jeffersonville. (Louisville Courier-Journal, May 11, 1897)

(H) May 10, 1897-Flint, Michigan-At 2130, a man saw the airship and in it were 3 men smoking Royal Banker 5 cent cigars made by Chaser, Street, and Co. (Flint Daily News, May 11, 1897)

May 10, 1897-Columbus, Ohio-Officials and prisoners at the penitentiary saw what they thought was the airship. It was far to the southwest and seen for 20 minutes. It was 300-1,000 feet up, fiery red, and left northwest. As it came closer, it took on an elongated shape like an acorn. (Columbus Ohio State Journal, May 11, 1897) The Columbus Press of the same date revealed that it was a balloon hoax.

(H) May 11, 1897-Sandusky, Ohio-Between 0830 and 0900, many saw the airship slowly moving over the city. One woman, with opera glasses saw a person on it waving a flag. Two boys saw 2 children in it and the general opinion was that the occupants were a man, wife, 2 girls, and a boy. The girls had blue hair and white eyes, and the boy red hair and blue eyes. The man wore side whiskers, parted his hair in the middle, and wore it flowing down his back in long curls. There were letters on the side of the ship indicating that it came from Mars. It was covered with asbestos and had 2 reversible masts. There was a round table on a pivot and dishes on the table. It was reported that at Broton bits of cake, fruit, and meat were found in a barnyard at 0730. Mr. Eichenlaub is going to plant the seeds. (Sandusky Register, May 12, 1897) The Bucyrus (D) Evening Telegraph of May 11th said it was at 1000, 1/3 the way to the zenith to the west, and was like a white hulk floating in the air. At times it would disappear and reappear. Field glasses revealed that it had long black wings and that the center was 6 inches in diameter and the wings were 10-12 inches long. It was 1-2 miles up and 20 miles away. This was dispatched from Sandusky.

May 11, 1897-Fort Worth, Texas-At 2000, Capt. and Mrs. Scobie saw a dark object with a bright light on top. It was moving rapidly to the southeast. (Dallas [Tx] Times Herald, May 13, 1897) The Fort Worth Register of May 12, 1897, said it was a balloon hoax.

May 11, 1897-opposite Hamilton, Ohio-The crew of a boat saw the airship overhead at 2300. It was 1-2 miles up, cigar shaped, and had a light at each end and 1 in the center. It was going southwest at 35 mph, with the wind. (Madison [In] Courier, May 12, 1897)

May 11, 1897-Silver Plume, Colorado-A strange red light was seen. (Silver Plume Silver Standard, May 15, 1897)

May 11, 1897-Vallonia, Indiana-Henry Rich saw the airship. (Brownstown [In] Banner, May 13, 1897)

May 11, 1897-Crawfordsville, Indiana-Austin Watson found a sealed envelope anchored to a piece of iron tubing. It contained a letter allegedly from the airship. It said the airship would pass over again on May 13, 1897. (Crawfordsville Daily Journal, May 12, 1897)

May 12, 1897-Hanover, Indiana-The airship was seen. (Owensville [Ky] Messenger, May 13, 1897)

May 13, 1897-Bellefontaine, Ohio-The report appeared in a letter written by "A. Rustic" in which he reported that he had seen the airship. He was walking home from a Populist caucus when he saw a strange craft with a bright light fore and aft. It slowly settled on Hoge's Summit. He went in that direction and saw several men get out and tie it to 2 walnut trees. They asked him several questions: who he was, where he was from, and where they were. It turned out to be a "party of distinguished men who founded our Government, and who had come back to the earth, to see how the Government which they framed was getting along." The crew consisted of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, John and Sam Adams, Patrick Henry, Ben Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Anthony Wayne. The witness asked about the canals on Mars, since this is where they said they were from. Mrs. Ross said they were stripes on a huge flag designed to signal the people of earth. (Bellefontaine Republican, May 14, 1897)

May 17, 1897-Cordele, Georgia-At dawn, several saw the airship. It gave out a brilliant light and illuminated objects beneath it. (Atlanta [Ga] Journal, May 18, 1897)

May 24, 1897-Grand Island, Nebraska-At night, a fire balloon was seen as the airship. (Grand Island Independent, May 25, 1897)

The following are the reports in which a specific day could not be pinpointed, but did occur in May of 1897.

Petros, Tennessee-Many saw a bright light that was 1/2 mile over Frozen Head Mountain. It would hover and then dart about. (Shelbyville [Tn] Gazette, May 13, 1897)

Stromsburg, Nebraska-The airship was seen but it was a kite with a lantern. (Lincoln [Nb] Nebraska State Journal, May 15, 1897)

Rome, Georgia-The airship passed over. (Atlanta [Ga] Journal, May 15, 1897)

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio-Wm. Rattle, R. Lodge, and others saw the airship. (Akron [O] Beacon and Republican, May 6, 1897)

Antelope, North Dakota-At night, Irving Shelley saw the airship. (Dickinson [ND] Press, May 8, 1897)

Ft. Lynn, Arkansas-Dr. Pegram saw the airship in the evening. (Texarkana [Ak] Daily Texarkanian, May 18, 1897)

Archer, Nebraska-A fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Sidney [Nb] People's Pioneer, May 15, 1897)

Beech Grove, Ohio-Several saw the airship high in the evening sky. (Lebanon [O] Western Star and Lebanon Gazette, May 13, 1897)

Beeville, Texas-At 2300, several thought they saw the airship and gave wild and vivid descriptions. It was a hoax with the airship being a board with a candle hung from a lamppost. (Beeville Bee, May 7, 1897)

Cleveland, Ohio-At night, employees of the water department saw a cigar shaped mechanism that was brightly lighted. Frank Kosterling is said to have seen it first. It landed on the water and disappeared into the distance or submerged. Kosterling denied it and said it was a joke. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 7, 1897)

The following reports occurred either in April or May of 1897. The article from which they are taken gave no real indication as to the date.

Elmo, Missouri-J. Barry saw the airship and it ran into his windmill and damaged it considerably. (Albany [Mo] Ledger, May 21, 1897)

Ashland, Ohio-Wm. McNabb and Jeff Green saw the airship. It was a cigar shaped boat with wings or balloon attachment and 4 brilliant lights. (Cleveland [O] Leader, May 7, 1897)

Smithfield, Indiana-At 2300, a man saw a bright light and heard a whirring noise overhead. He saw an odd shaped machine with large flapping wings moving rapidly southeast. He heard voices and a piece of paper tied to a sulphurous rock fell. It read: "Airship Prospero Bound for Cuba: Commanded by Ciro Nethemious Chief Ill of Planet Mars." (Muncie [In] Daily Herald, May 6, 1897)

Caldwell, Ohio-A mysterious light was seen to the east. (Caldwell Press, May 6, 1897)

Brookland, Arkansas-J. Willoughby saw the airship with a light in front and 1 at the rear. (Jonesboro [Ak] Sun, May 20, 1897)

Mayhew, Wisconsin-A mysterious light was seen. (Ft. Atkinson [Wi] Jefferson County Union, May 7, 1897)

Enderlin, North Dakota-O. Ehlers saw the airship. (Valley City [ND] Times Record, May 6, 1897)

Meadville, Pennsylvania-Several saw the airship 1,000 feet up. (Butler [Pa] Citizen, May 6, 1897)

Conneaulville, Pennsylvania-The airship was seen. (Meadville [Pa] Gazette, May 7, 1897)

Winside, Nebraska-The airship was seen. (Winside Tribune, May 13, 1897)

Huntingdon, Tennessee-Elsie Gibson and W. Bowden saw a light appear in the shape of a ball and it followed them. Once it got to within 12 feet of them, but it would always keep out of reach. (Huntingdon [Tn] Carroll County Democrat, May 14, 1897)

Castroville, Texas-A man saw the airship. He saw a cow on it and a passenger asked if he could buy hay in Castroville. (Castroville Anvil, May 14, 1897) (H)

The following two stories are placed here since there is no real indication as to when they occurred.

A three-installment story appeared in the Evening Press of Minneapolis, Mn., with two parts in the April 14th issue and the final part in April 19th issue. It starts:

"The following explains itself:

"Editor Penny Press:

"The manuscript that I send you herewith is, in my opinion, just what it purports to be. Where it was found, and the circumstance under which it was found too lengthy to be related, prove almost conclusively that it must have been dropped from above, since it is hardly credible that it could have been placed where it was first seen by any one on the earth's surface. It seems to me that the manuscript explains what is now a great mystery, and so I submit it to you. Chas. Wright."

The writer of this manuscript, one Milt Brace, states that he fell asleep on a prairie. He awoke in a cigar shaped room with four beings who were speaking in a sweet tone of voice. They had large, brown eyes, a very large nose, and the face was wider than long. They were rather short, but this seemed to be due to short legs rather than short bodies. He stated that he had difficulty breathing, a swollen tongue, and a pressure in his head. A tube was inserted into his mouth, he inhaled, and felt better. He was given a piece of food the size of a kernel of corn. After he chewed and swallowed this, he felt as if he had eaten a full meal. Sun light shown through round windows in the curved ceiling. The material in the window bulged in and out as if breathing. He was given a robe to put on that completely covered him except for a hole for him to see through. They climbed up a string ladder to a deck above them. From the deck, he saw four wings which were flapping slowly. From the position of the nose of the ship, it was evident that they were going upwards and tilted to the right (as if banking). He again experienced difficulty breathing and again the tube was inserted into his mouth. In spite of the cold outside, he was very warm in the robe. All he could see above him was the blue of the sky, and below, nothing but clouds. They returned to the inside of the ship. Back on the inside, he again ate and was given two or three drops of a liquid which almost made him drunk. His robe was removed and they pointed to it and said 'fegole', which was the name of their government. He soon learned that when he wanted to go out on the deck, all he had to do was say 'fegole.' (H)

He saw all kinds of machinery; wheels, pistons, cylinders, etc., but could not figure out how it worked. When it was evidently getting dark, they again donned the robes and went back to the deck. Again, he had to breathe from the tube. The sky was so black, that he saw 10 times as many stars as he had ever seen and they were all in various colors, not as seen on earth. They circled an area and soon landed. When the string ladder was lowered, he sprang for it. However, he found that he was chained to two of the beings. The other two beings descended, but they had to breathe through a tube inserted in their mouths. It was evident that they could only breathe the lighter air high above the ground. The captain checked the ship out and the other being picked up samples of earth, grass, rocks, etc., When it started to get lighter, they left. The legs that it rested on got longer and longer until the craft was about 50 feet from the ground. Here the wings extended outward and began flapping. The craft was moving. He looked below and saw that the legs were running. He asked for and was given paper and pen and began writing this manuscript. When he finished writing, they were getting ready to land despite of rough winds and landing area, and he threw it overboard.

(H)

The Darlington (MI) Democrat printed an article which appeared in weekly installments from April 29th to May 20th. It has all the makings of a hoax; however, it was not confirmed. It stated that on a beautiful summer (7) night, the members of the Whay Club were lingering around the whay barrels when they saw a great light moving toward them. One man said "it's the advance agent of prosperity sent out by McKinley and like the dove sent out from the ark cannot find a place to rest." It approached and landed near by. It was shaped like a long necked duck with an immense bill. A door opened and a man emerged carrying a roll of paper and a pencil. They thought it was another person petitioning for the postmaster position. They tried speaking to him in Dutch, French, English, and Norwegian, but he responded to none of them. The stranger grabbed the writer, a man called Hired Man, and dragged him toward the airship. When they got to the ship, the stranger let go, went into the ship, and returned with a bolt of wool. They now felt that he was a foreigner who had built the airship to avoid the duty from the tariff bill and wanted to trade it for Limburger cheese. There was a discussion concerning the tariff and its effect on trade and prices. One of the witnesses left and returned with some Limburger cheese which caused the stranger to faint. A few of them carried him to the airship where he touched a glass ball and a door opened. When they had him inside, the door closed and they felt the craft move. They eventually got the top part of the door open and found themselves 500 feet above the cheese factory and they could see people looking up at the ship. Inside, they met a beautiful lady who said she had been taken from her home a year ago. They suddenly felt the ship falling and they were knocked out. When they came to, the stranger was injured and the lady was unconscious. They found that they were back on the ground and got out of the ship. The stranger hit the Hired Man and he was knocked out. When he came to, he was surrounded by the other men, the ship was gone, and they found a note. It was from the lady and she asked them to build an airship to rescue her. (Throughout the story there were many political comments and cuts.)

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victims, not "crackpots."

A major catalogue of UFO abduction cases, with analysis of recurring patterns and significant features, has been compiled by Dr. Edward Bullard. This massive document will be released by the FUND in 1986, along with a complementary study by Michael Frizzell conducted independently. Together, these two reports will become sourcebooks and will provide guidance for all future studies of abduction case reports. They will provide an overview of the nature and scope of the UFO abduction question, which should stimulate further research.

A major study of the 1896-97 "mystery airship" reports in the U.S., by Robert G. Neeley, Jr., is in an advanced stage and is expected to be released in 1986. Research support by the FUND enabled Mr. Neeley to travel extensively throughout the U.S. to visit major libraries and depository sites and to obtain a large amount of new information, despite the fact that several other people already have conducted fairly comprehensive research of this topic. The resulting catalogue and analysis should be the most definitive study yet conducted of what might be called the first wave of UFO sightings in the U.S. If, in fact, there is a conventional explanation for the reports, the information compiled by Mr. Neeley will be an important factor in resolving this question.

In parallel with the U.S. study, the FUND recently approved a grant to a team of British investigators to compile and analyze data on "mystery aircraft" reports in the British Isles early in the 20th Century. This study will get under way in 1986.

Another project funded over the past two years and expected to result in a final report during 1986 is an update (considerably expanded) of the study by V.J. Ballaster-Olmos of Iberian

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emportant plusieurs moutons, et aurait été vu tuant du bétail, à plusieurs reprises. Le texte ne précise pas comment il s'y prit, pour emporter plus d'une bête. Aurait-il fait plusieurs voyages ?

Un témoignage très surprenant est celui de deux fermiers qui prétendirent avoir vu sept « hommes volants » se poser gracieusement à moins de cinquante mètres d'eux. Les intrus étaient six jeunes garçons, accompagnés d'un homme d'âge mûr. Le rapport ne précise pas si ces « hommes volants » avaient des ailes. Notons que dans la Vague de 1954, on trouve un cas de petit homme qui fut vu s'envolant à la verticale, sans qu'il eût besoin d'un engin pour se déplacer. Et il existe d'autres exemples analogues.

les réactions des scientifiques

Lorsque les articles faisant état de témoignages sur l'Airship commencèrent à encombrer les pages des journaux locaux (notamment ceux des grandes villes, comme Chicago ou New York), les rationalistes du pays s'en donnèrent à cœur joie.

Comme leurs confrères de notre époque, ils n'étaient pas en manque d'imagination pour expliquer les phénomènes. La plupart des « experts » interrogés étant des astronomes, les rationalistes du moment trouvèrent en Vénus la panacée résolvant tous les mystères. Parfois, lorsque l'Etoile du Berger n'était pas visible à l'heure de l'observation, ils firent appel à Alpha d'Orion, ou plus simplement, à des ballons d'enfants.

Apparemment, aucun de ces hommes de science ne tenta de rencontrer des témoins. Il y eut même un astronome pour avouer à un journaliste venu le consulter, qu'il avait préféré rester cloîtré chez lui, plutôt que de sortir dans la rue pour voir l'Airship, comme l'avaient fait ses voisins ! Comme la quasi-totalité des astronomes étaient des pasteurs protestants, peut-être avaient-ils reniflé une odeur de soufre dans l'affaire...

Comme toujours, il y eut des exceptions. Parmi les témoins que j'ai pu localiser dans les comptes-rendus de presse, figurent deux astronomes. Malheureusement, compte tenu des risques encourus pour leur réputation, ils préférèrent rester anonymes...

La presse accueillit plutôt fraîchement les témoignages, et certains journalistes n'hésitèrent pas à s'en gausser, parfois de manière vexante pour les observateurs. C'est ce qui ressort de mon étude des éditoriaux et autres relations comportant des critiques sur les témoignages concernant l'Airship. (J'emploie sciemment, ici, le singulier, car pendant plusieurs semaines, on crut qu'il n'y avait qu'un seul appareil, qui vagabondait à travers plusieurs Etats.)

conclusion

Etant donné qu'en 1897, il n'existait pas de « syndrome extraterrestre » (contrairement à 1954, par exemple), et que l'esprit des témoins n'était pas matraqué par les agressions de la radio, de la télévision et de la publicité, la crédibilité de cette série exceptionnelle d'événements s'en trouve renforcée.

Dans mon étude de 1987 comme dans sa version augmentée de 1995, je ne me prononce pas sur l'interprétation de ces phénomènes. Je me borne à démontrer que cette vague s'est bien produite, en dépit de certains abus que je signale.

Pour conclure le présent article, je prendrai un risque. A mon sens, ces incidents n'ont rien d'exotique, et ne paraissent pas suscités par des êtres intelligents en provenance d'une autre planète. Il n'y a rien, dans les éléments que j'ai collectés, qui puisse démontrer l'intrusion de voyageurs issus d'un monde lointain. La seule évidence est celle d'une intelligence. Quant aux airships et à leurs occupants se comportant comme des inventeurs (tels que pouvaient les concevoir les Américains des zones rurales en cette fin du XIX^{ème} siècle, parfois avec un marteau et un burin, occupés à « faire des réparations »), je suis plus dubitatif. J'ai le net sentiment qu'il s'agit de « représentations théâtrales », de scénarios, l'Airship et ses occupants n'étant que des leures psychiques, ou matérialisés temporairement.

Que sont venus faire ces Airships aux Etats-Unis en 1897 ? Honnêtement, je n'en sais rien. Peut-être sont-ils venus semer quelque chose, qu'ils ont ensuite récolté, cinquante ans plus tard. Après tout, c'est aux Etats-Unis que « sont nées les soucoupes volantes », en 1947, et comme par hasard, c'est le pays qui domine et régente notre planète...

Mais qui donc pourra dire un jour quelle est la finalité de tous ces phénomènes ?

"Prehistoric" UFOs: A Review

By Thomas E. Bullard, PhD.

Dr. Bullard holds a doctorate in folklore from Indiana University where he wrote his dissertation on UFOs. His last appearance here was a comparative summary of UFO abduction reports.

What Charles Fort started when he collected old reports of strange aerial phenomena has continued as a distinctive and vigorous branch of ufology today. Historical research lures investigators with the hope of digging out bygone sightings and even unknown fossil evidence for a whole lost world of past observations and beliefs by which to gain a unique perspective on the present. Takers have been many and diligent. The result is a growing but scattered literature too often overlooked and unappreciated. This review will highlight some of the important contributions to pre-1947 historical research.

PHANTOM AIRSHIPS

The chief focus and biggest find of historical ufology is the phantom airship wave of 1896-97. Fort turned up a few reports from April 1897 in the New York newspapers, and Donald Keyhoe referred to a lighted airship over the Midwest in his list of old sightings in *The Flying Saucers Are Real* (1950). In his first UFO book, *Flying Saucers* (1953), skeptic Donald H. Menzel extended the wave in time and space with reports from California late in 1896. References to these airships became part of a litany recited by many subsequent authors to prove that UFOS were nothing new and by no means discountable in every case as misidentified airplanes.

By the mid-1960s researchers turned from authority to original sources and began to search old newspapers in earnest for airship reports. The extent and complexity of this wave became plain as articles in *FSR* by Jerome

Clark (Jan. - Feb. 1965, July - Aug. 1966, July - Aug. 1967), Lucius Farish (May - June 1965), Clark and Farish (Sept. - Oct. 1968, Jan. - Feb. 1969), Donald B. Hanlon (Sept. - Oct. 1966) and Hanlon and Jacques Vallee (Jan. - Feb. 1967) detailed sightings and landings from a dozen states. Airship articles spread to *Fate* with an article by Farish (Nov. 1966) and a series of three articles there by Clark and Loren Coleman (May - July 1973). Clark and Farish again collaborated during the mid-1970s in articles for *Saga's UFO Report*. Farish carried on a column about historical UFOs with emphasis on 1897 in *Skylook* throughout 1972.

Geographically specialized articles appeared as early as 1938, in the winter issue of *Prairie Schooner*, when Rudolph Umland published an account of the airship over Nebraska, based on WPA research in newspapers from that state. A second article on Nebraska airships, authored by Roger L. Welsch, appeared in the 1979 volume of *Nebraska History*. Robert G. Neeley, Jr. presented an exhaustively researched record of the airship in Illinois in the *Journal of UFO Research* (1979), George M. Eberhart followed the ship through Ohio (*Pursuit*, Winter 1977), and Hanlon's 1966 article covered activity in Texas. Dale M. Titler added a Canadian and Siberian phase to the wave with reports of a stray balloon from the summer and fall of 1897 (see Clark and Farish, *FSR*, Jan. - Feb. 1969), while Loren Gross expanded on this discovery in his book *Charles Fort, the Fortean Society, and UFOs* (1976), and William Retoff gave further details in "The Great Canadian Starship Invasion" (*Ideal's UFO Magazine*, August 1980).

Extended surveys of the 1896 - 97 wave became the norm in many UFO books published during the 1970s, notably John Keel's *UFOs - Opera-*

tion Trojan Horse (1970), David M. Jacobs' *The UFO Controversy in America* (1975), and Paris Flammonde's *UFO Exist!* (1976). As the literature has grown, so has the need for self-correction. The Leroy, Kansas, "calfnapping" case made famous by Vallee in *Anatomy of a Phenomenon* (1965) proved to be a hoax when researched in depth by Clark (*Fate*, Feb. 1977), and H. Michael Simmons exposed the equally familiar Aurora, Texas, crash in his article, "Once Upon A Time in the West" (*Magonia*, Aug. 1985).

In several books the airships have moved to center stage. They occupy a large fraction of *Mysteries in the Skies: UFOs in Perspective*, by Gordon I.R. Lore and Harold H. Deneault (1968), and Loren Gross devoted *The UFO Wave of 1896* (1974) to a detailed study of the first phase of the wave. The most extensive investigation of sources ever undertaken was completed recently by Robert G. Neeley, Jr., who spent three years travelling throughout the country to search some 5,000 newspapers for airship reports. His *The Airship Chronicle*, published by the Fund for UFO Research, summarizes the sightings he uncovered in some 2,500 entries and offers a definitive record of this largest of airship waves.

THEORIES

Interpretation of the airships as something other than spaceships seen through turn-of-the-century eyes has been the focus of several books and articles. Clark and Coleman adapted their findings to a chapter in *The Unidentified* (1975), a book seeking to link UFO phenomena with the psychological archetypes of C.G. Jung. Ron Miller's "Jules Verne and the Great Airship Scare" (*IUR* May - June 1987) favors the sociological argument that whatever the ultimate nature of the

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