

IN A FALLING BALLOON

Fearful and Tragic Experience of Three Aeronauts.

ONE SAVED AS BY A MIRACLE

The Terrible Cold and the Peculiar Sensations That Encompassed the Daring Voyagers at an Altitude of Over Five Miles—The Descent.

One of the most terrific experiences in the history of ballooning was that of three aeronauts who in 1876 made an ascension in a large and well made balloon, the Zenith. In this voyage the object was to reach the greatest possible altitude. The balloon rose to a height of 28,000 feet—that is, about five and a half miles from the earth. At this point something happened—what, no one will ever know, since the only surviving balloonist, Tissandier, was at the time insensible. But the balloon began a rapid fall and finally struck the ground with such a frightful shock that Sivel and Croce-Spinelli were killed instantly, while Tissandier's life was spared by a miracle.

The account of this voyage is perhaps best told in Tissandier's own words:

"At 23,000 feet we were standing up in the car. Sivel, who had given up for a moment, was reinvigorated. Croce-Spinelli was motionless in front of me. I felt stupefied and frozen. I wished to put on my fur gloves. But without being conscious of it the action of taking them from my pocket necessitated an effort that I could no longer make. I copy verbatim the following lines which were written by me, although I have no very distinct remembrance of doing so. They are traced in a hardly legible manner by a hand trembling with cold:

"My hands are frozen. I am all right. We are all right. Fog in the horizon, with little rounded clouds. We are ascending. Croce pants. He inhales oxygen. Sivel closes his eyes. Croce also closes his eyes. Sivel throws out ballast! Sivel seized his knife and cut successively three cords, and the three bags emptied themselves, and we ascended rapidly.

"When Sivel cut away the bags of ballast at the height of about 24,000 feet I seemed to remember that he was sitting at the bottom of the car and nearly in the same position as Croce-Spinelli. For my part, I was in the angle of the car, thanks to which support I was able to hold up, but I soon felt too weak even to turn my head to look at my companions. This was about 1:30 p.m. At 2:08 p.m. I awoke for a moment and found the balloon rapidly descending. I was able to eat away a bag of ballast to check the speed and wrote in my notebook the following words:

"We are descending. Temperature, 8 degrees. I throw out ballast. Barometer, 124 inches. We are descending. Sivel and Croce still in a fainting state at the bottom of the car. Descending very rapidly."

"Hardly had I written these lines when a kind of trembling seized me, and I fell back weak again. There was a violent wind from below upward, denoting a very rapid descent. After some minutes I felt myself shaken by the arm and recognized Croce, who had revived. Throw out ballast," he said to me. "We are descending." But I could hardly open my eyes and did not see whether Sivel was awake. I called to mind that Croce unfastened the aspirator, which then threw overboard, and he threw out ballast, rug etc.

"At 3:30 p.m. I opened my eyes again. I felt dreadfully giddy and oppressed, but gradually came to myself. The balloon was descending with frightful speed and making great oscillations. I crept alone on my knees and pulled Sivel and Croce by the arm. Sivel, Croce! I exclaimed. "Wake up!" My two companions were huddled up motionless in the car, covered by their cloaks. I collected all my strength and endeavored to raise them up. Sivel's face was black, his eyes dull, and his mouth was open and full of blood. Croce's eyes were half closed, and his mouth was bloody.

"To relate what happened afterward is impossible. I felt a frightful wind. We were still 9,700 feet high. There remained in the car two bags of ballast, which I threw out. I was drawing near the earth. I looked for my knife to cut the small rope which held the anchor, but could not find it. I was like a madman and continued to call, "Sivel! Sivel!" By good fortune I was able to put my hand upon my knife and detach the anchor at the right moment.

"The shock on coming to the ground was dreadful. The balloon seemed as if it was being flattened. I thought it was going to remain where it had fallen, but the wind was high, and it was dragged across fields. The bodies of my unfortunate friends were shaken about in the car, and I thought every moment they would be jerked out. At length, however, I seized the valve line, and the gas soon escaped from the balloon, which landed against a tree. It was then 4 o'clock. On stepping out I was seized with a toroish attack and sank down and thought for a moment that I was going to join my friends in the next world, but I came to. I found the bodies of my friends cold and stiff. I had them put under shelter in an adjacent barn. The descent of the zenith took place on the plains 150 miles from Paris as the crow flies. The greatest height attained in this ascent is estimated at 28,000 feet." W. R. C. Letson in Minneapolis Journal.

How It Was Becoming.

"That dress is becoming, my dear," said the man who thinks he is a diplomat.

She looked at him coldly for a moment and then replied:

"Yes. It is becoming threadbare."

Brutally Frank.

Scribbles—When I take a dislike to a man I see him as the villainous character in one of my novels. Criticism—Ah, I see! You punish the poor fellow by burying him alive, as it were.

Why They Fly.

Bobby—Mamma, do the streets of heaven now with milk and honey? Mamma—So the Bible says, dear. Bobby—and is that why the angels have wings, because the walkin's so bad?

Obedience is better than sacrifice—Shakespeare.

Supplement—Fayetteville Observer.

Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company.

SALE OF

UNCLAIMED AND REFUSED FREIGHT.

Fayetteville, N. C., February 29th, 1908.

By direction of the Freight Claim Agent, I will sell at Public Auction, Tuesday, March 24th, 1908, at the "Old Hose" Warehouse, in Fayetteville, N. C., for freight and charges, the following unclaimed and refused articles of Freight.

Goods sold without guarantee of quality or quantity. Sale will commence at 10 o'clock, A. M., and continue from day to day until all goods are sold.

J. A. HUSKE, Route Agent.

TERMS Cash (Cash at Time of Sale.)

1479 Cook Stove, R. S. Bulla, Greenville, S. C.

1481 1 Bld cart

1482 1 Bld Wheels _____, Kingsboro, N. C.

1483 2 Kegs Cider, _____, Goldsboro, N. C.

1484 1 Crt Tables

1485 1 Bld Legs, _____, Parkersburg, N. C.

1486 Crt S. Mcle, _____, Conway, S. C.

1487 1 Bx P. Frames, _____, Hartsville, S. C.

1488 8 Bx Drugs, _____, Adams Run, S. C.

1489 1 Bl. O. Cloth, _____, Adams Run, S. C.

1490 1 Crt S. Mcle, _____, Robesonville, N. C.

1491 1 Bx Soap Pwd, _____, Robesonville, N. C.

1492 2 Bld Sash, _____, Robesonville, N. C.

1493 1 Bx Pants, _____, Spring Hope, N. C.

1494 1 Mt. Bl. Spring Hope, N. C.

1495 1 Bx A. Matter, F. & N. Bank, Spring Hope, N. C.

1496 3 Kegs Cider, _____, Spring Hope, N. C.

1497 1 Pa L. Swing, _____, Spring Hope, N. C.

1498 5 Bx Z. Paint, _____, Spring Hope, N. C.

1499 1 Bx Marble, _____, Spring Hope, N. C.

1500 1 Bx G-Ware, _____, Paulsboro, N. C.

1501 2 Bld Sash, _____, Paulsboro, N. C.

1502 3 Sacks R. Salt, _____, Paulsboro, N. C.

1503 1 Bx Lamps, J. N. Pearce, Wilson, N. C.

1504 1 Mt. Oil Bl. _____, Wilson, N. C.

1505 1/2 Bl. Cider, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1506 1 Keg Pickles, A. Hayes, Wilson, N. C.

1507 1 Bld Hoes, A. E. Hill, Wilson, N. C.

1508 1 Bld Rockers

1509 1 Bx E-Ware, Mrs. C. Tarr, Wilson, N. C.

1510 1 Bx Drugs, Isham Gay, Wilson, N. C.

1511 1 Bx G. Seed, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1512 1 Wagon Cover, A. H. Perry, Wilson, N. C.

1513 2 Cs W. Pwds, The S. P. Co., Wilson, N. C.

1514 1 Bld A. Matter, A. P. Branch, Wilson, N. C.

1515 2 Bx P. Frames, G. S. Tucker, Wilson, N. C.

1516 1 Po Casting, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1517 1 Bris Vinegar, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1518 1 Keg Cider

1519 1 Show Case, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1520 1 Bld S. Castg, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1521 2 Kegs Cider, Oscar Best, Wilson, N. C.

1522 1 Kegs Cider

1523 1 S. Case, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1524 1 Cs F. Works, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1525 1 Cs F. Crackers, H. M. Rogers, Wilson, N. C.

1526 1 Bld. Cstg, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1527 1 Keg Pickles, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1528 1 Cs Clothing, G. Rosenberg, Wilson, N. C.

1529 1 Bx Typewriter, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1530 1 Bx Drugs, J. H. Bailey, Wilson, N. C.

1531 1 Bx Egg-O-See, _____, Wilson, N. C.

1532 1 Bureau

1533 1 Crt Glass, _____, Cairo, Ga.

1534 1 Sew Mcle, _____, Warsaw, N. C.

1535 1 Bx Notions, E. Carpenter, Boardman, N. C.

1536 25 Bds. W. Bords, _____, Wilmington, N. C.

1537 1 Bx Soap, R. S. D., Washington, N. C.

1538 1 Bx Glass, _____, Elrod, N. C.

1539 1 Crt Mantels, _____, Wilmington, N. C.

1540 2 Pails Catsup, _____, Suffolk, Va.

1541 1 Bx E-Ware, Emma Smith, Mt. Olive, N. C.

1542 2 Bx Paint, "J. W." Tunis, N. C.

1543 1 Kit Paint, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1544 1 Iron Rod, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1545 1 W. Mcle, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1546 1 Sx Fert, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1547 1 Pa Cob Sets, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1548 5 Wash Boards, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1549 1 Tent Pole, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1550 1 Bld Pipe, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1551 1 Buggy Seat, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1552 4 Gas-Tanks, _____, Fort Myers, Fla.

1553 1 Bx Drugs, R. W. Price, Mt. Olive, N. C.

1554 1 Show Case, J. E. Singleton, Shandon, N. C.

1555 2 Hangers, A. W. Buffkin, Chadbourne, N. C.

1556 2 Saw Frame, A. W. Buffkin, Chadbourne, N. C.

1557 1 Bld Plow Cstg, A. W. Buffkin, Chadbourne, N. C.

1558 1 Bld Rods, A. W. Buffkin, Chadbourne, N. C.

1559 1 Saw, A. W. Buffkin, Chadbourne, N. C.

1560 1 Pee Cstg, _____, Chadbourne, N. C.

1561 1 Keg Phos.

1562 1 S. Case, _____, Chadbourne, N. C.

1563 1 Bx A. Matter, J. F. Missemelner, Chadbourne, N. C.

1564 14 Neats Trunks, _____, Chadbourne, N. C.

1565 27 Bd. Baskets, Jas. Brown, Greenville, N. C.

1566 1 Bld Lamp, E. Rodgers, Greenville, N. C.

1567 1 Settee, Bld. Com., Greenville, N. C.

1568 1 Bx Drugs, _____, Greenville, N. C.

1569 1 Bx Grease, McGee M. Co., Greenville, N. C.

1570 2 Bx Notions, Miss B. Wright, Greenville, N. C.

1571 1 Crt Bottles, Burton S. Works, Greenville, N. C.

1572 1 Bld Rockers, _____, Greenville, N. C.

1573 1 Bx Drs., _____, Greenville, N. C.

1574 1 Bld Rockers, _____, Greenville, N. C.

1575 1 Bld Rockers, _____, Greenville, N. C.

1576 1 Bld Rockers, _____, Greenville, N. C.