
Ohio

AIRSHIP REPORTS

OF 1897 .

OHIO AIRSHIP REPORTS OF 1897

62 PAGES

QUINCY ALLIGATOR

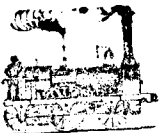
Making Things Lively About the Marsh Lately.

Saturday's Kenton Daily Democrat says: The people in the vicinity of the Scioto Marsh are in a great state of excitement because of the appearance of an alligator in a swamp near Foraker. It was first seen Wednesday by some boys who were hunting. They were badly frightened and reported their discovery. A search was made but it was not seen again until Friday. It is probable that the alligator is one that escaped from the park at Quincy a few weeks ago.

(Logan County Index, April 8)
1897

AIR SHIPS ARE NOW A FAD

...On April 5 people at Nashville, Illinois, saw something that some thought was a balloon, while others were sure it was a flying machine. Two days later a doctor at Vinton, Iowa, reported that he and his family heard the air ship "swishing through the air" and that he saw it flying against the wind.... and Northwood, a town near the Minneapolis state line, reported the machine in sight at 10:30 o'clock [April 8].



(Toledo Blade, April 12)

ANDERSON PEOPLE

Claim to Have Seen the Strange Flying Machine Recently.

...Parties in another section of the city, among them Deputy Clerk Fulton, state that they saw it early Friday morning.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 15)

Platte City, Mo., April 12.--The town was roused Saturday night at 10 o'clock by tinkling of bells overhead. Every one rushed out doors. Suspended in mid air was an object over 100 feet long and 20 wide. Two immense fins on either side of it moved up and down.

(Columbus Press, April 12)

Saw a Man In it.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

LAGRANGE, IND., April 12.--The mysterious airship which has been hovering over Chicago for the past few days was visible here early last night. It came from a westerly direction, and then, turning southwest for awhile, hovered over this section, and then turned and went toward Chicago. The powerful telescope at the How Military School, at Lima, was turned on it, and the professor in charge declares he could distinguish a figure moving about.

Elkhart Right in Line.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

ELKHART, IND., April 12.--A large number of persons claim to have seen an airship passing over this city between 10 o'clock and midnight last night. It presented all the peculiarities that have been so generally described.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 13)

2

Seen at Manchester.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

WABASH, IND., April 13.--The report came from North Manchester last night that what appeared to be an airship floated lazily over that place at a height of a quarter of a mile last evening. Several persons claim to have seen the headlight and watched the dark mass until it disappeared. The description of the machine corresponds with that given by the Western people who assert they have seen it.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 14)

Muncie Speaks Up.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

MUNCIE, IND., April 13.--Sylvester Oran, a resident of Avondale, a suburb of this city, claims to have seen the mysterious airship this morning about 3 o'clock. He was called to go for a doctor, and on leaving his home he says his eyes were attracted by a bright light in the heavens. It moved swiftly from north to south, going at a great speed and vanishing in a few seconds. He bears a good reputation for veracity, and his story is believed.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 14)

ANDERSON PEOPLE

Claim to Have Seen the Strange Flying Machine Recently.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

ANDERSON, IND., April 14.--Fifteen or twenty Andersonians of good reputation claim to have seen the real thing in the airship line last night. It was hovering over the city, and those who saw it say there could be no further doubting. They were in the west part of the city. Ladies were called out, and the party watched the strange electric light until it disappeared in the northern mist....

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 15)

SIX MEN

Seen in the Airship...

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

MARION, IND., April 14.--The much-talked-of airship passed over Marion this afternoon about 3 o'clock about six miles to the south and apparently about a mile from the earth. It came from the northwest and veered around to the east. It appeared to be a cigar or boat-shaped body, with large wings. Six passengers were aboard.

Strong telescopes made the color of the body visible, and reliable citizens declare that it was of a brown cast, and that the wings

were white. About 7 o'clock this evening an object carrying a large light, apparently that of a headlight, was seen passing over Marion, coming from the east and bearing off to the northwest.

Prof. Alva Graves, Principal of the high school, with W.H. Sanders, editor of the Chronicle; Howard Roose, city editor of the Morning News; H.M. Elliott, an attorney, and your correspondent, went to the High School Observatory, where they have a telescope of the finest make, but when the telescope was placed in position, the object had passed behind a bank of clouds, and could not be seen.

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3

IN DAYLIGHT

The Queer Machine Seen to Land Near Gas City.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

GAS CITY, IND., April 14.--About 3 o'clock this afternoon hundreds of the inhabitants of this city were amazed and startled upon looking into the heavens to see approaching from a northwesterly course what appeared to be an immense bird. As it approached it came nearer the earth, and the outlines of the flyer could be distinctly seen. It was in the shape of a cigar, and was propelled by broad canvas wings.

People rushed to the point where they thought it would land, but all were fooled. The airship, as it proved to be, lighted in a field on the Roush farm, about one mile east of the city. Cattle and horses were terrified, and consternation reigned supreme. A rush was made for the Roush farm, but the navigators of the monster anticipated the move, and before the crowds reached the farm the mysterious airship was again seen in the air, going in an easterly direction.

Some of the best business men will vouch for having seen the ship, among them L.V. Seybrant, and D.E. Conway, of the Mississinewa Hotel; W.H. Guthrie, W.P. Garthwait, G.W. Villars, D.W. Cox, William M. Dunlap and others.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 15)

FARMER SCARED

When the Air King Sailed Over to Jig Time.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

CASSTOWN, OHIO, April 15.--This morning James McKensie, a well-known farmer living about a mile north of here, came to town with a startling story about the airship. Mr. McKensie is entirely responsible. His story is that about 6 o'clock last night, while engaged in feeding his hogs, he was startled by a strange noise not unlike the passage of a flock of geese. Upon looking up, he further says, he saw what at first appeared to be a huge bird headed in a southwesterly direction.

He distinctly saw the wing-like object by which the supposed airship propelled itself through the air, and noticed what appeared to be a large rudder. The ship was moving quite leisurely, and Mr. McKensie avers that a sound like that of distant music accompanied it. The object was not more than 150 feet from the earth, and but

for the gathering dusk he believes he could have seen its tenants.

One of his neighbors heard the strange sounds at the same time, but did not get to see the great modern air bird. As the farmer had not read anything about the alleged airship said to be travelling through space, he was on the lookout for nothing of the kind, and now, since he has heard of the airship, he is of the opinion that it was the object he saw last night over his farm.

As the thing disappeared he says he heard a sound very much like a human voice, and something large and white seemed to leave the ship. A party will leave this village to-day to look for the supposed message which is expected, if found, to reveal the identity of the air king and its people.

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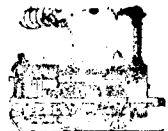
Seen in Portland.

PORTLAND, IND., April 15.--Several citizens claim that the mysterious airship which has been causing such a furore passed over Portland last night, and that the lights were plainly discernible. Some claim to be able to give in general its outlines, and their description is in accordance with that which has been telegraphed from a number of places.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 16)

Several young men claim they saw the much talked of flying machine, or some other bird, flying over Bluffton last Wednesday evening.

(Bluffton News, April 22)



ANDALUSIA, ILL., April 15.--Seven residents of this place saw the mysterious air ship at 11 o'clock last night. Jim Dinkerson, the livery stable man, shot at it, and the air was at once so strongly charged with sulphur that breathing became extremely difficult. Fearful noises issued from the clouds by which the ship was surrounded, and some of the more superstitious people ran into their houses and locked themselves up, being convinced that Old Nick was out on one of his periodical excursions....

DOWAGIAC, MICH., April 15.--Several people saw the air ship passing over Dowagiac last night, at about 11 o'clock. It left three distinct trails of fire in its rear, and for two hours after the stranger had gone the air was heavily charged with something that gave out an odor like garlic.

HORNELLSVILLE, N.Y., April 15.--The air ship passed here last night. An envelope was dropped from it with a message to the effect that the ship was on its way to New York, where an effort would be made to have it written up for the new journalism. The message was signed: "Nemo Numis, chief deputy for the Second district of Mars."

(Washington Court House Cyclone and Fayette Republican, April 22)

(7A)

THE AIR SHIP

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That Was Seen in Chicago Last Week
Was Seen by Kenton People Last
Evening.

5

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The air ship that was seen in Chicago last week seems to be near Kenton, as many people from this city claim they saw the air ship last night about 7 o'clock. As will be remembered, the air ship started a few weeks ago from San Francisco to make a trip across the continent. Since the ship has started it was seen only a few times, and Chicago was the last place it was seen until some well-known Kenton people saw it over this city last night. They supposed, of course, the ship was coming this way to see those new bicycle suits at Morgenroth's....

(Kenton News-Republican, April 15)

AIR SHIP A FAKE.
No Truth In the Story That it Has Been
Seen Over Omaha. 6

Among others who have read about the wonderful airship that the dispatches state has been seen over Omaha and other western cities nearly every night for weeks past is Attorney W.T. Sawyer of this city. Having a brother-in-law out in Omaha, a practicing attorney, Mr. Sawyer determined to write him and learn of the strange ship that navigated the air. This is the answer to Mr. Sawyer's letter:

OMAHA, Neb., April 12, 1897.

DEAR BROTHER--I received your letter ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ dated April 9, this morning, and will endeavor to give you the desired information.

I have not been around through the city a great deal after night and have found but one or two parties who have seen the air ship that you inquire about. From the location of the city where they reside, and the associates accompanying them, and the kind of liquor that they partake of, they would most certainly be capable of not only seeing air ships, but also reptiles of most any description.

There is absolutely no foundation in the rumors and the telegrams that have been sent out, and the parties who have claimed to see it are not responsible nor reliable, and it is all fiction.

I.F. MADLEM.

(Akron Times-Democrat, April 14)

Prominent residents of Dunkirk, a small village north of Kenton, claim to have seen the mythical airship Thursday night at 8:15 o'clock. It was going east at a rapid rate, and was so close to the earth that you could hear men's voices. It looked as large as a wagon bed and had something like wings stretching from each side and a propellor at each end. On the front was a red light, while the rear carried a greenish yellow lamp.

(Cadiz Harrison County Democrat, April 21)

TALKING

Heard by the Citizens

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SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

DUNKIRK, OHIO, April 15.--An airship passed over this place about 4 o'clock this morning. It is supposed to be the same one which was seen in Marion, Ind., yesterday evening. It was going in an easterly direction, and when at the eastern part of the city it was within 200 feet of the ground.

It was seen by Willie Mahon, the Marshal, railroad tower men and several prominent ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ citizens. When passing over these gentlemen they could hear several men in the airship talking very loud, but could not distinguish what they were saying. From what could be seen it resembled a wagon bed with large wings extending on either side, and looked to be large enough to hold a dozen men.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 16)

SEEN AT DUNKIRK

THE MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP

Which Is Causing So Much Talk Passed
Near Kenton and Over Dunkirk Last
Night

7

Seen by Several.

"I tell you I saw it."

Such was the joint remark firmly asserted by two young men last night who were trying to make the reporter believe they had seen the famous airship that has of late obtained somuch newspaper notoreity.

These young fellows insisted that last evening about 7:30 they had observed close to the western horizon a bright light that gleamed forth first red, then green and then a sickly yellow. They spent some time watching the light and say that it seemed to flicker and dodge about as though it were on the move. In a few minutes a cloud came along and prevented further observation. They had read of the airship, knew it was on its way to Kenton and are now sure they saw it.

It is a shame to spoil a mysterious item like this, but conscience, which doth make cowards of us all, compels the writer to explain that the weird, flickering, airship-like light radiated not from a head light but from the star Alpha Orionis, a staid, steady old twinkler that has been peregrinating about in the heavens for several millions of years more or less. This star appears on the meridian about 5 o'clock and becomes visible to the eye about 7:30. It first becomes noticeable in the central southwest portion of the sky and resembles a strong white electric light. It then takes a course towards the northwest, traveling at an unusually rapid rate. As it begins to sink, the atmospheric conditions cause it to appear of a dull, reddish hue on the under side and green on the upper side, the central portion being white.

SEEN AT DUNKIRK.

The Airship Was Near That Place
Last Night and Certain Citizens
Could Hear Talking.

Special to the NEWS-REPUBLICAN.

DUNKIRK, O., April 16.--The airship that was seen at Marion, Indiana, yesterday passed over Dunkirk at 8:15 last night, going east at a rapid rate. Willis Mahon, ex-Marshal French and several other citizens saw it. They say it was so near the earth that you could hear men talking in it. The affair looked ~~XXXX~~ as large as a wagon bed and had something like wings stretching from each side and a propellor at each end. On the front was a red light while on the rear was a greenish-yellow lamp. Considerable excitement was created here when it was learned that Dunkirk had had a visit from the air navigator.

Probably the light seen by the Kenton young men might have been the air ship after all but we are led to believe that the Dunkirk people are merely trying to create a little excitement and thus boom Dunkirk. Ada and Forest will no doubt feel slighted now that they didn't have a visit from the aerial navigator.

(Kenton News-Republican, April 16)

THE MYSTERIOUS SHIP

WHICH PEOPLE HAVE SEEN FOR SEVERAL WEEKS.

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Floating Over Their Housetops, is observed
Near Lancaster Last Night, and One of the Occupants
Leaves a Strange Message With a Farmer.

"If I didn't see that air ship last night," said Byron Rutter to an EAGLE representative this morning, "it was a spectral invention painted with natural exactness in the vaults of heaven and there issued from it the sound of voices like those of human beings although the distance seemed so great that it reached me in a low, inarticulated rumbling from which nothing intelligent could be deduced."

"I will tell you how it was. Billy Schneider, you know Billy don't you?"

"Yes."

"Well, Billy and I were up in the northern part of the county looking at some cattle. You know the night was cloudy, and only occasionally did the moon peep out from behind some large embankment to smile in ghostly radiance on the earth below.

"It was during one of these spells, as we were driving along slowly that a dark shadow crossed the road immediately in front of the horse.

"I am not superstitious and never allow any thing to rattle my brain and for this reason, perhaps, I did not cry out in surprise or alarm. I just turned in the buggy and looked at Billy, and he was looking at me with an expression of inquiry over his countenance that spoke plainer than words could express that his thoughts were similar to mine.

"...at first I was half inclined to think that I had dozed off and dreamed that the ship was floating over me, but when Billy turned to me with the puzzled expression I knew that I was very much awake and the shadow was an actuality.

"We stopped the horse and both jumped out and we could just make out a dark object disappearing behind a rift of clouds. It was inclined at an angle of about 45 degrees, as though a landing had been made at some place not very far distant and they were ascending to a point above the lower wind currents.

"The thing was a great big massive structure in the shape of a cigar and seemed to be propelled by two pairs of large canvass wings. It moved with considerable velocity and seemed to be well under control.

"We did not see the headlight, which most of the Indiana people claimed that they had seen, but there might have been one attached that escaped our observation, as the thing was going upwards and away from us.

"After the ship had disappeared, we continued down the road and met a group of men. We made inquiry if they had seen the mysterious aerial monster, and they all replied that they had. One of the men stated that his attention was first attracted to the mysterious contrivance by noticing a large cigar-shaped monster rising slowly from one corner of his farm. He ran towards it and distinctly saw six or seven faces looking over the top of the car, and could distinctly hear their voices as they conversed with one another.

"What did they say," I eagerly inquired.

"Oh nothing much," replied the farmer, "only one old fellow leaned away out over the side and yelled loud enough to rip the canvas wings: 'if you see a couple of air ship prevaricators coming down the road, just correl them and I will stop tomorrow night and take them away.'" }

AIR SHIP CAUGHT IN CINCINNATI

It Is Photographed for the Commercial Tribune.

ON EXHIBITION TODAY

Old Trick of the Camera Explains the Hoax.

OTHER PICTURES TAKEN

A NATIONAL JOKE THAT IS GROWING OLD

SHIP'S TRAVELS YESTERDAY

The airship has arrived in Cincinnati. It was photographed for the Commercial Tribune while in full flight, and is at this identical moment in the Commercial Tribune counting room, where any one who cares to look at it may do so.

The airship in the Commercial Tribune counting room may not be the only one on earth, but it is as real as that which has been seen in so many different parts of the country by so many different people who do not own telescopes. It is a matter of record that not a single astronomer has seen the navigator of the air.

* The correspondents of the country have shown a wonderful lack of cooperation. On one day the ship was sighted at Topeka, Kan., at Cartersville, Ill., and at Muncie, Ind., at the same time.

Photographs ad lib. have been obtained and exhibited as proof that the airship really had been seen.

The joke was getting a bit stale, so the Commercial Tribune decided to try a little camera manipulating itself.

The Wily Camera.

For ways that are dark and tricks that are vain, the photographic camera is peculiar. It can give a man any number of heads, can make him face himself, stand on his own head and perform a thousand curious feats, all by the simple changing of the focus, or the position of the camera.

The Commercial Tribune has a photograph of the airship. It is a genuine photograph, and copies of it may be seen on exhibition in the Commercial Tribune counting room. The negative has not been touched or changed in the slightest degree and it is a bona fide photograph of a real airship. The only apparent deception is that of distance. The airship looks as if it were a mile or two up in the air, whereas it was at the time of taking of the photograph just eight feet and six inches from the earth by actual measurement.

How It Was Done.

Two pieces of cardboard were cut out in accordance with the popular idea of an airship. These two bits of cardboard were fastened together by a bit of slate-colored silk, which makes no impression on the photographic plate. The cardboard was rubbed with a lead pencil to dull its color, and the whole contrivance was hung by a bit of slate-colored silk to the end of a broomstick, about eight feet in the air and about the same distance from the camera.

Taking the Photograph.

The camera was pointed toward the sky so as to throw the top of the building next door (Colonel Nelson's residence in Newport) well toward the bottom of the plate. At the same time the airship was swung into position so as to show against the background of the sky. With that infinite depth behind it, it looked as if it might be well up toward the sun. An exposure of a fraction of a second over the usual time was allowed for the vibration of the airship, so as to give the indistinct appearance that is noted about any object

at great height. By the simple shifting of the camera the airship could have been shown at any altitude desired by the photographer.

A True Negative.

The negative thus obtained is absolutely true. There is no retouching, no "doctoring" nor putting in of figures. Any photographer might have developed the plate, and the same picture, as reproduced above, would have been secured.

The process used is just the reverse of that employed by the truthful fisherman to prove the stories he tells of six-foot fish he has caught....

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AERONAUTS GO FISHING.
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10

The Mysterious Ship Found Anchored in Lake Erie.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial Tribune.

CLEVELAND, O., April 15.--S.H. Davis, of Detroit, was in Cleveland today. He says he was out on his fish tug, the Sea Wing, Wednesday, headed for Cleveland Harbor, about fifteen miles from the piers. The fishermen noticed a queer looking boat about two miles away. Captain Jos. Singler, master of the tug, and Mr. Davis agreed in the statement that it appeared to be about four feet in length. It had a cabin covering about one-fourth of the deck surface. A man dressed in a checked hunting suit and wearing a long, peaked cap, was fishing from the boat. He was apparently about 25 years of age. A woman sat at his side. A boy of about 10 years sat at her feet.

As the Sea Wing neared the curious craft, to the amazement of those on the tug, a gaily decorated object which had been lying on the framework over the boat, was slowly inflated, and rose to the length of the ropes by which it was attached to the boat. It was a balloon, cylinder-shaped, about fifty feet long. Slowly the boat rose into the air until it stood directly over the tug, about 500 feet from the water. A large sword fish had been dropped from the airship. The fish was stunned by its fall, and was picked up by Captain Singler, and is now on exhibition in a tank at the fire tug, Cleveland, O.

After moving aimlessly about for a short time a sail was dropped from the air-ship, and the mysterious people were carried away by the high wind.

Mr. Davis said that the boat had a wheel similar to those on steamers. This, it is stated, acts as a propellor in the air, as well as on water.

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AIRSHIP'S TRAVELS.
--

Seen All Over Illinois and in Michigan.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial Tribune.

CARLYLE, Ill., April 15.--The airship was seen here tonight, going rapidly in a northeasterly direction. It showed a number of red lights.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial Tribune.

MT. VERNON, Ill., April 15.--What is thought to be the mysterious airship was seen here last night by a hundred persons. Mayor Wells says it resembled the body of a huge man swimming through the ~~air~~ air, with an electric light on his back.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial Tribune.

SOUTH HAVEN, Mich., April 15.--The airship passed here last evening, headed westward. It was cigar-shaped, and moved with remarkable speed.

(SE)

Special Dispatch to the Commercial Tribune.

HILLSBORO, O., April 15.--A number of reputable citizens saw the airship here last night about 10:30 o'clock. Red lights were plainly visible.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial Tribune.

QUINCY, Ill., April 15.--The Wabash passenger train which arrived here at 10 o'clock tonight raced for fifteen miles with the airship. They first sighted the thing near Perry Springs, fifty-two miles east of Quincy, and raced with it to Herzman, when it pulled ahead of the train and disappeared. The train was running forty miles an hour. All of the passengers saw it, but all they could see was two lights, one white, the other red.

(Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 16)

11

[editorial on French newspaper's attitude--
they think somebody's finally invented one]

(Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 18)

THE WONDERFUL AIRSHIP
It Has Been Seen by Akronians on Two Different
Nights.

John W. Hudson, of 476 East Center street, says that one of his neighbors called him out of the house last evening, saying that the celebrated airship was floating above the city. Hudson responded and said that he could see what looked like a moving light in the heavens. His neighbor says, however, that he could distinguish the outlines of a huge air ship.

The effects of North Howard street whiskey are said to have exerted such a powerful influence on a number of residents of North Hill the other night that they were able to see the ship plainly in the heavens.

It would have been too bad if Akron had not been able to give its air ship story to the world, in view of the fact that every other town in the country has had the air ship floating over it.

(Akron Beacon and Republican, April 16)

12

St. Louis, April 17.--The airship visited St. Louis again at night. This time the bright searchlight was not only seen by thousands, but the object was observed through a telescope, and the outlines of the craft were seen. The person who caught this exact view of the transitor and brought it near the earth by means of a powerful lens is Dr. Loo Caplen. Dr. Caplen is one of the leading men in his profession. He is respected by all who know him, and his word is to be implicitly relied on....

Louisville, April 17.--Citizens of Russellville, a city of 10,000, say they saw an airship Thursday night. Mayor B.B. Andrews, City Clerk McCutcheon, James McCutcheon, the oldest and wealthiest merchant in the city, and Dr. Charles Forthand, men of unquestioned standing, declare they saw a "strange aerial cruiser" circle around the city for ten minutes before sailing off to the west.

Clarksville, Tenn., April 17.--Two local warehousemen, three merchants and four city officers saw the mysterious airship Thursday night. They say it was about one mile high and travelled from the east to the northwest....

TOOK ON COAL.

Wellsville, Mo., April 17.--S.S. Kettle, a prominent citizen, positively says he saw the airship Thursday at 9:15. It stopped half a mile west of the city and took on three tons of coal, then left in a southerly direction.

(Columbus Evening Press, April 17)

...Robert Hitch and family, who live three miles south of Elpaso, saw an airship in the heavens between 8 and 9 p.m. yesterday

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 17)

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The air ship which has been attracting so much attention in the west has made its appearance in Licking county, this state. Several citizens of Newark claim to have seen it Friday night.

(Caldwell Journal, April 22)

THEY SAW THE AIRSHIP.

Two Belated Sanduskyites Claim to Have
Seen it Yesterday.

13

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That much discussed and variously located airship has been soaring majestically over this city. Wm. McKean and Dan Spran, it is said, are willing to make affidavit and do solemnly swear that they observed the strange aerial traveler sailing rapidly over Sandusky in a westerly direction and observed the several colored lights, it is alleged the thing displays to warn meteors, comets, planets and various other heavenly navigators of her approach to starboard or port or otherwise, as the case may be.

Messrs. McKean and Spran claim to have seen the airship between 10 and 1 o'clock yesterday morning and believe it was no illusion but the much talked of airship.

(Sandusky Register, April 17)

(1)

UNQUESTIONED

Is the Veracity of Those Who Saw the Mystery.
SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

VINCENNES, IND., April 16.--More than a score of citizens of unquestioned veracity saw some strange body passing over the city early this evening, which they think was the mysterious airship. It was at a great altitude and moved rapidly in a southeasterly direction, straight over the city.

Such men as Colonel M.P. Ghee, ex-Mayor Ewing, Edwin Watson, Thomas Eastham, Judge DeWolf, Scott Emison, Will Mason, and others, saw the strange aerial visitor in its nocturnal migration. Heretofore they have doubted the story of the airship, but all now admit that seeing is believing.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 17)

14

AMONG THE HOOSIERS.

Washington, Ind., April 17.--The supposed airship was seen several miles west of this city Friday night. A dull red light, described as one foot wide and two feet long, was exhibited.

The airship was also seen at Lawrenceburg, Ind., Friday night.

(Columbus Evening Press, April 17)

THAT AIRSHIP.

--
Strange Lights Seen High in the Sky

--
Are Believed to Have Been Carried by
the Mysterious Aerial Navigators--
North Side Young Men "Drooped."

Shortly after 7 Friday night Mrs. Thomas Kyte of 509 East Thornton St., saw several lights in the sky, apparently just beneath the clouds, moving in a southwesterly course. She called the attention of her husband and daughter, Miss Eva, to the lights. Mrs. Kyte called Groceryman J.A. Rohner, whose store adjoins the Kyte property.

Those who saw the lights concluded that they were attached to an air ship, as the uncertain outlines of an object of prodigious size, resembling a balloon, could just be distinguished.

Mr. Rohner was enabled to catch only a glimpse of the lights, as a cloud obscured further vision.

Mr. Kyte's family and Mr. Rohner are firm in their belief today that the lights they saw were attached to the mysterious air ship of whose supposed journeys at night so much has been said in the newspapers of the northeastern and middle states recently.

A DEMOCRAT reporter accompanied by a notary, started out today to get the affidavits of John Hoagland, Ralph Hogan and other North Side residents, who reported that they had seen the supposed air ship two nights ago....

(Akron Times-Democrat, April 21)

STRANGER
Seen in the Heavens.

Many Responsible People
Declare It an Airship--the
Whole Country is Excited.

15

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL., April 16.--A number of reports of airships seen this evening have been received, and are occasioning much wonderment in Bloomington. The telegraph operators at Rankin and Arrowsmith Stations on the Lake Erie and Western Railway, east of Bloomington, reported about 7:30 p.m. that about dark an airship had hovered over the towns and set out in the direction of Bloomington. Soon after this the crew of an Illinois Central train from the north arrived in the city. Conductor William Wamsley, E.M. Carter, Superintendent of Bridges, and Mr. Adamson, Chief of the Illinois Central, reported that while the train was at Woodford Station, near Minonk, about 8 o'clock, they saw an airship at great altitude and going west or northwest.

A few minutes later a passenger train of the Illinois Central arrived from Chicago. The mail agent on the train, J.P.W. Eson, of Bloomington, and William Black, train baggage men, asserted that they saw a gigantic aerial boat sailing westward while they were between Barnes and Marna Station in this (McLean) county. Others on the train declared that they also saw the airship. It was flat, of apparently perpendicular form, and carried red and white lights. Robert Hitch and family, who live three miles south of Elpaso, saw an airship in the heavens between 8 and 9 p.m. yesterday.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 17)

IS YOUR CREDULITY
IN CONDITION FOR THE ONLY TRUE
AIRSHIP STORY?

At last that mysterious wonder of the skies--the flying machine --has been seen by Marion eyes. This is no joke. Don't smile.

For many days the metropolitan papers have been teeming with dispatches from various points of the compass where the wonderful aerial navigator has been seen, describing its appearance, lights and sounds.

Friday night H.R. Bolander, superintendent of the Ohio Bicycle works, of this city, who is something of an astronomer in a small way, was out in his yard with a mirror scanning the heavens for a glimpse of the moons of Jupiter.

At about 8 p.m. Mr. Bolander says he was surprised to see in his mirror the bright lights from a peculiar looking airship. Quickly looking up he observed that the machine was cigar shaped and had a bright, spreading light looking something like the illumination that a large incandescent light would produce. Bolander says the airship was very high up and was moving in a southwesterly direction. He could hear no sounds emanating from the mysterious aerial visitor, but says he is a little hard of hearing.

The flying machine was also seen by John Reed, the State street

railway watchman, L.B. Gurley and other reliable men.

Some might say that it must be a peculiar kind of liquor that would make a man see flying machines, but then it is well known that these men are teetotalers, and no such excuse will go with them.

The celebrated flying machine has been seen in Marion. That's settled.

(Marion Daily Star, April 17)

STRANGE AIR CRUISER
ASTONISHES THE GOOD CITIZENS OF LOGAN.

--
A Church Member Describes the Curious Craft

--
Baffling America's Most Able Scientists and
Revolutionizing Atmospheric Travel.

Logan, O., April 17.--(Special.)--Friday night about 11 o'clock, while a party of young men, prominent in musical circles, were out on a serenading tour in the southern part of our city, they were somewhat startled and attract [?] flash of light and loud talking in mid air, in what seemed directly over their heads. At first they thought it was a streak of lightning, but on closer investigation they found it to be some large dark object hovering over the city, moving at a slow rate of speed in a southerly direction. The party became somewhat excited and started for the city and pointed the object out to their friends. At first they thought it some huge joke, a large kite sent up by some small boys, but after watching it for awhile they noticed it settling down on mother earth, and becoming more excited the boys concluded to follow the strange object and find out if possible where it would find a resting place. Messrs. Henry Rose, Fred Friesner and Charles Wood, three of Logan's young business men procured a buggy and started in hot pursuit, and, finally when three miles below the city, they saw the strange boat within a few feet of ground, and the men within seemed to be very much excited, judging from their loud talk. The young men in question alighted from their buggy and started tiptoeing to catch the strange article, but when within perhaps 50 feet it took sudden flight to the air. Mr. Rose judged the ship to be about 35 or 40 feet long and painted black and resembled a very large boat. Mr. Wood states that it was the most peculiar-shaped machine that he ever gazed upon and says it reminded him of the plans of the famous air ship at the world's fair, only built on a much larger scale. It is the current topic of the day on the streets of Logan, but up to this hour nothing new has been learned.

(Columbus Sunday Morning Press, April 18)

*Evelyn Briggs
Baldwin*
[Professor Baldwin, the Arctic explorer, watched the airship at Cairo, Illinois, and says it was Venus. "The air strata and smoke over its face as it hung a few degrees above the horizon distorted its appearance, and as it set it appeared to slowly float away."]

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 17)

WAS PLAINLY SEEN

The Airship Attracts Wide-Spread Attention.

TAKES PECULIAR FORMS

AS IT IS OBSERVED FROM MANY STANDPOINTS.

17

The flying machine has passed over Cincinnati!

This startling statement will come as a surprise to possibly two hundred thousand of the Queen City's sleepy inhabitants; but the other two hundred thousand will be glad to testify that last night between 12 and 1 o'clock the strange aerial ~~light~~-boat which has become famous of late, was seen passing over the city. Most of them saw it, or saw something strange in the sky, and, from the best authority obtainable, the Commercial Tribune prints this morning full descriptions of the new wonder that is startling the continent.

As the sun went down Thursday evening and the busy city prepared to enjoy itself for a few hours before taking its nightly rest, nothing seemed to indicate to the thousands of human beings who have read of the weird western visitor, that it would pass that very night over the Queen City, and that the trip would be witnessed by thousands of men and women. Unlike the city's other distinguished visitor, William J. Bryan, the vessel did not stop off and take supper. It is not a candidate for anything, it may be said in passing, save popularity and the free coinage of gas.

Felt It in the Air.

Later in the evening several people who are in the habit of having premonitions, declared that they felt that things were going to happen, and some went to their homes in order to avoid their creditors in case an earthquake threw them together in an indiscriminate mass. Their predictions came true at precisely 12:36 by the City Hall clock, which had gone to sleep an hour earlier.

Several days ago the flying machine was "spoken" near Sandusky, O., and it was observed then that she was headed for Cincinnati, with a look of get-there-or-bust in her electric eye. She got there. And she did not bust.

Suddenly there appeared in the clear, quiet, sky a small, brilliant, light moving at a rapid rate toward the south, and flying about half a mile above the level of the Ohio. It increased in size, and, almost before the astonished on-lookers could determine what they were gazing upon, it passed over the city, its great wings flapping silently in the air, its speed at least thirty miles an hour, and the sound of a triple expansion engine came from its vitals. As the thunderstruck and excited Cincinnatians looked up they all heard voices above them, and laughter and songs were also wafted down to the inhabitants. Then the great ship of the air was gone....

[lengthy and facetious stories by named persons follow-- "a huge champagne bottle as big as a house," "like a tray... There was a steam calliope aboard," etc.]

(Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 18)

[Jokers sent up hot air balloons at Muncie, Ind., at 9:30 p.m., April 17. The jokers were not identified, however.]

(Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 19)

THAT AIRSHIP AGAIN.

This Time It Is Seen by some Upper Sandusky Young Men Who Were Going Home Early in the Morning.

18

Special to the Plain Dealer.

UPPER SANDUSKY, April 17.--What appeared to be an airship of huge dimensions was observed by E.T. Kenan, clerk in Supervisor Shineman's office, at an early hour this morning.

Mr. Kenan, with a party of other young gentlemen in this city, attended a country dance and were on their way home. One of the party on looking to the northwest at a shooting star was thrilled by the sight of a brilliant object in the heavens. The party was alarmed at the sight. Finally Mr. Kenan suggested an airship and the party at once felt at ease.

The object was watched for fully half an hour as it seemed to gradually approach them. When it got near enough the lights were of very bright purple, yellow and green. The night was rather cloudy, but by the time the young men reached town the moon was shining and the outline of the huge airship could be traced. It was about forty feet in length, of the shape of an auger and had huge wings like a sixteenth-century windmill. At one time it made a dive to the earth but soon recovered itself and passed to the north and was soon lost in the darkness. It is the talk of the town today and but for the young men's standing in the community would not be believed.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 18)

SAW THE AIR SHIP.

A Motorman Who Made an Examination through a Beer Glass.

A motorman on the Main street electric line is the latest Akronian to describe an air ship. He claims to have seen this aerial wonder last Saturday night and made a careful microscopic investigation through the bottom of a beer glass. He states that contrary to universal opinions the body he saw in the heavens has the shape of a monster sea serpent and the light that glows from it is the fire spouted from its mouth. He claims to have made 16 examinations in 16 minutes...

(Akron Beacon and Republican, April 20)

UP IN A BALLOON!

WENT THE THOUGHTS OF A COUPLE WHO CAUGHT SIGHT OF THE MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP.

Honest In-gin the Great Monster Has Been Sighted from Morrow County by Two Who Never Tipple.

At about 8 p.m., on Saturday, three weeks since, there was seen in Gilead township something, call it what you may, that is strange. The witnesses are reliable, responsible people, who are farthest removed from anything sensational, or superstitious, or excitable.

They are sensible, everyday farmers who, for fear of even the little notoreity that would come with their names being connected with a report of the airship, request their names withheld. But that they saw something on that night out of the ordinary there can be no doubt. Whether it was an airship or not they do not even profess to say. All there was to be seen was a great light high up in the air with several lesser ones in the rear and traveling in a northwesterly direction. "When we first saw it," said they, "it was seemingly very high up. It looked more like the headlight of a locomotive than anything else we could think of. While we watched, it came down until it seemed not much higher than the treetops. It acted as a balloon does on coming down. The big light was very red, and the smaller ones not so bright, and seemed hung out behind the large one. It must have been far off and I said to my wife that it might not even be in Ohio. There was no quick motion to it at all, but was of slow, easy motion like a balloon. The lights were all we saw. The neighbors have joked us a good deal about it but," said the man, "I shall always think that it was something unusual. It was certainly no star nor meteor, but something beside that."

This is what they saw about what they saw. The wife saw it first when out taking some clothes in. Without going in she called for her husband who came out without a coat on. The evening was quite ~~XXXX~~ cool and he watched for some time, until chilly. He went in to get his coat on and on coming out it was out of sight. Take it for what it is worth this is a plain, unvarnished account of the sight. Was it an airship or not? Who will answer?

(MT. Gilead Union-Register, May 12)

19

TALKED

With the Airship Man, But He Would
Not Answer Them--Latest Chroniclers

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

LEXINGTON, KY., April 18.--George Alverson, a butcher, and Alex Oxford and Charley Hunter, railroad men, claim to have seen the much heralded airship and to have conversed with its lone occupant. They say that they were walking on Manchester street, near the Cincinnati Southern trestle, last night, when they were startled by a strange whirling noise overhead. It was near 9 o'clock. Through the darkness the machine made a rush earthward, settling in a vacant lot about 200 yards from where they stood. They hurried toward the vehicle of the clouds, but were met by a stranger some 40 years old. He had just emerged from the machine and had in his hand a bucket, which was filled with water from the springs near which his machine rested on the blue grass. Supplied with water, he re-entered the car, and then, declining to answer any of the questions put to him by the three men, he sailed away in the direction of Richmond. Alverson describes the machine as looking like a huge, winged spider. The body was cigar shaped and had a dull lead color.

The three men were reputable citizens, and their stories were so generally believed as to cause those who heard them last night to sit up later than usual, hoping that the airship might return.



BOTH SAW IT

And Both Are Certain That It Was an Airship.
SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

PADUCAH, KY., April 18.--Mr. George Langstaff, Jr., member of the firm of Langstaff & Orme, lumber dealers, and one of the most prominent men of the city, stated tonight to THE ENQUIRER correspondent that he and his wife and Mr. Isaac Quigley, one of the best known lawyers in the state, saw the airship last night at 9:30. Editor Starks, of the Metropolis (Ill.) Journal, has also written a description for THE ENQUIRER correspondent of the ship which he saw last night an hour later below Metropolis. Both are gentlemen of unquestioned integrity and both say that by no possibility could it have been a star.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 19)

20

COOLVILLE...

Some of our reputable citizens, Saturday night between nine and ten o'clock, claim that they clearly and distinctly saw the air-ship which according to the "dailies," has attracted the attention of hundreds of people throughout the west. This was in a northerly direction from our village and looked to be of an immense size, three different colored lights being easily distinguished. It no doubt, is the same as has created such comment throughout other states.

(Athens Messenger and Herald, April 22)

Wonderful Capers of That
Mysterious Airship About Ashland.

--

It Swoops Down Into a Coal Yard
and Steals Five Tons of Coal.

--

Well, at last the wonderful air ship which has been seen shooting through the heavens on a great many localities throughout the country has been witnessed right here in Ashland besides having been seen from various other places in the county. Indirectly the GAZETTE reporter has got particulars from the party who claims to have seen the wonderful thing but by request we do not mention the name, for fear people might think he had imbibed too freely of spirits, something he tells us he very seldom does, in fact never or hardly ever. From the report we find the ship appeared about eleven o'clock Saturday night and was seen coming in this direction from the north-west. It was about a mile high and appeared spiral or snake-like in form with six green lights emanating from it. It swung south rapidly when only straight above town and seemed to sink down towards the earth about three miles away. It was lost sight of for a few moments but was gradually seen to arise and wheel about, taking a northeasterly direction when it appeared almost due east again from the town it again gradually settled to the earth, after which time nothing more could be seen of it.

The latest report now comes from a small town just north-west of here where the air-ship rapidly descended to the earth and was all but caught in the act of scooping up five ton of coal. It got

away with the coal however and the manner in which it did it is said to be pretty smooth. Attached to its tail was a large grapple fork, operated by a series of ingeniously arranged pulleys, which swoops down and takes what it wants. The apparatus is said to look like a large reptile of the snake species, the mouth being the grapple fork. Several miles south of here the ship was seen by a fellow in that vicinity who says it descended onto a neighboring farmer's straw stack where it was observed sucking eggs from a nice big Easter nest. East of Rowsburg again it is reported to have been seen milking a man's Jersey cows. From a circular dropped there and picked up by the fellow, it stated 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 Gazette, April 20)

Alliance persons claim to have seen the air ship.

(Canton Repository, April 20)

Mrs. Eleanor A. Woodruff, a highly connected lady, of Findlay, has gone crazy over the reports of the airships published in the papers. She went to a neighbor's and requested him to make her an airship after her own plans so she could navigate it. In the evening she went into the street and stopped all passers-by and pointing to the evening star claimed it was her ship coming to take her and her friends on a long trip. She became violent and will be taken to the Toledo insane asylum.

(Akron Beacon and Republican, April 20)

CRAZY ABOUT AIRSHIPS

A Widow Imagines That She Has Built a Flying Machine.

...Mrs. Eleanor A. Woodruff, a widow of good family, recently appealed to a neighbor to build her an airship, saying she had all the plans in her head, and if he would build it for her that day she would navigate it that night.

She was put off with an evasive answer, but at night she became wild, and, going out into the street, stopped all passersby, and, pointing to the western heavens, wanted to know if they didn't see her airship. She pointed directly to the bright evening star and said it was the light of her ship, in which she would take them all around the world.--Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

(Akron Beacon and Republican, May 4)

[Mrs. Woodruff said to be "large and powerfully built" since "it required four men to place her on the train to Toledo."]

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 20)

AIRSHIP LANDED

Took Coal and Water at East Side Pumping Station.

22

Its Dimensions and Shape Accurately Described by Water Works Employes--Did Latham Hog the Ship?

...The first time that the air ship was seen in this vicinity was last Sunday morning, and the unfortunate gentleman to feast his eyes upon it was Thomas Morris, an engineer in the employ of the Columbia Gas Manufacturing company. He caught a glimpse of it just over Steelton, and described it accurately the same day. When last seen by Mr. Morris it was going towards Cincinnati. Later that day the members of the Columbus base ball nine got a glimpse of the machine while en route to Cincinnati to play the famous Reds of that city. Latham left the train at Springfield and took a trip across country to land the machine. When he joined the players at Cincinnati he refused to say whether he caught the machine or not, but Pete Daniels said he did.

*

At all events the machine was not heard of again until Tuesday morning. This information was received by The Press from the East Side pumping station by telephone. The story from the pumping station is vouched for by the following employes: Levelis, Charles Wright, John Goodrick, George Mettles and Charles Shouder. They all agree in the statement that the air ship landed there at 4 o'clock Tuesday morning and took on both coal and water, and that the machine was in charge of a man who wore a base ball uniform. The ship remained on terra firma about 20 minutes and then started south. They say the machine is 40 feet and 7½ inches long, about 7 feet deep, by 13 feet wide. It is shaped after the fashion of an Easter egg, the egg shaped part being painted black, with the exception of the tips, which are dyed a brilliant red.... it is rumored on the streets that Latham was the man in charge of the machine and that he will have it on exhibition at the ball park when the opening game of the exhibition is played.

(Columbus Evening Press, April 20)

THE AIRSHIP
SEEN NEAR MARIETTA.

Capt. W.E. Roe, of the Barnsdall, was interviewed by the Register, Just Before Going to Press, and the Story Speaks for Itself.

"About eight thirty, last night, (Sunday) when lying at Sistersville, a light was seen by myself and others high in the air and apparently right over the river below us, though no one could tell just how far. Nothing could be seen but a large white light, too white for a gas light and not quite white enough for an electric light. It had somewhat the appearance of a small search light on a steamboat. At times there could be seen a smaller light, of the same nature, just back of the big light. The light seemed to be moving

Galton, Ill., April 20.--Aaron Watson, one of Douglas county's old pioneers and a man whose word is truth, says he was out burning brush on the night of the 19th, and all of a sudden heard a whirring sound. Looking up he saw an airship. It was sailing very low, not more than a hundred feet from the ground. The ship is about fifty feet long and twenty feet wide. He could plainly see the people in the ship, for it was sailing very slowly. He saw them dancing and could hear the music very distinctly. He said two men were standing on deck. He heard one of them say: "I wonder who the gentleman is burning brush."

They then threw out an apple which fell close by where he was at work. The apple is on exhibition at the store of J.P. Woolford, in Galton.

DANIEL STORY.

(London (Ohio) Times, April 29, quoting the Chicago Inter Ocean, April 26)

HOVERED OVER THE TOWN

23

Citizens of Cochranville, O., Make Affidavit That They Saw an Airship.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial Tribune.

SISTERSVILLE, W. Va., April 19.--Since the newspapers have been chronicling the movements of a mysterious airship the people of the oil metropolis have been watching for it. Tonight about 9 o'clock a mysterious light was seen approaching from the northwest, gliding along until directly over Cochranville, O., when it slackened speed and rested, flashing lights, red, white and green.

An examination with strong glasses left the impression of a huge cone-shaped arrangement 180 feet long, with large fins on either side. The lights seemed to be in only the one end.

After standing twenty minutes, it floated away to the southwest.

(Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 20)

in a generally northwesterly direction, at other times retracing its course. The streets of Sistersville were crowded with people watching it. Nearly midnight it disappeared over a hill to the westward."

For so much the captain will vouch, but as to what carried the light he could not say. The same story was told by Elmer Hardy, watchman, and Litus Kinnard, engineer, who also witnessed it for some time, though the Register was unable to interview them.

(Marietta Daily Register, April 19)

24

Seen at Cutler.

The air ship was seen at Cutler, last night, by a rising young physician of that place, who recognized it at once. According to his account, it is about the size of a steamboat, with enormous wings. It had a big search light on its bow and gave forth a noise very similar to that of the gas engines at the Power House. It was moving in an easterly direction and very rapidly. It was apparently about 1000 feet above the earth.

The object was also seen by Ed Curtis and George Shearer, of this city. There are others.

(Marietta Daily Register, April 20)

Parkersburg, W. Va., April 20.--(Special.)--Seven responsible citizens have declared that they seen the mysterious air ship passing over this city again Monday night. The description of each of the queer vessel all correspond with one another, and as this is the second time the ship has been seen in this section much credence is given to the former reports. The description also tallies with those of the people who have seen the mysterious craft at other places.

(Columbus Evening Press, April 20)

OVER HARMAR HILL.

--
No More Doubt About the Air Ship--It was
Seen, Last Night, by a Prominent Res-
ident of Ohio Street.

--
If there has been any doubt as to the genuineness of the air ship stories they must vanish now. Mr. Pat Highland has seen it and stands ready to make affidavit that it is a reality. In speaking of it to a Register man, this morning, Mr. Highland said that his experience with the strange apparition took place last evening about half past eight o'clock. He was standing in front of his place, on Ohio street, looking at the sky and trying to determine whether or not there would be a frost, when suddenly just over the hills back of the Argand Refinery a brilliant light shot into view. It was moving at a very rapid rate and although at a considerable distance off, Mr. Highland had an excellent opportunity to study it. Mr. Highland said it appeared to be a sort of double light of a somewhat whiter color than ordinary lights. As soon as it got over the top of the hill it swooped down as if it was going right into the river, but when within one hundred feet of it veered off horizontally and soon began to rise and the last he saw of it was when it was disappearing behind the dark

Virginia hills. The whole space of time in which it made the flight described, could not have exceeded two and a half minutes.

Mr. Highland at the time had not heard of the famous air ship which had been attracting attention all over the county and he was at a complete loss to explain the wonderful phenomenon which he had just witnessed....

(Marietta Daily Register, April 20)

25

TOOK ON COAL

Did the Air Ship at Marietta.--Have the Proof of it.

--

Some small boys, last night, about nine o'clock, sent up a white paper balloon, from the Point near the Nye Foundry. This morning there were a great many Marietta people willing to make oath that they saw the air ship, and it was seen by some of them distinctly enough to describe it accurately. To some it appeared the shape of a sea-devil from the New Hebrides; to others it had the appearance of a Chinese dragon; others thought it egg shaped with wings and some believed it egg shaped without wings, but with tail and claws.

Messrs. Weber and Stewart both say they found coal missing from their respective yards this morning and this is taken as sure proof that the "ship" loaded up with fuel here at Marietta.

(Marietta Daily Register, April 20)

IT'S NO JOKE.

--

The Air-Ship Is Said to Have Been Observed Here Last Night.

--

Last night as the GAZETTE reporter was on his way home from council meeting he met two gentlemen who showed conclusive signs of excitement and it was soon found they had witnessed what they claim was the airship, so much read about of late. William McNabb and Seth Green are the gentlemen who actually claim they saw at about half past ten o'clock what appeared to them to be an air ship, and they were in dead earnest about it and willing to swear their statements. They were on Orange street at the time mentioned and suddenly they observed an object coming from an easterly direction and high up in the air. It looked like a rapidly moving street car with a strong head light upon it. Although high up it seemed to pass just over the spring bed shop on Orange street and on directly west. A brilliant light flashed from it at intervals.

When asked if the object might not have been a meteor they said it was not and had no resemblance whatever to one. The reporter was sorry he did not get the chance to see the so-called ship, but went on his way home, thinking pretty hard about the matter and scanning the heavens over and over again in an endeavor to get a glimpse of probably another ship.

Of course people will naturally be slow to believe the reports about seeing an airship until they witness the object with their own

eyes, but from the earnestness of the two reputable men above mentioned we are inclined to believe they either saw the so-called airship or some phenomenon closely resembling it.

(Ashland Gazette, April 20)

OHIO'S OWN AIRSHIP.

Message Dropped and Reward for
Its Delivery to Edison.

26

Special Telegram to the Blade.

Massillon, O., April 22--The plain people of Massillon are now wondering whether the cloud of witnesses who declare that they saw the airship here on Tuesday, have been swept off their intellectual legs or whether after all there is in fact some mysterious craft now flying through space. Since Tuesday not less than fifteen persons have come forward testifying in all earnestness that they saw this machine, and Frank Reed supplements this information by showing a letter addressed to Mr. Edison that he picked up on his premises, reading as follows:

"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 Blade, April 22)

AERIBARQUE.

That's It's Official Name.

A Lancaster Gentleman
Saw the Airship.

And Had a Talk with Its
Chief Engineer...

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

LANCASTER, OHIO, April 24.--A gentleman who is prominent in this city and well-known throughout the state but who positively declines to permit the use of his name, lest his friends should accuse him of "hitting the pipe," stated to THE ENQUIRER correspondent today that he had not only seen the much-bruited airship, but had pretty thoroughly inspected it, as well as conversed with one of its occupants.

His story, which he told in all seriousness, is a remarkable one, and argues either that he saw what he describes or possesses an imagination which ought to insure any one a fortune.

"A few evenings since," said he, "I was on my way home between Baltimore, in the northeastern part of the county, and this city. It was between 8 and 9 o'clock. My horse, a very quiet one, suddenly exhibited signs of both fear and distress, and became greatly ex-

cited. On looking about for some explanation of the animal's unusual conduct, I saw slowly descending onto a field nearby, an object which looked as large or larger than a full-grown elephant. Fore and aft it carried brilliant white lights, which illuminated the country for considerable distance like a pair of electric globes.

"By this time I had become as badly rattled as my horse, and from the whirring, hissing noise of the descending object I had expected to hear a terrific crash when it struck the ground. You can judge of my further surprise when I saw it come to the ground not a hundred yards distant without concussion or even a jar. In the scintillating lights, which still continued as brilliant as when I first noticed them, I saw the forms of two men, and heard them conversing in

AN UNKNOWN LANGUAGE.

27

"To my startled and abnormally enlarged vision, the aerial visitor, as it stood in the open field, looked as large as a barn. My first impulse was to whip up my horse, which had quieted down somewhat, and get out of the neighborhood. On further reflection, however, I concluded not to do so. Instead I drove to a near turn in the road beyond a thick growth of underbrush, where, out of sight of the machine, I securely tethered my horse, climbed the fence and went back to reconnoiter.

"I must confess it was with considerable trepidation I approached the thing, and was soon face to face with the airship and its occupants, and in conversation with them. One of them was clearly a foreigner, and it struck me that he was a Japanese, or belonged to some other Oriental race.

"He was apparently willing to talk, but his language was unintelligible to me. The other was an American, or, if not, then an Englishman, judging from his accent and pronunciation. He talked excellent English, at all events, and evidently explained to his companion that I could not understand him. At all events the foreigner addressed me no further, but from time to time asked the other a question and once or twice seemed highly

AMUSED AT HIS ANSWERS.

"The American talked freely enough, but gave me no real information. He wanted to know just where they were, and what the people and newspapers were saying about the object which stood before me. Happening to have a copy of THE ENQUIRER containing several dispatches concerning the airship in my pocket, I gave it to him to read it at his leisure. He was profuse in his thanks, and said that newspapers had been a rather scare article for some time, and that he was rather anxious to see what they said about it.

"'But why are you sailing around in this mysterious way?' I inquired. 'Why don't you let the world know what you are doing?'

"'That's easily explained. We have discovered the principle, but there are, doubtless, many applications of it, if we were to appear in public, even after patenting our principle and discovery, with the appliances we now have, it would only be a little while until other men would probably discover better forms of application and we would be compelled to divide the benefits of our discovery. We are on a tedious voyage of experimentation, and have been for more than six months. We often mingle with the world, but our discovery is hidden away, as it can be in a small compass, and no one suspects who or what we are. We pass as tourists among our fellow men.

"We are constantly making improvements. As soon as one is worked out we descend in some secluded spot, go to a town or city, and have the necessary mechanism made from drawings, adjust it and go on with further tests and experiments. At these times we are probably looked on as harmless cranks trying to

INVENT PERPETUAL MOTION.

28

Six months hence we will probably have reached the limit of possible improvement. Then we will patent it in every country, and then in every manufacturing center they will turn out the aeribarque, which will revolutionize the world."

"Do you call this concern an aeribarque?"

"That is what we call it. The name is exactly descriptive of the object."

"Will you permit me to inspect it?"

"He turned to his companion, and after a short conversation, replied:

"In a general way only. But I will explain nothing to you. If you can reckon out how it ascends and descends, or is propelled, well and good, but I shall answer no questions. Look it over and draw your own conclusions."

"The contrivance itself was a strange piece of mechanism, and stood from 12 to 15 feet high. The lower half, or car, was an oblong square 8 by 5 feet. The upper half, an elongated globe, apparently 8 feet at its greatest diameter, gradually diminishing and terminating in rounded points, its extreme length being 15 to 18 feet. The frame appeared to be a wire net work, only the wires were of an immense size--an inch in diameter on the bottom and sides of the car, growing smaller as they ascended, until at the top of the elongated globe they were not more than a quarter of an inch.

"They were joined together at close intervals and in both directions across the bottom, and ran up perpendicularly 5 or 6 feet, then curved inward

TILL THEY NEARLY MET.

Then outwards, upwards and over, till they formed the complete circle of the outer frame of the elongated globe or cigar-shaped apparatus spoken of in the papers. Inside of this upper net work was a bag or balloon, just fitting it and partially inflated.

"A very little testing convinced me that the supposed wires were tubular contrivances composed either of steel or aluminum or some new metal, clearly of great strength and exceeding lightness. A series of these tubes ran horizontally around the lower part of the car at close intervals, joined into the upright tubes, to a height of three feet. They were safety or guard rails. At the forward end the uprights were turned abruptly right and left at the height of 18 inches, and then brought together at the upper half, forming an entrance and exit to the car something like two feet wide. At this end the guard rail came no higher than the abrupt angle of the uprights, while at the other end they were uniform with the sides. At every point of contact these tubular wires were inserted into each other, while one nearly an inch in diameter, coming up independently from below, was inserted into the lower part of the balloon centrally.

"Thrown on the bottom of the car were several Oriental rugs, while all sorts of luggage, blankets, coats, canned goods and the like were stowed away at convenient points, or suspended overhead.

Near the rear end of the car was a small box-like table on the top of which were a number of knobs or buttons, very like the appliances we see in

ELECTRICAL [?????].

29

"As I was not permitted to enter the car, nor even thrust my hand inside, I could only guess as to the purpose of this table. It seemed clear, however, that it was the motor or controlling principle of the aeribarque.

"The gentleman with whom I had been conversing, seated himself at the table and said:

"'Take hold of the cross bars and lift the aeribarque or turn it over, if you can.'

"I made the attempt, but failed.

"'You are weak and excited. Calm yourself and try again when I tell you.'

"He touched one of the points on the table, and there was a hissing sound like escaping steam or compressed air. He touched another, and a tremor ran through every part of the machine, and the balloon expanded perceptibly.

"'Now try it again.'

"I grasped the cross bars and threw all my weight into the effort, but this time, machine, men and baggage didn't seem to weigh a pound. With one hand I could tilt it above my head. I begged him to tell me how the attraction of gravitation had been overcome, but he paid no heed to me, except to say:

"'Wait till the proper time comes.'

"He touched a third button and the lights disappeared, a fourth and they reappeared. One a vivid green, the other white; then he alternated them with other colors. In the meantime I discovered that he was changing the temperature of the tubular frame from temperate to extreme cool and then to 200 degrees or above.

"Just below the points of the elongated globe I had noticed what looked like two folded window shades of different sizes or shapes depending from metallic projections. He touched two buttons at once. The forward one unfolded into a rudder, the rear one into

A FAN-LIKE PROPELLOR.

"'Explain to me, my dear sir,' I said, 'these remarkable mysteries.'

"'Wait a moment.'

"He touched a series of buttons in rapid succession. There was the hiss of escaping air; the tremor through every line of the frame work; the balloon filled with a hissing sound, till it budged through the metallic network, and the aeribarque rose like a startled bird.

"'Good night.'

"This was called down from a height of a thousand feet; the propellor expanded; the rudder dropped into place and swung around, changing the ship's course at an acute angle instantly, and more quickly than it takes to tell it it had disappeared in the direction of Newark."

"And what conclusion do you draw?" asked THE ENQUIRER man.

"Why, sir, some one has got on the inside of nature at last. Don't you know that this thing is constructed on the principle of a bird, in every essential? The frame of a bird is a combination of

(115)

light, strong tubes, or bones and quills. The strongest and longest flyers have the largest proportionate bones and quills.

"We know, as a general principle, that a bird is capable of expelling all the atmospheric air from its bones and quills, or tubes, and supplying, in some unknown way,

30

A VOLATILE SUBSTANCE.

"This overcomes the attraction of gravitation, and enables it to rise in the air, with the aid of its wings, and fly away at will.

"When it wants to descend it ballasts with atmospheric air the tubes from which it lately excluded it. Kill a bird instantly on the wing and it drops perpendicularly, if the wind is not blowing. Wound it seriously and it falls at an angle. In the one instance the attraction of gravitation becomes ascendant instantly-- in the other gradually, hence the angling float.

"I am convinced that this airship not only embraces all the principles of flight of birds, but another more wonderful, and incomprehensible. The expulsion of the air from the tubular framework, supplying its place with some volatile substance; the expansion of the balloon compartment, with probably the same substance, and the lifting factor; the light, the heat, and the motive power for the machinery, I am convinced, all come from the same source, and are produced and modified at will.

"Whether this be electricity or some more subtle or powerful principle in nature, I have no idea. But seeing what I did leaves not a single doubt in my mind as to the feasibility as well as the reality of the airship. It is really less improbable than the telephone and Edison's discoveries were a score of years ago. The men I saw have evidently unlocked one of nature's ~~XXXX~~ profoundest secrets."

W.A.T.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 25)

STILL SEEING THE AIRSHIP

Reports From Towns Where It Appeared Yesterday.

According to the telegraphic reports received over the Commercial Tribune's special wire last night from places where the airships and other impossible phenomena are seen frequently, this bright, particular April bird of the imagination, conspicuously adorned with all of its unheard-of paraphernalia, was observed yesterday by "prominent citizens" in or near the following named cities and towns: Jacksonville, Fla.; Massillon, O.; Batavia, O.; Newport, ~~the~~ Ark.

(Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 21)

THAT AIRSHIP...

...A DEMOCRAT reporter accompanied by a notary, started out today to get the affadavits of John Hoagland, Ralph Hogan and other North Side residents, who reported that they had seen the supposed air ship two nights ago. At first the young men were inclined to stick to the story that they had seen the aerial thing of mystery, but when asked to raise their right hands and swear to a written statement, they admitted that they had been joking.

Those who saw the strange lights last night implicitly believe that they were carried by an air ship.

31

[Same issue has Hoagland report--John, Robert, and Ralph Hoagland, Clarence Baker and R. Gilletz(?)--corner of N. Howard and Lods St.--Tuesday night around 10 p.m.--heard a whirring noise--saw air ship moving westward.]

(Akron Times-Democrat, April 21)

A BRIGHT STAR.

The Brilliant Display Venus Makes in the Western Heavens--Mistaken for the Airship.

...For several months Venus has been a remarkable object in the western sky during the early evening. First appearing in the south west, it has moved around until now it shines low in the northwest soon after the sun sets. About the first of April it attained its greatest brilliancy...

(Akron Beacon and Republican, April 20)

It is asserted by Carl Browne that Anarchists have six airships two finished and four under way, and when all is in readiness show-ers of bombs and chemicals will descend upon the sinful, while those of the true faith will be advised in time to reach the mountains. After the weeding out process is completed the Anarchists will rule according to their schemes.

(Akron Beacon and Republican, April 22)

Carl Browne has received a silver medal, given him by a firm of patent attorneys in recognition of his ingenuity in planning an air ship, one that presents feasible points. Browne had hit upon some method of utilizing a vacuum for lifting purposes.

(Akron Beacon and Republican, May 13)

[Chicago preacher believes that the airship is Jesus Christ coming again.]

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 21)

THAT AIR SHIP
Was Thought to Have Been South of the City Last Evening.

Last evening the people residing in the southern part of the city were surprised to see in the southern sky a monstrous light and as it gradually rose above the horizon now flickering, now soaring high into the air, visions of the air ship passed across the good citizens' minds. Frightened children scurried home and sought the seclusion of their mothers' aprons. Dogs and horses barked and whinnied as they saw the light. One over bold citizen started out to investigate and found that it was a huge Chinese lantern attached to the nether extremity of a kite.

(Bucyrus Evening Telegraph, April 22)

32

[Also at St. Joseph, Missouri, what was thought to be an airship turned out to be a hot-air balloon attached to a kite.]

(Ashland Press, May 6)

The latest report from the air ship is to the effect that it stopped at the Calamity Oil Co.'s well at Cutler, last night, and took on a supply of oil to lubricate its bearings.

(Marietta Register, April 22)

Willard Herbert got the airship scare started in this city on Wednesday night of last week, by sending up a paper balloon, supplying it with gas from a burning ~~KOHNOON~~ turpentine ball. People around here would not believe in an air ship now if one should settle down in Court street.

(Washington Court House Cyclone and Fayette Republican, April 22)

WHAT WAS IT?

--

It was a Remarkable Phenomenon if It Was
Not an Airship.

--

There is no disputing the statement this time that some strange phenomenon was observed last Wednesday night in the heavens southwest of Ashland at between eight and nine o'clock. The attention of many people was called to the sight but what it was and whither it went no one is able to tell satisfactorily. The object, or whatever it was, appeared in the south when first seen and the light was very bright; its course was westward and it grew more faint as it ~~got~~ west until finally it disappeared entirely from sight. What could be seen from here was simply a vertical line of light several hundred feet long. Of course it did not look like an air-ship but the people naturally called it that since there has been so much talk about such sort of sailing vessels of late. Whatever it was there remains the fact that it was a rare sight and a wholly unaccountable phenomenon. Nothing like it has ever been observed before. It might have been some sort of aurora borealis, yet no other lights in the north or anywhere else could be observed excepting the stars.

(Ashland Gazette, April 23)

(21A)

Muncie, Ind., April 22.--Special Telegram.--George Haskell, a farmer who lives east of this city, reports that while he was milking the cows last night the airship lit in his barnyard. One of the occupants stepped from the car attached to the ship and asked for some milk. He said that they had been without a supply since leaving Evanston, Ill. The farmer handed the aeronaut a pailful and was rewarded for his kindness by seeing the balloonist step into the airship, pull a cord, and sail away. The airship took a northerly course. Haskell is now wondering where he will get pay for his milk. He says he can prove what he says, and he will show the cow which gave the milk, if anybody doubts his word.

(Photo)

(London Times, April 29, quoting the Chicago Inter Ocean, April 26)

33

AIRSHIP AT MOXAHALA.

It Drops a Big Cargo in Wiggins' Wheatfield.

34

Moxahala, O., April 22.--(Special.)--For the last three nights there has been hovering over this part of Ohio something that the oldest inhabitants cannot explain. Three lights as it is seen flying, but at times when it seems to pause and take notes one red and one green light apparently the eyes of the monster (for such it appears to be) are only seen and then seem to be the head of--well what is it?

This phenomenon has been witnessed by reputable parties there and they will readily endorse this statement.

If I had the time and the inclination to "Baron Munchausen" I might send you a wonderful tale, but what I send you now is strictly true (nit).

LATER.

⊗ ("The airship" stopped here for coal from Post's bank at 9:45, but not finding it of the right quality they dropped the entire cargo in Scott Wiggins' wheat field.)

(Columbus Evening Press, April 22)

THE OHIO AIRSHIP

A Judge Beholds It and Gives His Testimony.

Special Telegraph to The Blade.

Elyria, O., April 23.--Among other well known citizens who saw the airship Wednesday night was Judge E.H. Hinman, of the probate court. The judge makes the following statement: "About 2 o'clock in the morning I got up to feed my baby, and upon looking out of the window I saw what I suppose is the famed airship. It was shaped like a 'Pittsburgh stogie,' and appeared in lights. I should say it hovered over Elyria for at least ten minutes, at an altitude varying from 1,000 to 3,000 feet. The lights were intense and glistened and glittered. If I am not mistaken it had a short blue tail, with a brass ring around it. I went to call my wife to enjoy the sight with me, but it disappeared while I was awaking her. It is truly a wonder."

(Toledo Blade, April 23)

MORE NEWS FROM THAT AIRSHIP.

An Alleged Message is Found at Lorain and Something Was Seen in the Air Near New London.

Special to the Plain Dealer.

→ { LORAIN, April 24.--The Times tonight prints a letter, alleged to have been found by a "prominent townsman," giving out some interesting points in connection with the much talked about airship. On the outside of the envelope was written the words: "Aboard the Airoia, April 22, 1897." ←

In the letter the writer stated that the ship was built in an obscure place near Santa Fe, N.M., from which place the journey began. "We have hovered over every state in the union," continued the writer, "fished in the great lakes, crossed the plains and settled on mountains and valleys." He states that the ship is eighty-two feet in length and nineteen feet wide, supported by a balloon thirty-five feet in diameter. A wheel at the stern, he states, is propelled by means of a storage battery, the wheel having eight paddles. He claims that himself, wife and child are the only persons aboard the ship.

The hull of the air craft is a wire netting covered with thin but strong oiled silk, through which neither air nor water can pass, and in shape resembles a cigar. "During a rain," continues the navigator, "we rise above the clouds and are perfectly dry." In closing the writer says they will return in a few days to New Mexico, where a larger boat is under construction, with which he hopes to cross the sea. He signs the name of William R. Harris.

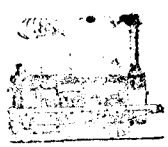
(Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 25)

35

NOT AN AIRSHIP.

--
Westerville People Discover a Peculiar Light in the Heavens.

--
It Traveled Over the Town and Then Took Its Course Eastward.



--
Special to the Ohio State Journal.

Westerville, O., April 23.--Last night about 8 o'clock the people of the village, living on the West Side, were attracted by a strange light which appeared in the air in the western sky. The light appeared as a very large star, only it was duller than that of a star. It seemed to be several miles away, but not at a great height. After some time the position changed and the light began to approach the village. As it came nearer a rapid sweep carried it far southward. By this time hundreds of people were watching it. Speculation as to what it was has been rife. The distance and the height of the object, and the progress over the town completely evaded all examination by spectators. By 10 o'clock the light had retreated to the eastern part of town and every person in the village had seen the strange sight but none seemed able to explain. One party of men called at Professor Wagoner's to have him notice it, but owing to sickness he could not go out.

Dr. Haywood, the venerable astronomer, was called out, but the motion and the distance precluded his examining it with a telescope. Professor Guitner was called out and could offer nothing satisfactory.

Most people believed it to be one of the airships of which some of the papers have told the last few days, and as supporting this a large number of skyrockets were sent up as a signal to the occupant of the ship if such it could be. Others believed it was a balloon, but this was soon out of mind, for the wind at that time would have carried it directly north, while the object was moving eastward. The kite theory was proposed, but it is impossible to

ford Alum creek and if it were a kite the carriers would have been compelled to cross the creek. And besides it would seem impossible to fly a kite with a lantern attached at so great height as this object appeared.

For fully an hour longer the object kept its eastward course and finally growing dimmer, disappeared from sight, hidden either by clouds or trees.

(Ohio State Journal, April 24)

36

AIRSHIP TERROR

--

Dumbfounds the Staid People of Westerville.

--

Westerville, O., April 23.--(Special.)--The Westerville people were very much excited here Thursday evening at the appearance of a red light, moving about high in the air. Many suppositions were given as to what the light was, but the general opinion seemed to be that it was the air ship, which is reported to be traveling about in the heavens at night.

The light was anchored above Westerville for about one-half hour then took a southerly direction toward Columbus and returned in the direction of Pittsburg.

Signals were given here with different colored lights and were answered by those in the air ship by moving in order the green, red and white lights.

The appearance of the ship compared very closely with the description given in THE Press. It was witnessed by hundreds of people between the hours of 9 and 11.

(Columbus Evening Press, April 23)

WHAT WESTERVILLE

People Say About Airship's Visit There
Thursday Night.

--

Westerville, O., April 24.--(Special.)--A general exchange of opinions has been going on in our village since the appearance of a presumable airship over the town on last Thursday evening. The excitement has even run so high that many are reported to have been badly disturbed in their slumbers by serious reflections in regard to the queer light darting its rays in a threatening manner over the excited people of the town. Your correspondent has made a careful investigation of the facts pertaining to the event and has interviewed a large number of reliable business men of the town. The following gentlemen witnessed the sight and have given their names for publication: Miles Weibling, a prominent hardware man; W.O. Knox, the shoe dealer; Francis Rank, the postmaster; Bookman Bros. grocers W.M. Bonebrake, a jeweler; Levi Williams and others. All the above gentlemen saw the phenomenal appearance in the sky and hold to the opinion that it is a good representation of the airship described in the newspapers.

They were not able to make positive statements as to what the queer object really was, as the machine did not descend to earth

for inspection. They mutually agreed that if the thing observed is a fake and not the much-talked of airship the man who made the representation is a genius.

...opinions in the affirmative are substantiated by ³⁷ several letters having been found and bearing evidence of being written in the airship. Two letters were found by Cyrus Riggle and one by Cleve Boyer on Friday morning after the notable event.

The one letter found by Mr. Riggle contained shot so that it would readily descend to the earth and was directed to Arthur Burr, of Columbus. At the time the letter was written, as stated in the letter, the altitude was 2134 feet. The reading matter in the letter was a description of the journey through the ethereal realms, 40 degree parallel at 9:30 p.m. The writer seemed to be a personal friend of Mr. Burr and recalled many associations of their past lives. He also stated that the ship would go in the direction of Baltimore, thence eastward and around the globe. Signed Jim McC. The other letter was enclosed in a brass cylinder and attached to a card, directed to Walter Hartrum, of Westerville. The tone of this letter corresponded very closely with the one above described. The altitude at which the letter was written was 34 feet, nearer the earth than at the time the former was written. The letter found by Cleve Boyer and bearing his own address was enclosed in a tin box weighted with chunks of lead. The writer of this letter was evidently in the airship for it was an acknowledgment of having seen the signal lights as sent up by Mr. Boyer and kindly thanked him for so doing.

Mr. John Haywood, professor of astronomy, viewed the bright light through his telescope and stated that the object was very phenomenal in appearance, that it looked like a large bright disk, but he was unable to give any opinion in reference to its outlines as he could not determine anything other than a large disk....

(Columbus Sunday Press, April 25)

[see Lazarus ad]

(Columbus Evening Press, April 24)

[Advertisement for Lion Coffee has airship]

(Toledo Blade, May 10)

Headlines:

The Airship Seen by Press Correspondent. He Claims to Have Approached the Aerial Cruiser and Interviewed Captain De Falamath, the Officer in Command of the Atmospheric Vehicle. Said to be Manned by Twelve Sailors and Carries Besides Them, the Commander, His Brave Wife, Two Children, His Father and a Maiden Sister. His Description of the Fast Flying Vessel.

→ [Seen by Glouster journalist at Mine No. 8 after 10 p.m. April 22 as it landed to take on coal and water.]

(Columbus Evening Press, April 23)

BALD-HEADED FAKE.

Special to the Ohio State Journal.

Glouster, O., April 24.--The story published in a Columbus paper Friday evening to the effect that the airship was seen in this vicinity and its captain interviewed by a correspondent when it was taking on coal, is one of the most bald-headed fakes that was ever sent out of Athens county. It has made the paper in question a laughing stock in this vicinity.

(Ohio State Journal, April 25)

38

THE AIR SHIP AGAIN.

It Appears to a Number of People in Washington.

The mysterious air ship was seen in Washington, D.C., Friday morning. It came down the Potomac and gradually disappeared from view over the hills of Virginia. It was plainly seen by the officers and soldiers at Fort Meyer, by the attaches of the Analostan boat club and by hundreds of other reputable citizens who are willing to make oath that it was the genuine thing. To the naked eye it seemed like an oblong balloon floating along its side, with a slight pitch in the direction in which it was going. Those who were fortunate enough to have glasses declare that it was a double-barrelled arrangement, shaped like a catamaran, hanging vertically, rocking from side to side, and often shifting its position as if it was drifting in the atmosphere. Sometimes one of the ends would be toward the observers and then they would see it fall broadside. No smoke or smokestack or wings or other means of propulsion could be detected-- nothing more than the two cylinder-like objects that were coupled to each other fore and aft.

*

(Harrison County Democrat, April 28)



That "Air Ship."

...A Leader dispatch dated Calla, O., April 24, says:

The air ship has passed over Mahoning county. It was seen by people six miles west of here, and Frank Rogers and Scott Ebert, both reputable men, claim to have seen the air ship going northwest about half a mile west of here at an early hour yesterday morning. They say it had the appearance of a cigar, with fan-shaped apparatus on the sides, and brilliantly lighted.

Though previously skeptical, people hereabouts think there must be something in it. They have the utmost confidence in the above named gentlemen.

(Norwalk Daily Reflector, April 26)

And now the airship has been seen at Zanesville. Supt. J.B. Rhodes of the B.Z.& C. railroad, together with a half dozen shop men state that they saw the ship pass over that city Friday night. Dennis Carl and Ed. Neff, two Zanesville firemen, claim to have seen the ship also.

(Caldwell Journal, April 29)

(26A)

NO MISTAKE THIS TIME

Reputable People See the Airship.

Was Probably a Balloon, But It Dropped
Mr. Remme a Message.

39

The airship that has visited several states and has startled people all over the country passed over Newport, Ky., Friday night at 8:30 o'clock and was plainly seen, so declare several reputable citizens. Not only was the ship plainly seen, but its passengers communicated with the citizens, a message being dropped from the clouds and found in the rear yard of Mr. Charles Remme's residence, at 22 West Third street. The message was written on a small linen bag, which was filled with sand, and was as follows:

"Airship Pegasus, April 23, 8:30 p.m.--Passed over Newport, Ky., at 8:25 p.m., traveling at the rate of forty miles an hour, due west. Aerometer recorded 200 miles since 4:30 p.m. Expect to arrive at Nashville, Tenn., at 3 a.m. Sunday.

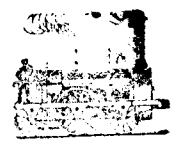
"CAPTAIN PEGASUS."

The message was displayed yesterday on the streets of Newport by Mr. Remme, who is a manufacturing jeweler and a brother of Captain Edward Remme, of the German National Bank. Mrs. G.T. ~~Am~~ Pillings, of 20 West Third street, stated that she was sitting on her front porch Friday evening when she saw a light in the west that seemed to be moving about, but she thought nothing of it until it began growing nearer. She says she watched it until it passed over her house; that once or twice she started in the house to get a pair of large field glasses, but she was afraid it would be gone before she could get back. She stated it was the shape of a cigar and was very long.

Mr. Ezra Van Duzen stated that he saw the light coming from the west, but did not suppose that it was an airship, but kept watching it until it came near enough to be seen very distinctly. He then called for Mrs. Remme and her daughter, Miss Lucy Remme. They, too, with Mr. Van Duzen, watched the light until it disappeared over their house, when they ran through the rear yard to again watch it. Just as they got into the rear yard they heard something heavy drop near them, but in the darkness they could not see what it was, but spoke of it among themselves. The statement made by Mrs. Pillings and Mr. Van Duzen was corroborated by several other persons. Mrs. Remme arose early yesterday morning, and remembering what she had seen the night before, went out in the rear yard to see if anything had fallen, and there found this bag of sand and the message. There was a small break in the bag in two places, showing evidence that it had fallen a great distance. The seeing of the airship and the communication received from the aerolists was the sole topic in Newport yesterday.

--
DROPS THINGS NOW,
--

Does the Mysterious Airship
--More Queer Antics.



The airship discoverers from out of town districts have taken a new steer. The heavenly travelers, according to those veracious chroniclers, have taken a turn of a sudden to dropping things from their lofty aeromotor. This propensity, like the original man story, has come from all quarters simultaneously, and is enumerated in detail with such remarkable accuracy as to leave no doubt in the minds of any as to its truth or falsity.

*

Dupont, O., reports a man who followed the vessel of the air, and came up with it just in time to see it rise and fly away. But he found a note from the crew saying they had traveled 4,000 miles and were going to find the North Pole.

Despite their assertions the atmospherical bugbear is next seen at Newport, south of Dupont, although in the meantime Lorain, O., gets a glimpse of the thing and finds a note giving a detailed statement of the origin, navigation and destination of the bird. It would seem that for North Pole voyagers the navigators have either lost their compass or success has turned their heads.

And from Loraine [sic] yesterday the next stop in the North Pole journey was Chattanooga, where some of the good people gifted with second sight and things, saw the cigar-shaped monstrosity late yesterday evening making for the North Pole in a due so-sou-west direction as if the helmsman thought the longest way 'round was the shortest way home.

(Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 25)

40

THE AIRSHIP MYSTERY

Call for Information.



The airship seems to be an accomplished fact, and the question is "Where is it from, and how is it constructed?" Conceding that the inhabitants of Mars or some nearer planet have succeeded in overcoming the force of gravitation, it is impossible that human life could be sustained while making the voyage to the earth. It must be the work of man, and of some one who inhabits this earth. While marvelous, it is not any more so than many other things which custom has led us to consider ordinary matters. Whoever has succeeded in inventing the airship should give the world the benefit of it. Air navigation, many think, is a question of the near future.--Memphis Commercial Appeal.

(Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 22)

IGNACIO DARNAUDE ROJAS-MARCOS
Cabeza del Rey Don Pedro, 9 - (2.º B)
41004 - SEVILLA (Spain)

DROPPED FROM AIR SHIP.

New London, April 24.--(Special.)--The people of Fitchville, a hamlet four miles west of this place, were in a state of excitement Friday night over the appearance of an object sailing in the air. It traveled slowly and was going in a southeasterly direction. Those who saw it say it was huge and shaped like a fish. Others say it was a large balloon. It could be seen for nearly two hours.

(Columbus Sunday Press, April 25)

41

[airship lands for repairs Friday night--exact shape of a shad, minus head and tail--aluminum bound around with strips of shining steel--two wings--passenger car made of split bamboo and aluminum. Prof. Charles Davidson invented the airship--built in Wilmington SC, landed in Chattanooga TN.]

(Columbus Sunday Press, April 25)

HE SAW IT.

Minstrel Billy Barber is the Only Man in Town Who Saw the Air Ship.

Billy Barber, the minstrel man, is probably the only man in town who claims to have seen the air ship Friday night, and he acknowledges it without blushing. He said it was nearly midnight when he saw a dark object carrying two red lights high up in the air. It was headed toward New Boston and disappeared in that direction in a few minutes, as it travelled very fast--faster than a man trying to dodge a bill collector.

(Portsmouth Blade, April 24)

...Something Was Seen in the Air Near New London.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 25)

AIR SHIP OR BALLOON

Causes a Lively Fire in East End Saturday Night.

Although it has been asserted time and again that the stories about the airship were all fakes, the people of the east end, especially those residing in the neighborhood of Mr. S.W. Beebe, No. 1096 Franklin avenue, are paying a high premium for stock in stories about the mysterious vessel, which, for the past few weeks, has been causing universal consternation.

...the aerial monster tried to pass over Mr. Beebe's fine residence about 7 o'clock Saturday evening... the captain of the vessel that traverses only the air tried to "speak" to Mr. Beebe, and in doing so he lost control of it. It came to the ground and fell with a "dull,

[1024 Franklin Ave?] — according to other sources

heavy, sickening thud" in the alley in the rear of Mr. Beebe's house. * The ship's beam end lights set fire to Mr. Beebe's barn--at least it nearly did. It set fire to a lot of paper and rubbish just outside of Mr. Beebe's barn door. An alarm of fire was immediately turned in.

→ ...the airship has been burned, for the firemen could not find anything but ashes when they got in the alley in the rear...

...There are good reputable citizens living in the east end who are willing to testify they saw something fall from the skies. This something had all the appearance of an airship.

(Columbus Sunday Press, April 25)

42

The bursting of a meteor and a fragment from it caused a fire in some refuse in the barn of S.W. Beebe, at Columbus. The damage was slight. The noise of the fragments flying through the air attracted a number of people before any permanent damage was done.

(Akron Beacon and Republican, April 26)

SAY THEY SAW THE AIRSHIP

--
Two Reputable Residents of Toledo are Willing to Make Affidavit to That Effect.
--

Special to the Plain Dealer.

TOLEDO, April 27.--Howard Warn of the office of Southworth & Co. and his father, M.S. Warn, both reputable citizens, are willing to make affadavits that they saw the airship on Saturday night. Howard states that he rode his bicycle home through a light shower, about 11 o'clock at night, and after slightly cleaning his wheel he stepped to the door to see if the rain was continuing. His attention was at once attracted to bright lights of different colors moving rapidly toward the southwest.

Mr. Warn states that at that time the clouds were breaking slightly, and were very near the earth. The lights were attached to a cigar shaped object, moving close to the lower line of the clouds, and in the opinion of the observer the whole affair was not to exceed 500 feet above the earth, although it was much farther away from the point at which he stood. Warn called to his father, and they watched the lights until they disappeared finally into heavy clouds to the southwest.

Both gentlemen agree as to the size and general shape of the airship, and say that there was nothing to indicate the use of wings or propellers, neither were they able to see any human beings on board. Owing to the newspaper jokes that are being passed upon airships the Warns were reluctant to tell the story until today.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 28)

→ Farmers residing in the vicinity of Stout's run, near Buena Vista, are terrorized over the apparition of a wild man, who has been seen for nearly a week in the woods in that vicinity. A young son of Peter Tracey was caught by the creature some distance from home and severely beaten. Thirty armed men started out to hunt the wild man, but have not returned.

(Akron Beacon and Republican, April 28) 43

...He is barefooted and hearily nude, wears no hat or shirt and only a pair of tattered pants.

[Tracey's son was caught and struck a blow on the head which caused a gash Saturday morning--probably a lunatic.]

(Cincinnati Enquirer, April 27)

A Wild Man.

A great deal of excitement has been occasioned at Rome, Adams Co., in the past week by the report that a wild man has been roaming about in the woods near there. Searching parties have been out after him but have so far failed to catch him. One man who claims to have seen him says the wild man is very tall and almost naked and can run like a deer.

(Portsmouth Blade, April 28)

WILD MAN SEEN AGAIN.

He Wears Nothing But Hair, Which Is Long and Curly.

The wild man who created so much terror among the inhabitants near Rome, O., several weeks ago by his strange actions has again been seen. Charles Lukins and Bob Forner, while cutting timber a few miles from Rome, claim they encountered a wild man [on May 26] and after a severe struggle say they were able to drive the gorilla-like object into his supposed retreat among the cliffs.

They describe the terror as being about six feet tall and his only covering, apparently, a mat of long, curly hair. From their description of the supposed wild man he is undoubtedly the same seen a number of times several weeks ago.

Women and children are now more thoroughly frightened than ever and are afraid to venture from their homes lest they meet the wild creature. A posse of determined men will scour the country now until the terror is located and captured or killed.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 27;
Marietta Register, June 7)

FAIRY STORY.

A SUNBURY EDITOR TAKES A PHOTOGRAPH.

Snaps at a Flash of Lightning and Catches an Alleged Airship.

Rossville, Ill., April 25.--Special Telegram.--George Smith, a prosperous young farmer living west of this city a few miles, saw the airship this morning about 5:30 o'clock. It was high in the heavens and traveling very rapidly in an easterly direction. The sky was clear and the sky was brightly shining. His wife and employes also saw it and bear testimony to its existence. Rossville people have refrained telling about seeing it at night, but now our whole population will swear that said airship does soar in the starry heavens. Mr. Smith has always borne a first-class reputation for truth and veracity, and your correspondent can assure the Inter Ocean readers that there "do be something new under the sun."

(London Times, April 29, quoting the Chicago
Inter Ocean, April 26)

Special.

Sunbury, O., April 27.--Citizens of this place have read much in the newspapers concerning the airship, which, it was claimed, had been seen in different localities of the United States. Our people did not give much credence to these reports, however, believing them to be newspaper fakes. But something which occurred Sunday evening has fully demonstrated the truthfulness of these stories, or at least the most of them. 45

On the evening in question, Mr. W.F. Whittier, the editor of the News-Item, our local paper, and who is also an enthusiast in photography, wished to take the photograph of a flash of lightning, as the evening was a very stormy one. For this purpose he set his camera in the window of the second story of the printing office. The first flash after the camera was placed in position was very sharp and bright, lighting up the whole sky and seemingly so near that Mr. Whittier was not a little shocked by it. But closing up his camera he returned home, confident that he had acquired an excellent reproduction.

Monday morning he developed the negatives and was surprised beyond measure to find something besides the flash of lightning and far more wonderful, the much-talked-of air ship, in fact. He commenced at once finishing up the photos, and as fast as he finished them he sold them to the citizens, who were much excited.

Although there was such a great demand for the pictures your correspondent succeeded in getting one. The photo shows the flash of lightning, the clouds, and the outline of the supposed air ship, high up in the heavens.

(Dayton Daily Journal, April 28)

→ A FLEET OF AIRSHIPS

Passes Over Columbus Early Monday Evening.

Seen and Described by Ladies and Gentlemen Whose Veracity is Unquestioned.

The air ship or rather a whole fleet of airships visited Columbus Monday evening and was seen by reputable and representative citizens, who will vouch for the account of the visitation given here.

This fleet was seen about 8:30 in the evening and when first sighted was not more than 960 feet above the earth's surface. At the hour mentioned Mr. Samuel W. Six, a grocery keeper at 227 West Broad street, finished reading The Press and as he has quite a nice garden patch just back of the grocery, he was interested in the state of the weather likely to be visited upon the city during the night. The weather indications were the night would be clear, and as the temperature had fallen several degrees since dark, he concluded to step out and take a survey of the heavens. If the weather was cloudy then he knew there would be no danger of frost during the night. Mr. Six had hardly entered the yard when he heard a terrific loud noise in the heavens such as would be produced by the passage of a flock of pigeons. So loud and piercing was the sound that he was startled at

first and was about to re-enter the house. He could not, however, resist the temptation to look aloft, and look he did. Imagine the surprise of the gentleman when he beheld floating gracefully and with ease through the air, what he at first thought to be a monster war vessel. He could hardly believe his own eyes. He had been ⁴⁶ reading the different accounts of the airship as they appeared from day to day in the public prints, but like a great many others had doubted their authenticity. He took another glance at the air monster and was even more surprised than before when he noticed that the large ship was followed by four others, but of a smaller size. This was a poser and he determined to have witnesses to the story he would have to tell of his first sight of the air ship. He entered the grocery and called his wife and the clerk, Mr. Frank Daymuth out to take a glance at the "thing."

The parties came to the door and were rewarded with a sight of the fleet. When first sighted the fleet was coming in a northern direction, just a little northwest of Arlington, and then turned gradually to the south, passing directly over the cemetery at Camp Chase, where the bones of the confederate dead repose, and when the last glimpse was had of the fleet it was sailing rapidly in the direction of Grove City, but without the slightest appearance of being disturbed. The fleet was also seen by Mr. and Mrs. John Speece, and Mr. and Mrs. John L. Schlasman, of Lowden and Oakley avenues; Charles Birmingham of 567 Lathrop street, Willie Barton and several others. They all unite in saying that while the ships were all egg shaped, they differed greatly in dimensions, the one in front being considerably larger than the smallest one in the rear. The largest was about 80 feet long, while the smallest would measure probably 25 feet. They were all rigged out in the latest and most improved styles of sailing rigging and were painted a pure white. Judging from the amount of noise made by the ships on passing it is presumed that the supply of goose grease had been exhausted. One of the above named gentlemen says that the controlling power is electricity, and he backs this assertion by the statement that the lights attached to the ships were turned on and off at very regular intervals and that the globes surrounding them were of different shades. At times when all the lights were turned on the outline of the different ships were plainly visible. All the parties quoted are persons of unquestionable veracity, and that the ships were seen by them will not be questioned by persons who know them. A telegram was sent to Grove City Tuesday morning, but at time of going to press no answer had been received giving further details as to the movements of the fleet.

(Columbus Evening Press, April 27)

Airship Riddle Solved.

It is believed by many in this city that a solution of the famous airship, which has been going about the country for the past two weeks, has been found. For the past several nights residents near the south end of the city have been gazing at a large bright light, which to the star gazer appeared to be high in the heavens. The attraction which held their attention, and also their eyes, moved about horizontally, but it appeared to travel through the same plane con-

tinually, and those who witnessed the strange object entertained a strong belief that the airship was hovering about, being somewhat undecided just where to land. The question as to what the strange lights were was settled on Monday evening when Dr. Chas. E. Stroud, lieutenant of the signal corps of the sixteenth regiment, announced that the supposed airship was a signal kite, which had been raised by a member of Co. B. The kite is known as the Hunter kite, and when it was noticed by people who had read about the airship, the doctor was simply experimenting. If you see strange lights hereafter you will know it is not the airship, but that the signal kite is out for a little practice.

(Sandusky Register, April 28)

47

THE AIR SHIP

--
Is Now Cruising in the Atmosphere of the
Ohio Valley.

A LETTER FROM THE CLOUDS...

The airship which has been creating so much excitement in the West has at last reached this state, and is causing people to look skyward in hopes of catching a glimpse of the new wonder...

...recent events seem to prove that the air ship passed over this city last night. This morning when Agent Hughes, of the C. & O. came to his office he noticed an envelope lying on the paved street near the sidewalk. It was tied around with string and had a weight attached. He picked it up and taking it into the office opened and read it. The contents were as follows:

ON BOARD ELECTRIC AIR SHIP "BUCKEYE." NO. 5.

April 23rd, 1897.

To the people of Portsmouth: We passed over your city about 1:30 this morning at an altitude of 500. We are en route to Washington D.C. and want our friends to know that we are all well.

(Signed)

CAPTAIN AIR SHIP NO. 5.

P.S. Please hand this to some paper so that our friends will be sure to hear from us.

CAPT. "BUCKEYE."

Mr. Hughes was dumbfounded as he read this note. He had read of the air ship but had always believed it a hoax. Now that he was reading a letter from the captain of the strange craft he felt a strange thrill. He knew that if the air ship was a reality that the days of the F.F.V. and other fine trains of our great railroad systems were numbered, and that soon he and all other railroad agents would be out of a job.

The original of the letter from the mysterious air ship is now on file at this office, and to any one who doubts this story the letter will be shown as an evidence of good faith.

(Portsmouth Blade, April 28)

WHO SAID "AIRSHIP?"

The Critter Shows Up in Earnest
--Five Hundred People Saw It and can
Swear to It.
--

48

The airship has arrived!

The notice to Agent Hughes yesterday morning was not for nothing. Many people who yesterday scoffed at the story of the letter found on Market Street, last night were fully convinced that they had made themselves foolish. They saw the airship with their own eyes and this morning can read information by the yard about it.

This airship very obligingly called early in the evening. It was first seen at about half past seven, and it very soon attracted the attention of many people. A big crowd at Second and Jefferson took a square look at it, as did another at Market and Second, another near the postoffice, and still a larger crowd at Offnere and Ninth, besides a score of observation parties scattered all over town. When first it began to attract attention, it had apparently lodged on the Kentucky hills south of town. Various parties were soon found, however, who had seen it hovering over the hills north of town earlier in the evening, and over the Adams' residence in the East End, and over the postoffice.

The theory seemed to be that it had started south after inspecting this city, and had failed to reach a sufficient altitude to clear the South Portsmouth barricade and lodged there. It was almost directly opposite the foot of Market street when seen last. It was a brilliantly lighted affair, at least a score of lights being visible. The sharp eyed among the crowd declared they could see its cigar-shaped outline, and could see men moving about, apparently repairing the machinery.

A party from the West End started to cross the river to get a nearer view of the creature, but before they got to the ferry it had disappeared, and which way it went they were unable to say. There is a theory afloat that the air-ships that are becoming so common are the work of a secret organization, and are being manufactured for use in dropping dynamite and consternation in Havana.

Whatever the purpose may be, many who saw the visitor last night are thrilling with local pride to-day, to think that Portsmouth has not been left nor lost in the shuffle in this matter. We are usually up to date here, and if there are any airships afloat they can't miss us.

(Portsmouth Blade, April 28)

SAW THE AIR SHIP.

--
"Jud" Wickham Says He Saw the Phenomenon at the Corner of Willson and Euclid Avenues.

49

--
"Jud" Wickham, cashier in the county clerk's office, declares he saw the air ship Tuesday night. He told the story at the court house Wednesday and he was still laboring under the excitement of the strange thing.

"I was standing near the corner of Willson and Euclid avenues about 10:30 o'clock last night," said he, "when I happened to look up at the heavens and saw what at first looked like a headlight on a locomotive. If I had been drinking anything stronger than soda water I would have thought I had 'em sure. At first all I could see was the blinding glare and then it slowly turned around and I could see the shaft of light across the skies. Of course I thought of the air ship which the papers had been telling about. Finally I could dimly discern the body of the thing. It was shaped like a cigar and right above it was a balloon shaped affair. It seemed to be stationary for quite a while, and then it moved slowly off to the southeast.

"You fellows may think I am kiddin,' but I am giving it to you straight. I saw the air ship."

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 29)

THE AERIAL WANDERER

--
MANY CLEVELANDERS BEHOLD THE AIRSHIP.

--
Cleveland, O., April 29.--The Leader of this morning prints the following regarding the mysterious airship:

"The mysterious aerial wanderer that has been seen in all parts of the country east of the Rocky Mountains during the past month, hovered over Cleveland for a short time last evening. It was first seen about 7:30 o'clock, in the western heavens at an elevation of about 45 degrees. It was moving slowly eastward, and in fifteen or twenty minutes it had reached the zenith, from which position it drifted toward the eastern horizon. It was apparently a thousand feet above the surface of the earth.

"Among those who saw the strange object was a Leader representative. He, with the others, thought at first it was a comet, but all soon came to the conclusion that it must be the mysterious 'airship.' At first it appeared like a bat of light. It was perpendicular, and, to the human eye, seemed about two feet in length. As it came nearer it assumed the form of a huge kite, with lights on the perpendicular part of the frame, and at each of the outside corners. As it hung in the zenith it appeared less brilliant, being more like a collection of small lights shining through a haze. There was nothing to indicate the balloon form or the cigar shape that has been described by those who claim to have seen the 'airship' in various parts of the country. At the time the atmosphere was as clear as it ever gets in Cleveland in the early evening, and there was little or no wind.

(31)

"If this is the same thing that has been seen in other places, it is easy to understand the amazement of the people, for there is something mysterious about it--something which has not yet been explained."

(Toledo Blade, April 29)

50

Willard Herbert got the airship scare started in this city on Wednesday night of last week, by sending up a paper balloon, supplying it with gas from a burning turpentine ball. People around here would not believe in an air ship now if one should settle down in Court street.

(Washington Court House Cyclone and Fayette Republican,
April 29)

BEAST RESEMBLING A MAN.

--

Two Indiana Farmers Shoot at a Strange
Animal Which Runs on Its Hind Legs.

--

LA GRANGE, Ind., April 30.--The farmers living near Sailor, northwest of here, are considerably aroused over the appearance in the woods of a strange animal which resembles a man. It has been reported for the last two years that a mysterious animal was inhabiting the woods, but the reports were never credited until yesterday, when Adam Gardner and Ed Swinehart, two well known farmers, reported that the animal was seen and that shots were fired at it. The men report that the beast walked on its hind feet and had every appearance of a man, save the body was covered with hair. The height was that of an average sized man. When the animal saw the men approaching it jumped and started for the thick portion of the woods upon its hind legs, but afterwards dropped on its hands and disappeared with rabbitlike bounds. Gardner shot at the animal and thinks he hit it, as the animal seemed lamed. A searching party is being organized to hunt for the mysterious animal.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 1)

SAW THE AIRSHIP.

--

What a Prominent Mt. Vernon Citizen
Thinks.

Special to the Ohio State Journal.

Mt. Vernon, O., April 30.--W.P. Bogardus, president of the city council, reports that he saw the "air ship" last night. He is of the opinion that it is an arrangement floated in the air by means of small balloons, the darkness giving the effect of great distance. Others who saw the same thing are convinced that it is a "sure enough" airship.

(Columbus Ohio State Journal, May 1)

THE AIR SHIP AGAIN.

--
Attention to It was Attracted by a
Dog's Barking at Munroe Falls--
Was Seen at 9.

51

--
C.N. Gaylord, proprietor of the creamery at Munroe Falls, heard his dog barking furiously at 9 Thursday night, and went out to see what the cause was.

About a thousand feet above the earth Mr. Gaylord saw what appeared to be an air ship, moving westward at a rapid rate. The dog was barking at that object. Mr. Gaylord called the attention of his family to the strange sight.

(Akron Times-Democrat, May 5)

CINCINNATI AIRSHIP

--
A Policeman Saw It and Describes Its
Appearance.

Cincinnati, O., April 30.--Officer John Ringer, of the First District, has been enrolled among the men who have seen the airship. He said last night: "I was standing at the corner of Eighth and Walnut streets at 10 o'clock, when my attention was called to a string of lights moving across the sky. I could see one large light in front, like the headlight of an engine, only smaller, while behind this was a long row of little lights, but much bigger than stars, and one right behind the other.

"It was so high up that I could see no outline, and nothing but the lights. They moved rapidly in a southwesterly direction, and I watched them until they disappeared. Half a dozen citizens were standing near me, and they also saw the moving lights. I believe it was the air ship."

(Toledo Blade, April 30)

THAT AIR SHIP

--
It Is Traced to Its Lair (or Liar)

--
HOME NEAR SAVANNAH

--
Owner Locks His Pegasus in the Barn of
Days and Rides It to His Elyria Farm
o' Nights.

--
Perhaps the most conclusive testimony yet given as to the existence of an air ship was received by the Leader yesterday in the following letter from Mr. John S. Chamberlain, of Shiloh, O., under the date of May 4:

"The so-called airship that has caused so much excitement in this vicinity can now practically be accounted for.

"It is supposed to be the work of an ingenious man living some twelve miles east of here, near the town of Savannah. He is wealthy and owns considerable property in the West. He has lately returned

from Nebraska and since his return his neighbors affirm that he has been experimenting with an airship. 52

"It is known that he has been planning a vessel of this kind for some years. He has a large barn on his property which he keeps carefully guarded, allowing no one to enter except two strangers who came with him from the West.

"Last Friday night after 12 o'clock he experimented with it and his vessel was seen by myself and a number of his neighbors. It set the town in a commotion, and the people have watched his premises closely ever since. He keeps his barn well guarded, and when accosted concerning the airship, has nothing to say. The people of that town do not doubt that he is the inventor of it. It is supposed that he has been testing it after night, taking it back and forth between Savannah and a farm that he owns near Elyria, and that his invention having been seen and his design suspected, he since keeps it concealed.

"Last Friday evening on my road home, rather late at night, in company with a friend of mine, Mr. Hopkins, I had the startling pleasure of seeing this vessel. When first seen it was close to us and not very high in the air. It was well lighted and revealed its outline quite plainly. As it appeared to us, it was supported in the air by a narrow, oblong, cylindrical-shaped vessel, which looked to be inflated. Underneath this part was balanced, by the attachment of ropes, the machinery of the invention.

"Although sailing at an angle against the wind, the upper inflated part was turned lengthwise parallel with the wind. Queer small sails were attached to the lower part and there appeared to be several small propellers rotating at a high rate of speed and bearing directly against the wind. The upper part was about seventy feet long and the lower part much smaller and swung beneath. It labored heavily with the wind and imitated somewhat the tactics of a sailing vessel.

"When we first saw it, it was moving slowly, but the sails were suddenly changed, and it arose high in the air and was driven back some distance by the wind. After rising to a high altitude it started off in a southerly direction at a great angle to the wind. It sailed at a good rate of speed against the brisk wind, gradually descending. After having passed, perhaps, twelve miles to the south, and almost below the hills, it again rose high in the air and took a northwesterly direction, angling against the wind, and passed some five miles ahead of us. Here it again repeated the operation of rising in the air, and passed west of Greenwich beyond our sight.

"Although this vessel did not look to be safe nor practical, still it must be said that it is the best of its kind, and will win fame and perhaps fortune for its inventor."--Cleveland Leader.

(Ashland Press, May 13)

SAW THE AIRSHIP.

--

Officer Will Ries Gets a Good View
of the Mysterious Airship.

--

Officer Will Ries was telling the C. & E. men this morning of the good view he got of the airship last night. It was coming from

(31)

the East and passed within two hundred yards of the C. & E. depot. Ries says its was shaped like a huge cigar and had a bright red head light. It probably intended to stop at the C. & E. and take on coal but seeing the officer's brass buttons was scared out and changed its course.

(Kenton News-Republican, May 3)

MYSTERIOUS AIRSHIP

53

--
Edison Denounces It as a "Pure Fake"
--Thinks It Absurd.

...
"When an airship is made it will not be in the form of a balloon. It will be a mechanical contrivance, which will be raised by means of a very powerful motor, which must be made of very light weight... Their success may come. I am not, however, figuring on inventing an airship. I prefer to devote my time to objects which have some commercial value. At the best, airships would only be toys."

(Bucyrus Evening Telegraph, May 5)

[Arkansas to present clause in state commerce law to include taxation of airships that have been reported.]

(Cincinnati Enquirer, May 5)

If airships become real facts we may have some trouble about collecting tariff duties. Smuggling would simply be out of sight.

(Mt. Gilead Union-Register, May 19)

The South and West are greatly stirred up over a supposed airship or aerial machine of some kind that has been seen in the heavens. Excitement is useless. It may only be a stray postmastership or other federal appointment looking for a place to light.

(Marion Daily News, April 12)

That "western air-ship" is probably only the last remnant of McKinley's majority of last fall sailing away to the empyrean regions where the ancients supposed the pure element of fire existed.

(Zanesville Daily Signal, April 14)

→ Kenton Dem.: Farmers in the vicinity of Wolf Creek are considerably excited by the existence in the woods of that locality of what is thought to be a wild cat. The animal has been seen several times and an attempt made to kill it. It is a ferocious looking animal, and dashes about in an alarming manner, and when come upon suddenly, sounds terrible cries and rapidly disappears. A diligent hunt is being made. It may soon be killed.

(Bluffton News, May 6)

A PANTHER

Attacks Farmers Who Venture Out
After Night--Hunting Parties After
the Beast.

54

Special Dispatch to the Enquirer.

CARROLLTON, OHIO, May 4.—The residents of the peaceful valley of Perry Township, south of this city, are terrorized over the appearance of a large panther which had been killing sheep, hogs and cattle and frightening the people until they have adopted the good old pioneer style of wearing arms and a frightened look. Arms of all descriptions from the heirloom musket to corn cutters are carried by the badly frightened residents...

At Lamartine Emanuel Hendrick Jr., a young farmer of that section, was returning home from that town, and while passing through a small wood he was confronted by what he thought was a dog which uttered a piercing screech and made a leap for the now thoroughly terrorized young man, who defended himself with the whip and a large knife. Numerous applications of the whip kept the panther at bay after several unsuccessful attempts to leap into the carriage. Whipping the frenzied horses into a mad run he was pursued over three miles before the panther was outdistanced.

Heavily armed hunting parties are scouring that part of the country in search of this animal, which has so terrorized the good farmers who have neglected their spring labors.

(Cadiz Sentinel, May 9, 1895)

MORE AIRSHIPS.

Another One Was Seen Last Evening by Two
Reputable Citizens--They May Have
Been Paper Balloons.

Another airship has been seen.

L.M. Woolwine, a traveling man of Nashville, Tenn., was standing on the corner of Seneca and Superior streets at about 7:45 o'clock last night when he espied two exceedingly bright lights proceeding through the heavens in a southwesterly direction. He immediately called the attention of several passers by to the phenomenon, and they unhesitatingly pronounced it to be the airship. The outline of the ship was not visible, owing to the darkness, but the light at each end indicated its position. Mr. Woolwine stated that the ship seemed to be floating along at about four or five miles an hour, although the distance might have made the speed appear less than it really was. Mr. S.B. Sloss, proprietor of the Hotel Imperial, also saw the ship, his story coinciding with Mr. Woolwine's.

Several bright geniuses throughout the city have lately sent up paper balloons and the like, and an epidemic of airships will probably follow if the practice keeps up!

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 5)

STILL ANOTHER WITNESS.

George W. Edmondson Declares He Also
Saw the Airship Tuesday Night--
His Description.

55

--
In addition to the testimony of L.M. Woolwine, the traveling man, and Mr. S.B. Sloss, proprietor of the Hotel Imperial, in regard to the airship seen Tuesday night, Mr. George W. Edmondson, the well known photographer, tells of the appearance of two very bright lights in the western sky, which, he says, were making their way with uniform rate towards the southwest. He says that at first he could see only one light, but that gradually two lights were disclosed as one swung around from behind the other. He further states that the lights took a sudden dip, as if the ship pitched violently and the fact that they went with the same velocity and took exactly the same path in the air persuades him that they were not ordinary balloons. Mr. Edmondson was walking past the Public library at the time.

This statement exactly coincides with the story of Woolwine and Sloss. As there is no possibility for collusion and as Mr. Edmondson is such a well known and respected citizen, the affair remains unexplained.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 6)

AIRSHIP

--
Said to Have Been Seen Passing Over
This City Last Night.

--
A number of people on Garfield place saw the airship last night about 9 o'clock, and are willing to make affidavit that they have sighted the mysterious navigator that has been creating so much excitement over the country. Dr. Louis Domhoff, 112 Garfield place, made a drawing of the light, which he describes as egg-shaped, red in color and appearing as though a portion of it was covered with a curtain, the rays escaping in the center and at each end.

It came from the direction of Price Hill and passed in a southeasterly direction, disappearing in about five minutes, and, so far as he was able to approximate, covered a distance of about 20 miles in that time, moving in a zigzag course, first up, then down. Conductor J.C. Gaupel, on the Monmouth-street car line, also saw it. W.J. Klein, an attorney in the Mitchell Building, and Fred Porter, of the Methodist Book Concern, and a number of others say they saw and watched the curious aeronaut.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, May 5)

WILD ANIMAL

--
Prowling About Chillicothe Routs
Dogs and Scares Many People.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE ENQUIRER.

CHILLICOTHE, OHIO, May 7.--The west end of this city is greatly alarmed over the presence of some sort of wild animal which makes his home in the thickets along the Scioto, and which has been seen

prowling around the edges of town. A number of employees at the driving park have seen it, and describe it as being about four feet long, low, large head, short legs and big feet and light brown or yellowish in color.

Dogs sent after the animal come back bleeding and torn, and will not follow it again. The horses at the park snorted in terror and sweated with fear at night. Small animals have been killed and some people are afraid to go out at night.

(Cincinnati Enquirer, May 9)

THE AIRSHIP.

56

--
"Jud" Wickham Has Described Its Identity--A Toy Balloon with Lanterns Attached.
--

"Jud" Wickham, cashier in the county clerk's office, has solved the airship mystery. Late Wednesday night, by the light of the moon, he was at work in his pansy bed when he happened to look heavenward and observed a one-eyed monster directly above his head. Of course the first thing "Jud" thought of was the airship, and he rushed into the house to get his field glasses. With the help of these he was able to study the thing very thoroughly.

The airship proved to be a toy balloon of large dimensions. A lantern with a reflector was attached to the base of it. On both sides of the balloon were large conical shaped affairs, which, through the powerful glasses, appeared to be constructed of some flimsy material, probably tissue paper. At the apex of the balloon was a small flag and all along the conical shaped side attachments were smaller balloons. The "airship" was traveling with the wind, rising, falling and moving rapidly and slowly, according to the velocity of the breeze. The affair was high up in the air.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 7)

AN AIRSHIP ROMANCE.

--
Workmen in the Waterworks Tunnel Credited with Having Seen One.
--

The airship has been seen once more. At least employes of the waterworks department say the men working on the tunnel saw it sink into the lake a few nights ago.

It was time for a new shift to go down. As the force stood at the top of the shaft the cigar shaped mechanism, brilliantly lighted was seen in the distance. Frank Kosterling, tunnel inspector, is charged with being the first to notice it.

According to the story told in the city hall Thursday the ship descended gradually from the sky to the water's surface, then floated off and disappeared in the distance or was submerged. Kosterling denies the soft impeachment and came down to tell Supt. Kingsley it was all a joke. He does not believe in airships and thinks no one else saw this one.

Waterworks employes tell all sorts of airship jokes. Kosterling claims they did so in this instance and will make it warm for the originator.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 7)

57

AN EXPLANATION OF THE AIRSHIP.

...were toy balloons which alleged jokers have been sending up for the last few nights, having attached to them Japanese lanterns..

...It is fair to presume that no airship exists. Indeed no letter of patent has been issued from the Washington patent office on such an invention during the last few weeks....

...They have seen, through a trick of the brain, the progress of science, crowned in this latter day of the century, by the realization of aerial navigation.... they have seen the airship as a result of what is known to psychologists as auto-suggestion.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 9)

SAW THE AIR SHIP.

Two Reputable Citizens of the Falls

See it...

Correspondence of Beacon and Republican.

CUYAHOGA FALLS, May 6.--The air ship has been seen at the Falls and by people of the highest integrity and veracity. William J. Rattle and R.H. Lodge both claim to have seen the aerial travellers and it is said that some of the patients at the sanitarium have seen it several times.

(Akron Beacon and Republican, May 6)

[facetious account of landing at Cardington with occupants on Thursday]

(Mt Gilead Union Register, May 12)

THE AIR SHIP.

--

Cincinnati People Say They Saw it Saturday Night.

--

CINCINNATI, May 8.--(A.P.)--About 8 o'clock tonight what is supposed to be an air ship sped across this city from the southeast to the northwest at a great height and with incredible speed. It showed a brilliant light. Some who saw it are unable to describe its form, and others say it was cigar-shaped. It was observed by reputable citizens in East Walnut Hills, Mount Auburn and from the Esplanade and other places in the city. The speed was not less than 100 miles per hour. This is no fiction. Some strange object passed over the city high in the air.

(Canton Repository, May 9)

THAT 'ERE SHIP.

Several Norwalkians saw the supposed air ship Sunday evening about 8 o'clock, or at least they saw a mysterious bright light and what appeared something like a balloon, sailing through the air, in a northerly direction. We would advise those that saw it, though, not to wager anything that it was an air ship, for perhaps it was a large paper balloon which some of Norwalk's practical jokers contemplated sending up that evening.

(Norwalk Daily Reflector, May 11)

58

THAT AIRSHIP AGAIN

Two Norwalk Young Men Claim to Have Seen the Mysterious Aerial Navigator.

Special to the Plain Dealer.

NORWALK, May 10.--The famous airship was seen passing over this city last night. Mr. Abe Parker, a well known young man of this city, says he saw it, and he describes it as follows:

"It appeared to be but a little higher than the Glass block, and was moving very slowly. It was about 8 o'clock when I saw it moving along. The lights were very bright and must have been of an electrical origin. They were of two colors, white and red. As well as I can remember, there were ten or twelve of them. Although I could not hear the sound of music, there were those standing near me who claimed they heard the musical sounds most distinctly. As well as I can judge, the aerial visitor was in sight about ten minutes."

Another young man who saw it corroborated Mr. Parker's statement. He gives a description of its shape as follows:

"Newspaper accounts describe the airship as cigar shaped, but they are way off; at least, the one I saw is not of that shape at all, but round, like a huge ball. After the ship crossed Main street I followed it over a mile. Part of the way it led me through a field. We were so far from the street lights that it was quite dark. Whatever be the nature of the light carried by the airship, it is very powerful, for it cast a shadow, which I saw distinctly and repeatedly. Now, if the airship is cigar-shaped, the shadow naturally would be cigar-shaped, but it was not. It was round."

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 11)

THINK IT WAS AN AIRSHIP.

Balloon with Light Attached Attracts Attention of Penitentiary Guards and Prisoners.

EXCITEMENT CAUSED...

There was considerable quiet excitement about the Penitentiary Monday night owing to the fact that several of the officials of the prison, the prisoners and a number of guards saw what is believed by some of the witnesses to be an airship. The object was seen far in

the southwest by the parties, and it was watched as it swiftly flew from the southwest to the northeast and disappeared, about 20 minutes after being first sighted, in an easterly direction. Several of the observers are firmly of the opinion that the object seen is a veritable air schooner and are ready to give reasons for the faith that is in them. The object was sighted far in the west at a considerable elevation, variously estimated at from 300 to 1000 feet, and it resembled the planet Mars in its peculiar color of fiery red, but unlike the planet Mars, it twinkled after the manner of a fixed star. It was this fact, and the further fact that it lay in a different quarter from that which would be occupied by Mars at this season, that aroused the suspicions of at least one observer. The object came swiftly nearer and nearer and the light became more fiery red and at last took on an elongated shape similar to the outline of an acorn, as nearly as could be determined. The object passed swiftly and steadily from the southwest to the northeast, skirting the West side of the city, and seemed to be rocking, thus obscuring the light occasionally for an instant. The balloon appeared in sight for 36 minutes, when it disappeared behind the volume of smoke in the northeast which hovered over the region of the Panhandle shops.

Some of the prisoners were excited over the affair and one of them would make a sworn affidavit that he saw the door of an oven swing open and that he saw coal or coke shoveled into it, after the manner of a railroad engine. Others claim they saw two of the objects, but others still assert that the second was only a second sight of the one. The balloon, for such it appears to have been, was noticed by persons in various parts of the city and was probably sent up by some one to direct attention on account of the craze over the fake stories about airships.

(Ohio State Journal, May 11)

THE AIRSHIP AGAIN.

59

--
It Is Seen by Many Imaginative
Citizens--What It Was.
--

Mr. Frank Grant, of 134 West Second Avenue, reported Tuesday morning that he saw what impressed him as being an air ship Monday night, supposed to be the one seen by the O.P. guards and convicts the same evening.

Just. Wright, at 165 Vine street, also saw the ship. He is sure it could not have been a balloon, or a kite, because it moved rapidly and changed directions.

Several convicts in the state prison also saw it and thought they could make out the form of the ship.

Nevertheless these people were evidently deceived. Mr. C.C. Philbrick, of the American Press association, and Secretary Neville Williams, of the city board of health, saw the alleged "air ship" when it left the earth. It was a paper balloon and was sent up from a saloon near Goodale park. The ascension was very successful, and the gentlemen watched the little balloon while it described the very same course told of by those who saw the air ship. A little imagin-

ation will make an air ship out of a vigorous fire fly.

(Columbus Press, May 11)

60

THE AIR SHIP.

John F. Hopley Sees This
Modern Invention

AT SANDUSKY CITY.

He Says That It Is Not a
Fake and That

HE REALLY SAW IT THERE.

He Examined It Through a
Glass and Writes About It to
Our Readers.

Special to the Telegraph.

SANDUSKY, O., May 11.--At ten this morning a number of people claimed the air ship was in sight. As a "Doubting Thomas" I went up to the Park, a hundred feet from the office, and after some difficulty located it. Far away to the west, about one-third of the way to the zenith, was a fleecy white bulk floating in the air, sometimes lost to sight, but again re-appearing. Having observed it closely through a strong field glass, I could see it was neither a kite nor a bird nor yet a balloon, but it was something. Then I went across the street to the weather bureau where Observer Thompson another air ship doubter, got his glass.

By this I saw an object like a bird. You could see the same fleecy white centre, while on both sides stretched long black wings. It is difficult to say how far off the object was, but if it was a bird, it must have been a mammoth edition of the roc left over from the fabled ages. To me, it looked as if though the white centre were about six inches in diameter, and each of the black wings ten inches to a foot in diameter. The white centre was on a level with the black wings.

What it is I do not know, but it will be wise for people not to criticize too freely the air ship myth until more is found out. In my opinion, although like a bird, it was far too distant to be a bird, for it would be harder to believe a bird exists at least sixty to eighty feet from tip to tip than to believe in the air ship. Whatever it was, judging from distance, it was something floating in the air, a mile or two high and twenty mile distant, that was at least sixty to eighty feet in size.

As I never drink and have not believed in the air ship, my opinions are not biased.

JOHN E. HOPLEY.

(Bucyrus Evening Telegraph, May 11)

Airship in Ironton.

Ironton Register.

It may not be generally known that an airship is building in Iron ton. There is. It is not merely a photograph, but the genuine article. A Register reporter has been admitted to the sacred precincts of the workshop where the hand of genius is molding its mysterious shape, and has gazed upon its strange form. The airship is not a new idea, but the development of years of study, and the one now building is being most carefully constructed, after numerous experiments with mechanism and materials. And what is more, the inventor has the evidences of ultimate success, for recently, in the quiet hours before day, he took his machine, or rather, a rude model of it now being improved upon, to the old fair grounds, and there alone, at daylight, soared in the air for a hundred yards, twenty feet from the ground, and while in the air, turned about and returned to the point of starting. With this much attained, the inventor gathered up his model and retreated to his workshop, encouraged to proceed with the larger and stronger machine which he is now making, and upon the wings of which he hopes some day to fly away to fame and fortune.

(Bellefontaine Republican, May 14)

A PASTURE FULL OF FISH.

61

Farmer Living Near New London Makes a Surprising Discovery.

Special to the Plain Dealer.

NEW LONDON, May 15.--After one of the heavy storms of the week Mr. George Yarker, a farmer living near New London, described that a part of a field near the house was covered with fish. The field was used as a pasture, and on a space covering nearly an acre of ground were found hundreds of fish, all of one variety, what are commonly called 'bull-heads,' ranging in length from one to six inches. Yarker lives a mile from any stream. The occurrence is explained by the fact that a ~~XXXX~~ large waterspout burst over the field.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer, May 16)

[Facetious account of an airship landing near Bellefontaine--men from Mars get out, who turn out to be George Washington, Patrick Henry, Roger Sherman and Anthony Wayne--they said they had come back to see how the government they had framed was doing--account signed A DELIGHTED RUSTIC.]

(Bellefontaine Republican, May 14)

[Editor declined publishing airship stories until he found some that were true.]

(Canal Winchester Times, May 19)

STRANGE ANIMAL.

Farmers in Hocking County Annoyed by a Wildcat or Panther.

Logan, O., May 25.--The farmers in the southern part of this county are excited over the appearance of a strange animal. Numerous sheep and lambs have disappeared. Several pioneers who have heard the cry of the

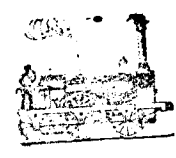
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beast at night say it is a panther, while others say the cries resemble those of a wildcat.

(Akron Times-Democrat, May 26)

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IGNACIO DARNAUDE ROJAS-MARCOS
Cabeza del Rey Don Pedro, 9 - (2.º B)
41004 - SEVILLA (Spain)



IGNACIO DARNAUDE ROJAS-MARCOS

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→ Igualmente:
Algunas de estas referencias son del archivo de Enrique y del de Antonio, y vienen de Ti. De cualquier modo aquí hay items que tal vez no tengas. Indícamelo y te los paso