

There is a possibility that the sighting was on April 16. This story was taken from the Rochester Union.

April 20, 1897-Meriden, Illinois-At night, 4-5 people saw a large bright light. (Mendota [Ill] Reporter, April 24, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Ridgeville, Ohio-Crew and passengers of a train saw strange lights that were going twice as fast as the train at night. (Columbus [O] Dispatch, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Rich Pond, Kentucky-H. Jordan saw the airship at night. It was well lighted, 300 feet up, and moving as the speed of a train. (Owensville [Ky] Messenger, April 24, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Batavia, Ohio-The airship was seen. (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Massillon, Ohio-Fifteen people saw the airship. Frank Reed found a letter which read: "On Board Airship Bound for Cuba, April 20, 1897. To the Finder: Please mail enclosed letter and send your address to Mr. Edison who will reward you. William R. Harris." (Toledo [O] Blade, April 22, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Ashland, Ohio-Five people saw an oblong bar of light that was very high up. It changed directions several times. A 12 year old girl saw the lights and a boat like shape. (Cleveland [O] Leader, May 7, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Newport, Arkansas-The airship was seen. (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Jacksonville, Florida-The airship was seen. (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 21, 1897)

April 20, 1897-Lincoln, Nebraska-A letter was found and said to be from the airship. "On board the Airship Pegasus, April 20, 1897" and was a long letter. It stated that the airship was built in southern West Virginia. It is a long oval balloon, pointed at both ends, 30,000 cu. ft. capacity, not hydrogen, weighed 2500 pounds and lifting power of 1,200 pounds. He has been up for 42 days. It was signed "J. F. Calipha, Capt. of the Pegasus." (Lincoln Evening Post, April 21, 1897)

April 21, 1897-New Orleans, Louisiana-At 0030, a man saw a 50-60 foot long airship. It was going northwest and had a powerful searchlight which played around. (New Orleans Time Picayune, April 21, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Aspen, Colorado-Twenty miners saw a bright light going west at 0100. It was in view for 10 minutes. (Aspen Daily Times, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Harrisburg, Arkansas-At 0100, Ex-Senator Harris was awoken by a noise and saw the airship land. On board was an elderly man, who wore a heavy set of dark, silken whiskers, jet black eyes, and a firm, deep expression. There were also a woman and 2 young men. The

(H)

1

(H) elderly man said that 26 years ago his uncle developed a method to overcome gravity and hid the secret in a vault under New York City. He said that he had found it 7 years ago and has been experimenting since. He can overcome gravity by placing a wire around any object. On the ship was a 4 ton Hotchkiss gun and 10 tons of ammunition. He had planned to go to Cuba and destroy the Spanish army but might go to the aid of the Armenians. The gun fires at 63,000 times a minute. Harris declined an offer to take a ride and the airship left. (Harrisburg Modern News, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Silverton, Colorado-At 0100, T. Holden saw 2 yellow lights that came from the west. They were 8 feet apart, 1,000 feet up, and going east. They were attached to an object that was 24 feet long and 8 feet wide. It was going 60 mph and rose to clear Mt. Soloman by 75 feet. (Silverton Standard, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Elyria, Ohio-Judge Hinman awoke at 0200 and saw the airship. It was shaped like a Pittsburgh Stogie and had lights. It hovered for 10 minutes at 1-3,000 feet. Its lights were intense and glittering, had a short blue tail, and had a brass ring around it. (Toledo [C] Blade, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Thibodeaux, Louisiana-At 0300, a man saw a strange craft pass over. (Thibodeaux Weekly Sentinel, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Green Forest, Arkansas-T. Roberts saw the airship for 3 minutes at 0430. It came from the northeast, passed over the northern part of the city, and was 300 yards up. He heard the gentle beating of its wings and it looked like a row boat with large spreading wings. It was the size of a passenger coach but wider. It turned west and he saw something fall from it. It was a plain, unaddressed envelope with a short note in a delicate hand. It read: "Aboard the Stratus, April 21, 1897. With pleasure we send greetings to the people of the beautiful little city below. We will see you again and learn more of you and you will learn more of our wonderful ship, the Stratus. A. Passenger." (Green Forest Tribune, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-McCausland, Iowa-At 0700, a cigar shaped craft was seen to land. It was 40 feet long, 2 propellers operated by a small, complicated gasoline engine, and 4 wings on each side, operated by still another gasoline engine. When first seen, it moved as if something was wrong. It landed on a main street and 5 men emerged. One of them went to the blacksmith and bought several small steel rods. They fixed the ship and left toward the east in 1 hour and 50 minutes. (Chicago [Ill] InterOcean, April 26, 1897)

April 21, 1897-South Bristol, New York-In the early morning, Michael Connell saw the airship. (Mexico [Mo] Weekly Ledger, April 29, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Napoleon, Indiana-The airship landed at the farm of Albert Hicks at noon. A paddle in the propeller had become loose. The airship remained on the ground for about a minute. (Osgood [Ind] Journal, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Sharon, Pennsylvania-At dusk, Jay Larimore, C. Wallace, and E. Andrews saw the airship pass over. It was 2,000 feet up, headed for Lake Erie rapidly, and there were 3 men on board. (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 22, 1897) The Erie (Pa) Daily Times of April 22nd reported that it was cigar shaped, had wings, and a propeller. The Delaware (O) Semi-Weekly Gazette of April 23, said this happened in Youngstown, O., and was seen by "re(lie)able" men. (H)

April 21, 1897-Kewanee, Illinois-At 1900, hundreds saw a light of unusual brightness going northeast. (Princeton [Ill] Bureau County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Tipton, Indiana-The airship was seen at 2000. (Kokomo [Ind] Tribune, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Vienne, Missouri-At 2015, many saw the airship going northwest. In a short time it disappeared over the horizon. It was nearly as large as the moon and gave out a peculiar, bright light. (Cuba [Mo] Crawford County Telephone, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Colorado Springs, Colorado-F. Bissell, Eddie Hobbs, Charles Rafield, and Charles Drapper heard a crash at 2030. It was a sealed beer bottle which shattered and revealed a note inside. It read: "April 21, 1897. To whoever finds this note. We are in air about 2 miles above the earth. Our valve is jammed so that we can not let the gas escape. We have no food except crackers and bottled olives. Our names are: C. J. Pillsbury, 108 Washington St., Boston; Pierre Humbert, city engineer of Boston; and C. De Novina, 17 rue Traffant, Paris. Please let our friends know where we are. We cannot possibly live 48 hours longer, as we have no water." One of the witnesses saw a light to the southwest. Several others saw a strange light at 2100 toward Ivywild. It moved at 30-40 mph. (Colorado Springs Gazette, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Benton Harbor, Michigan-At 2030, many saw a light that circled and zigzagged, some saw a cigar shape. It was only a kite with a lantern attached to it. (Benton Harbor Evening News, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Idaville, Indiana-At 2030, John Moorman and others saw a light approaching from the south and went east. It was 1 mile away, 500 feet up, and was a bright white light with a weaker red light. (Logansport [Ind] Journal, April 22, 1897) It turned out to be a balloon.

April 21, 1897-Burnettsville, Indiana-At 2038, the airship was seen to go east. It was like seen at Idaville. (Kokomo [Ind] Dispatch, April 24, 1897) The Logansport [Ind] Journal of April 22, 1897, said it moved southeast to northwest, to the east, and 500 feet up.

April 21, 1897-Star City, Indiana-At 2040, the airship was seen. (Kokomo [Ind] Dispatch, April 24, 1897) The Logansport (Ind) Journal of April 22, 1897, said it was seen at 2038 and was a light moving rapidly northwest.

April 21, 1897-Ashland, Ohio-Between 2000 and 2100, many saw a very bright light to the south. It was moving west and growing fainter. It

was a vertical line of light, several hundred feet long. (Ashland [O] Gazette, April 23, 1897) The Cleveland [O] Leader of May 4, 1897, said it was a string of lights with a head like a comet and a glare behind it. It had an appearance of luminous vapor streaming behind it. The light was tinged with red. It was going northeast, seen 25 minutes, and the lights seemed to be on a long, narrow, tubular object.

April 21, 1897-Chicago, Illinois-The airship was seen at 2100. (Princeton [Ill] Bureau County Republican, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Rockport, Ohio-At 2100 Conductor Eggleston and 8 passengers saw the airship going south. It had its headlight turned toward the earth. (Columbus [O] Evening Press, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-near Lorain, Ohio-Motorman Krautter and Clark Daniels saw the airship coming south towards Elyria at 2100. (Columbus [O] Evening Press, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Franklin, Nebraska-At 2200, many saw the airship for 30 minutes. It was like a comet with a bright tail and was brighter and larger than a star. It was to the southwest and moved in a straight line north to south. (Lincoln [NB] Nebraska State Journal, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Fulton, Missouri-Several heard the flapping of wings at 2300. They saw a huge fish shaped object combined with that of a bird. It moved at a lightning like speed and changed direction. (Fulton Gazette, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Erie, Pennsylvania-J. Scheer, Frank King, and Frank Mulich saw the airship pass over at 2300. It was moving south to north at a high rate and was 2,000 feet up. It was a long cigar shaped craft. 2 wing like fans on each side, huge propeller on stern, and a bright light on the bow. (Erie Daily Times, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Ohio-At 2300, J. Caldwell, John Holt, and others saw the airship on the ground. They heard voices in side talking in an unintelligible gabble. It ascended, spread its wings, and left. (Credo [WV] Advance, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Riverton, Nebraska-Dr. and Mrs. Spencer saw a huge light and 2 smaller lights to the northwest at 2300. (Riverton Review, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Jackson, Tennessee-At 2300, several saw a strange light over the city for over an hour. It appeared in the northeast, rose rapidly, drifted east, and grew larger and brighter all the time. It moved in lunges and often it would go out and come back on. It was the size of a train headlight and hovered. (Memphis [Tn] Commercial Appeal, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Kingston, Missouri-About midnight, Dr. Galside saw a bright light to the northwest. It moved slowly north, quivered, and was

accompanied by several smaller lights. (Breckenridge [Mo] Bulletin, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Barien, Wisconsin-The airship was seen in the evening and said to have green light. It turned out to be a balloon. (Elkhorn [Wi] Independent, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-During the evening, Prof. Dutton saw a light to the west. It was brilliant and like a comet with 2 tails, one above the other. It was dazzling and moved slowly. (Cleveland Leader, April 27, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Fort Wayne, Indiana-Members of the First Spiritual Circle saw the airship pass over rapidly to the northwest in the evening. It carried 2 lights, red in front and blue in rear. The medium went into a trance and said there were 2 men and a dog in the airship. (Fort Wayne Weekly Gazette, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Bucyrus, Ohio-In the evening a kite with a lantern was seen as a flickering light to the south. (Bucyrus Evening Telegram, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Carrothers, Ohio-The airship was seen to the southeast and again later to the north. (Tiffin [O] Daily Advertiser, April 29, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Jamestown, Nebraska-During an evening storm, several saw an object seemingly out of control. It went into a flock of geese and killed 7-8 of them and they were found scattered about. (Fremont [NE] Daily Tribune, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Voyer Valley Township, Iowa-During the evening, a strange light was seen in a field. The next morning, the witness found the airship with 7 crewmen who could not speak English. (Early [Ia] News, April 30, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Fremont, Nebraska-During an evening storm, a farmer saw something large and winged come down low over his chicken yard. A man appeared, threw out a rope into the yard. It caught a chicken and it was pulled into the airship. As the airship rose, a paper came fluttering down. It read: "I have been in this infernal airship several weeks and can not make the blamed thing land on account of having broken some of the machinery. I am now entirely out of food, hence was force to catch one of your chickens; charge it and present your bill first of month." The man had a wild, crazy appearance, wore a shaggy beard, bare headed, and had large fierce eyes. (Fremont Daily Tribune, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Bloomington, Nebraska-Col. Carter saw a bright light that left northwest. (Bloomington Echo, April 23, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Pataskala, Ohio-During the evening, Squire Miller, C. Caner, Harry Joseph and others saw a large ball of fire to the southwest and rapidly approaching. It had a faint outline of an object in its rear and it made a dip toward the earth. It was an elongated car with huge fan

(H) like wings and a tail piece or steering apparatus. They saw several persons in the car and heard voices. It then left east. (Pataskala Standard, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Berea, Ohio-At night, many saw a bright light that made several circuits of the town. It would be in a horizontal position, then change to perpendicular. (St. Louis [Mo] Star, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Muncie, Indiana-The airship landed during the night. The lone witness said an occupant got out and asked for some milk. He said they had been out since leaving Evanston, Ill. The witness gave him some milk, he went into the ship, pulled a cord, and it left north. (Chicago [Ill] Inter-ocean, April 26, 1897) This is probably a hoax since none of the Muncie papers made even a mention of it, plus the source.

April 21, 1897-Edna, Texas-Editor Frank Dickson saw 2 airships pass over the southern part of the city. He heard a distant rumbling, then saw 2 aerial monsters, 400 yards apart. They were communicating with each other by means of red and green lights. After 5 minutes, 1 left north and the other left south. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Between Ashland and Polk, Ohio-At night, Mike Rickader and crew of a train saw a ball of fire in the heavens. It moved smoothly along and they thought they could distinguish figures in it. (Mansfield [O] Richland Shield and Banner, April 27, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Galion, Ohio-The airship was seen at night. (Mansfield [O] Richland Shield and Banner, April 27, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Cripple Creek, Colorado-The airship was seen flying around Pikes Peak. Residents became concerned that it might be driven by the populist party or some insane Knights of Labor Organization with the intention of capturing the cog-wheel railway and the gold field of Cripple Creek. Some Cripple Creek boys went up in a balloon to capture the airship. It was found to be a large 2 seated chair with the legs attached to the backs of 4 large birds. In the chair were 2 small, well dressed, and educated men and they fired bullets at each other. However, the air was too light to hold a bullet. The airship was captured and taken to Denver. They were red men and came for the South Pacific island of Damoly. Their hair was long and red like blood and their eyes shone like electric lights. (Moberly [Mo] Daily Monitor, April 28, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Fergus Falls, Minnesota-The airship was seen at night. (Elbow Lake [Mn] Grant County Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Mineral Point, Illinois-The airship was seen at night. (Galena [Ill] Gazette, April 22, 1897)

(H) April 21, 1897-Youngstown, Ohio-Residents saw the airship at night. It was like a giant centipede with revolving sails. They could not make out the passengers, but they had voices like thunder. (Youngstown Weekly Telegram, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Terre Haute, Indiana-Patrolmen Kotsch, Budd, and Charles Scheydt saw the airship. It was pointed at both ends and gradually disappeared. (Terre Haute Evening Gazette, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Atlantic, Iowa-The airship was seen to come from the northwest and going southwest. It appeared as a heavy black cloud that was dimly illuminated. It was 3 times as long as wide and 1/2 as tall as wide. It was slow and made a rumbling sound. (Atlantic Telegraph, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Opelousas, Louisiana-Several saw the airship going west. (Opelousas St. Landry Clarion, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Cutler, Ohio-The airship stopped at Calamity Oil Company's well and took on a supply of oil to lubricate the bearings. (Marietta [O] Register, April 22, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Holdenville, Oklahoma-The airship was seen with a bright red searchlight. (Tecumseh [Ok] Herald, April 24, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Jackson, Michigan-George Mitchell saw the airship and it had lights at each end. (Detroit [Mi] Evening News, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Elbow Lake, Minnesota-The airship was seen and it was just like the one seen on the 18th. (Elbow Lake Grant County Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Fort Worth, Texas-Charles West and Col. Donaldson saw the airship land and spoke with Captain Nemo of the airship "Dauntless". They had to land to make repairs. They were told all about the airship, but were sworn to secrecy. (Fort Worth Register, April 23, 1897) (H)

April 21, 1897-Savannah, Ohio-The airship was seen. (Ashland [O] Times, April 28, 1897)

April 21, 1897-Grand Junction, Colorado-The airship landed and C. J. Pillsbury, of Boston, said that his 2 companions had regained control of the ship and were alright. He agreed to bring the airship to town and address the people of "bloon day". A dispatch to the Times "the other day" said that Pillsbury was in Boston and had never been on an airship. (Denver [Co] Times, April 22, 1897) (H)

→ April 22, 1897-Brenham, Texas-At 0400, several including John R. Pennington, saw the airship pass over. It was pretty high and going south. They saw the lights and hulk, heard a roaring noise, and heard a noise on board like the rattling of glassware. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Ashland, Nebraska-Miss Helme saw the airship hovering over Doc Jones' house at 0430. It was very large, 100 feet up, and left west after 30 minutes. (Wahoo [Nb] Wasp, April 29, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Washington, D. C.-The airship was seen by many to come down the Potomac and gradually disappear over the hills of Virginia. It

was seen by officers and soldiers at Fort Meyer. It was like an oblong balloon floating along with a slight pitch in the direction of travel. Glasses revealed it was a double-barrel arrangement, shaped like a catamaran, hanging vertically, rocking side to side, and often shifting position. There was no smoke, smokestack, wings, or other means of propulsion seen. (Harrison [O] County Democrat, April 28, 1897) The Washington (D.C.) Star of April 22, 1897, reported that it was seen at 0900 and that glasses revealed it was like a canvas box and oblong. It was 1 mile or more up and 3 feet or more in size. It swayed in the wind and rocked side to side. There were 2 dark objects faintly seen in the ship. It was high and hovered over Fort Meyer and Arlington. It was in view until 1100 and left south. It was found to be a weather bureau kite sent up behind Arlington.

April 22, 1897-Jimes, Ohio-During the afternoon, the airship was seen. It was high and passed over going southeast. (Portsmouth [O] Blade, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 22, 1897-Kenly, North Carolina-At 1930, the airship with its sails or webbing plainly seen. The outlines of 2 person was seen also. It moved very slowly to the southwest. It was seen by many prominent citizens. (Wilmington [NC] Messenger, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Westerville, Ohio-Many saw a strange light to the west at 2000. It was like a very large star, but duller. It was several miles away, but not at a great height. It changed position and began to approach the city. As it came nearer, a rapid sweep carried it far to the south. It was seen by hundreds as it moved against the wind. At 2300, it left east. (Columbus [O] Ohio State Journal, April 24, 1897) The Columbus [O] Evening Press of April 23, 1897, said it was a red light that hovered for 30 minutes. It then went south toward Columbus and returned in the direction of Pittsburg. Signals were given by the witnesses and it answered by moving, in order, a green, red, and white light.

April 22, 1897-Cripple Creek, Colorado-At 2000, thousands saw the airship for 30 minutes. It turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Denver [Co] Rocky Mountain News, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Wheeling, West Virginia-At 2000, several boys said they had seen the airship, but they were lying. (Wheeling Intelligencer, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Carmi, Illinois-At 2000, a bright light was seen, moving rapidly to the northwest. It was as large as a train headlight and was seen for 15-20 minutes. (Grayville [Ill] Mercury, April 28, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Girardsville, Pennsylvania-The airship was seen to the north at 2030. There were 3 lights and soon 2 of them faded away. It was oblong, 3 feet long, and 1 foot wide. It narrowed towards the center where it was only 2 inches wide. A dark streak surround it. Near the lower end a short arm projected obliquely from the ship. The light appeared to be showing behind the body and varied in brightness. It hovered for 2 hours. (Pottsville [Pa] Republican, April 23, 1897)

2

April 22, 1897-Marquette, Michigan-At 2045, 50 people saw the airship going northeast; against the wind. It was a white light and the outline of a black body could be seen. It would go level and then dive like a kite. It was going at 60 mph. It was seen again at 2115 going east. (Marquette Mining Journal, April 23, 1897) The April 24th issue of the same paper revealed that it was a kite.

April 22, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-Patrolman James Kleckner and his wife, Rev. West and his wife, and several others saw a light to the northwest at 2100. It was 500 feet up and several inches in diameter. It moved in an aimless manner for several minutes, then left west. (Logansport Daily Reporter, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Lake Mills, Wisconsin-At 2100, several saw 2 lights, several feet apart, moving against the wind. (Ft. Atkinson [WI] Jefferson County Union, April 30, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Hiawatha, Kansas-Many, including Deputy Leibengood, Councilman Malglott, and others, saw the airship at 2115. It was the size of an arc light and moved slowly south. There were clouds seen passing between it and the ground and it was seen for 15 minutes. (Hiawatha Brown County World, April 30, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Lynchburg, Virginia-Between 2100 and 2200, a young man saw a strange looking cloud. It rose rapidly above the horizon and gradually approached the zenith. He pointed it out to others. It had a big searchlight that sent out penetrating rays and had rows of twinkling lights on the sides. It was immense in size and had tremendous outspreading wings. It moved at a tremendous speed and crossed the zenith. It past directly over the west part of Lynchburg and left east. As it began to drop from view, it assumed the appearance of a white cloud. (Lynchburg News, April 24, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Gloucester, Ohio-A journalist saw the airship land on Mine No. 8 at 2200 and it took on coal and water. (Columbus [OH] Evening Press, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Flatonia, Texas-At 2200, Albert Moch saw the airship pass directly overhead. It was 100 feet up and going southeast. He heard a sound like the rapid whirring of wings. Different colored lights flashed from it. As it receded from view, it cast a bright streak of light from the rear and slanting toward the ground. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 24, 1897) The San Antonio (Tx) Express of April 25, 1897, reported that it was 30 feet long, 2,000 feet up, and propelled by a fly wheel. It descended to 200 feet, turned on a powerful searchlight, and left east.

April 22, 1897-Kokomo, Indiana-William Sollenbergen saw the airship at 2200 going northeast. It was a red light moving very rapidly. Lindell Darby said he thought he could see the framework and the light was white. Officer Ross Taylor said it carried a red, white, and blue light and was going northeast. It turned and left northwest. It was seen by many others. (Kokomo Dispatch, April 23, 1897) The Kokomo Tribune of April 23rd reported that some saw the faint outlines of a long cigar

shaped object with wings or arms. It was the size of a dinner plate, moved at 30-40 mph, and was seen for 3 minutes.

(H) April 22, 1897-Rockland, Texas-At 2300, John Barclay was alarmed by his dogs barking and a whining noise. He saw an oblong object with wings, a variety of side attachments, and very brilliant lights hovering 50 yards up. It circled a few times then landed. He took his gun and went to investigate. He met an ordinary mortal who told him to put the gun down and that no harm was intended. He said his name was Smith and, giving Barclay \$10, told him to get some oil, cold chisels, and a bluestone. He was able to get the oil and the chisels, but not the bluestone. Smith said they were from anywhere and they would be in Greece the day after tomorrow. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 25, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Hemlock, Michigan-At 2300, 2 men saw the airship sailing at a rapid rate to the south. (Saginaw [Mi] Courier Herald, April 28, 1897)

(H) April 22, 1897-Josserand, Texas-About midnight, Frank Nichols was awoken by a whirring noise. He saw 2 strange lights and found that the airship had landed. He went toward it but met 2 men with buckets who asked permission to get some water, which was granted. He went to the ship and conversed with the 6-8 people on it. It was built of a new material that had the property of self-sustenance in the air and the motive power was condensed electricity. There were 3 of these ship built in Iowa. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 26, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Plankinton, South Dakota-Rev. Davies saw the airship sailing south in the evening. It discharged, at intervals, different colored lights. (Plankinton Herald, April 28, 1897)

April 22, 1897-between Chicago, Illinois, and Logansport, Indiana-Conductor Joe Kenney saw a red and a green light floating in the west. (Logansport Journal, April 27, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Struble, Kansas-A large luminous body was seen near the horizon in the evening. It changed to many brilliant colors before it faded from view. (La Mars [Ia] Globe, April 24, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Coffeyville, Kansas-Venus was seen in the evening and thought to be the airship. (Coffeyville Journal, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Alexandria, Minnesota-In the night, Bob Brough saw the airship to the west. (Alexandria Republican, April 28, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Scribner, Nebraska-At night, the airship passed over. It was so low that it broke a pane of glass in front of Milligan's store and collided with the smoke stack on Dieh's mill. (Scribner News, April 30, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Yonkers, New York-Several saw the airship at night. It was just like the one seen on the 19th. (Yonkers Herald, May 1, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Cumberland County, Virginia-Two negroes saw the airship at night. It moved at a rapid rate, seen a short time, and was just like those described in the papers. (Lynchburg [Va] News, May 2, 1897)

April 22, 1897-York Mill, Ohio-At night, several saw the airship pass over. (Portsmouth [O] Republican, April 24, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Baird, Texas-Fayette Jones saw a huge airship land at night. It was a cigar shaped object, 100 feet long, and had wings on the sides and at the rear. There were 2 men and a woman on board and they were beautiful people. The furnishing were gold colored. They said they were experimenting with the airship which was sent out by some New York people to hunt curios for a museum. They had stopped to see Mr. J. Rushing since he was a gold bug (a goldstandard man). When Jones said he was a gold bug, they said he was the curio they were looking for. They pulled him in, shut the door, and rose at 100 mph. He became frightened and said he did not want to go to heaven yet and that no gold bug would dare go there. They agreed and gradually eased down on top of Mount Airy and let him out. (Baird Star, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Moxahala, Ohio-For the last 3 nights, residents had seen the airship. There were 3 lights when it was flying and 2, a red and a green, when it was hovering. Later it stopped for coal, but found the wrong quality and dumped it in Scott Wiggins field. (Columbus [O] Evening Press, April 22, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Emporia, Kansas-During a storm, the airship came down and was recharged with electricity at the Emporia Electric Light Company plant. (Emporia Gazette, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Pauls' Valley, Indian Territory-Several saw the airship. It was like an ordinary box car. Some said it was like an oil tank, and it left north. (Wichita [Ks] Beacon, April 23, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Muncie, Indiana-Ed. C. Knupp, agent for the Main Circus, had made arrangements with Prof. Galaski to bring his airship to the circus grounds at 1830. Galaski had left Canada and was on his way to the Tennessee Centennial, but would stop over at Muncie. (Muncie Daily Herald, April 22, 1897)

April 22, 1897-Conroe, Texas-Three strangers came into town and said they were sailing an airship from San Francisco. They were going to Cuba via El Paso, Conroe, and New Orleans. About an hour later, residents saw a bright light rise to the east. (Galveston [Tx] Daily News, April 24, 1897)

April 22, 1897-New London, Iowa-A letter was found and it was on brown paper, tied with twine, and had a piece of iron attached to it. The letter read: "From Airship Ian Chang. If this message is found send to Mrs. John Randolph, 22303 Vine Street, St. Louis, Missouri. Dear Mother: I have been taken prisoner by Japanese officers from near Wahachow plantation near Honolulu. The republic of Hawaii is doomed. The Japanese have several thousand soldiers on Island as laborers. It has remained for the Japs to solve the air navigator. Five have been made by the

government. Three are carrying troops from Japan to Hawaii. Two are carrying arms from United States. We are west bound with load from near Hartford. Communicate with government. Haste, your son, J. Rudolph." (Burlington [Ia] Hawkeye, April 23, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Wabash, Indiana-At 0030, a bright red light that was seen turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Wabash Times, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Nevada, Missouri-At 0200, Will Joy and engineer Dowdy saw the airship. It came from the south and moved at will for over an hour. It had red and blue lights hanging from the sides and the main light was larger than a train headlight. They saw people peering over the sides. (Nevada Mail, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Sheridan and Arkwright, New York-At 0430, Arthur Wilkins of Arkwright and John Wetterburn of Sheridan saw the airship from their respective farms. It was 2,000 feet up, going south at a great speed, and looked like a queer shaped cloud. A bright light streamed out from the front, then went out. They saw a cigar shaped craft with wings like fans on each side. It was seen less than a minute. Wetterburn said he saw a light on the bow and stern, and a man or 2 in it. (Dunkirk [N.Y.] Evening Observer, April 23, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Logansport, Louisiana-W. Branan, J. Mores, and another saw a large object approaching from the north at 0530. It moved rapidly and was 1,500 feet up. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-6 miles west of Calla, Ohio-In the early morning, Frank Rogers and Scott Ebert saw the airship going northwest. It was brilliantly illuminated, cigar shaped, and had a fan shaped apparatus on the sides. (Norwalk [OH] Daily Reflector, April 26, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Nashville, Tennessee-In the morning a reporter was in a bar when a strange man came in and bought 25 boxes of Yale Mixture, a tobacco. He was about 35, low, heavy build, wore a corduroy suit, and had a determined look on his face. When he left, the reporter followed him and they ended up at the Centennial grounds. Here the reporter found the airship anchored to a tree. It was 50 feet long, tapered at both ends, and its greatest diameter was 15 feet. It had 6 propellers on one side and these had 12 foot blades. The wings were only slightly moving, just enough to keep the anchor rope taut. The hull appeared to be made of aluminum. A door opened and a rope came down. The stranger unfastened the anchor rope and was pulled aboard the craft, which soon rose and left. (Nashville American, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Fort Worth, Texas-At 0930, Woodford Brooks saw the airship on the ground and he, and Mr. Edwards, approached it. The met a man named Randall who said he was the captain of the airship. There were 12 other men on it and they were headed for the City of Mexico. When asked if he thought 13 was an unlucky number for a crew, Randall said they were all protected by wearing Mexican opals. The ship was powered by storage batteries and had mistook the park for an electric plant. The ship then left for San Antonio. (Fort Worth Register, April 24, 1897)

2

April 23, 1897-Burton, Michigan-Daniel Gray heard a terrible rumbling and whizzing sound directly overhead. He saw a dark object flying with lightning like rapidity. It soon passed from view. He saw something fall and found it to be a Toronto, Canada, paper dated October 5, 1896. It was dry and well preserved. (Saginaw [Mi] Globe, April 26, 1897) The Flint (Mi) Daily News of April 24, 1897, reported that it happened about noon.

April 23, 1897-Winchester, Kentucky-Several students saw the airship while at school. It glistened like polished tin, bottom was dark, and had immense wings. It left to the northeast. (Winchester Democrat, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-St. Joseph, Missouri-In the afternoon, many thought they saw the airship but it was a kite that could be inflated. (St. Joseph Gazette, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Nevada, Iowa-During the afternoon, the airship landed and on board was Mr. and Mrs. Neptuniandustireceas, of Neptune, and Mr. Saturnicusbalsan, of Saturn. They spoke English fluently and Mrs. N. could speak all Earth languages, especially the tongue of Finland. She said that people of the Sun, Moon, Mars, and other planets had had airships since "the year Foley Langland of the Slater News left Norway." She said there was a dwarf race on the moon that lived in volcanoes. All of the larger planets were connected by railways and the trains moved at 50,000 mph. On the other planets, rebellions are unknown and the people are honest and upright, just like those of Finland. She felt that the election of McKinley was proper and that Harden would be appointed postmaster at Ames. They plan to establish regular stations in the United States with the headquarters at Rolland and would run excursions to all the planets. (Nevada Representative, April 28, 1897) (H)

April 23, 1897-Rochester, New York-At 1820, a couple saw something to the south and it was too high and moved on a too regular course to be a kite. It was 1 mile up, 2 miles away, and moved steadily and rapidly due west with the wind. It was seen with glasses and appeared 25-30 feet long, resembled a life boat, and the bow was slightly higher than the stern. At times it would drop a little and when it did it accelerated. There was a projection on the top like the dorsal fin of a fish and it extended 1/2 the length of the hull, sloping gradually up from the forward end and descending sharply toward the stern. It seemed to roll a little and the fin seemed to be broken into 3 parts and as if men were sitting in these fissures. It was seen for 20 minutes and left toward Fairport. (Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Miles City, Montana-At 1900, the airship was seen circling to the northwest. It proved to be a kite with a lantern attached to the tail. (Miles City Weekly Yellowstone Journal, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Rochester, New York-Between 2000 and 2030, several saw a long rakish craft moving east. It was 1 mile up and moved at a swift and even rate. It was brilliantly illuminated and had a long tail like attachment with fan shaped wings. It kept a uniform distance from the

earth and gave off a white light. (Rochester [NY] Democrat and Chronicle, April 25, 1897) The airship turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Buffalo [NY] Express, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Newport, Kentucky-At 2030, many saw the airship. Mrs. G. Phillips saw a light to the west moving about. It grew closer, passed overhead, revealing a very long cigar shaped object. Mr. Ezra Van Duzen saw a light come from the west. He and others heard something drop and found a bag of sand and a letter. The letter read: "Airship Pegasus, April 23, 1897.-Passed over Newport, Ky., at 8:25 pm, traveling at the rate of forty miles an hour, due west. Aerometer recorded 200 miles since 4:30 pm. Expect to arrive at Nashville, Tenn., at 3 am, Sunday. Captgain Pegasus." (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Aspen, Colorado-At 2100, a fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Aspen Rocky Mountain Sun, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Markham, Illinois-A letter was found and it read: "Omaha April 23, '97 To the finders: I left Omaha at 8:30 pm and drop this notice at 11:25 pm to show you people that my airship is the greatest wonder of the age, and will be on exhibition at the Omaha Exposition and I take this method of advertising. By presenting this letter you will be entitled to one ride free of charge during the time my airship will be on exhibition. Aerial Navigator" (Jacksonville [Fl] Journal, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Saginaw, Michigan, During the evening, a bright light was seen to the southwest and it had red and green lights. It proved to be a star. (Saginaw Globe, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Terra Alta, West Virginia-In the evening, the airship passed over. "It was clothed in a dazzling shirt front and milk-white pants and was admired by a host of people." (Kingwood [WV] Preston County Journal, April 29, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Delavan, Illinois-During the evening, Mrs. Tibbits, Emma Tibbits, and H. Udell saw a large light moving rapidly northwest. It moved in a zigzag manner, showed red and green lights, and was seen for 15-20 minutes. (Harvard [Ill] Herald, April 23, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Brownington, Missouri-The airship was seen hovering over a coal chute and several occupants alighted and loaded 10 to 50 tons of coal. The object raised its huge wings and flew 50 yards. It landed and took on 75 barrels of water. The occupants tried to get the agent to go with them, but he would not. It rose to 300 miles and left west. (Clinton [Mo] Eye, April 24, 1897)

(H) April 23, 1897-Galton, Illinois-During the night, a man heard a whizzing noise. He looked up and saw the airship. It was 75 feet long, 25 feet wide, and there were 5 men in it. Two of the men were wrestling as the other 3 watched. When one of the men saw the witness, he threw down a piece of blue paper which read: "The great airship 'William J. Bryan' bound for the Holy Land, No stop over allowed." (Ironton [O] Register, April 29, 1897)

26

April 23, 1897-Long Prairie, Minnesota-Rev. Nicholson and J. Van Dyke saw the airship for several minutes at night. It flashed different colored lights and was going southwest. (Long Prairie Leader, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Grant Park, Illinois-At night, Ted Laking saw a light to the northwest. It was going north in an undulating manner. (Momence [Il] Reporter, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Galesville, Wisconsin-John Jones and his family saw a moving body overhead at night. It had colored lights, resembled a wagon box, moved at 50 knots per hour, and left toward Arcadia. (Galesville Independent, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Portsmouth, Ohio-At night, Billy Barker saw the airship. It was a dark object carrying 2 red lights. It was high and left toward New Boston rapidly. (Portsmouth Blade, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Bartlett, Texas-At night, a man thought he saw the airship but it was a boiler on a wagon with lanterns on the side. (Terrell [Tx] Times Star, April 30, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Cerrillos, New Mexico-At night, 30 people saw the airship. (Las Vegas [NM] Daily Optic, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Lewisburg, Kentucky-Many saw light moving southwest at a great height at night. (Owensboro [Ky] Daily Inquirer, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Somerville, Tennessee-At night, several saw a coal oil lamp and thought it was the airship. (Memphis [Tn] Commercial Appeal, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Kountze, Texas-Capt. H. Hooks and A. Hodges said the airship landed at night due to a puncture in an "air department". It was 50 feet long, 20 feet wide, and cigar shaped. There were 2 men on it, Wilson and Jackson, and they will remain on the ground until Monday. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 25, 1897) (H)

April 23, 1897-Washington, Indiana-J. Miller, his wife, Ida Stephens, and others saw a dull red light moving northwest rapidly. It was 1 foot wide, 3 feet long, and a short distance up. Some heard a buzzing noise but did not see it. (Washington Daviess County Democrat, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Lincoln, Nebraska-Many saw the airship going towards Plattsinbuth. Some said it had large green eyes and a long tail, and some said the eyes were red. (Lincoln Nebraska State Journal, April 24, 1897)

April 23, 1897-McKinney Bayou, Arkansas-Judge Lawrence A. Byrne saw the airship on the ground. It was manned by three men who looked like Japs and who spoke a foreign language. He was shown through the ship and said it was made of aluminum. It rose and fell by means of pumping gas into a tank. (Texarkana [Ark] Texarkanian, April 25, 1897) (H)

(H)

April 23, 1897-Dupont, Ohio-A man saw the airship rise and fly away. He found a note from the crew saying they had traveled 4,000 miles and were going to find the North Pole. (Cincinnati [O] Commercial Tribune, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Fitchville, Ohio-The airship was seen moving slowly to the southeast. It was shaped like a huge fish and seen for 2 hours. Some said it was a large balloon. (Columbus [O] Sunday Press, April 25, 1897)

April 23, 1897-Hiawatha, Kansas-The airship was seen. (Atchison [Ks] Globe, April 24, 1897)

(H)

April 23, 1897-Chattanooga, Tennessee-The airship landed nearby in order for repairs to be made. The craft was "the exact shape of a shad, minus head and tail" and had two large wings equipped with knuckle and socket joints so that the wings could be moved up and down, back and forth. It was equipped with two engines, one electrical and one gasoline. It had a nine foot diameter propeller which turned at 900 rpm. The body was filled with hydrogen and had a lifting capacity of 1800 pounds. The passenger car was nine by four feet and made of aluminum and bamboo. The propeller was connected to a generator which produced the electricity for the searchlight. A News reporter saw it land and immediately went to the spot. He found two men doing some hammering on it. One of the men identified himself as "Prof. Charles Davidson" and said the airship was his invention. "The speaker was a slight, energetic man, apparently about 45 years old. He was attired in a suit of serviceable tweed, with sack coat. His companion, who was probably ten years his junior, whom he introduced as Henry J. Morris, of Sacramento, Cal., also the home of the professor, was similarly attired." Davidson stated that he had been born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and settled near Wilmington, NC, 12 years ago. He began working on the airship at that time. He met Morris and they became partners. They moved to Denver and then to Sacramento. They built the ship with parts from different sections of the country. They left Sacramento about a month ago, went down the coast, passed over Los Angeles, and since has passed over every state. They averaged about 93 miles per hour. Once the repairs were completed they left. "The reporter who wrote the above article is sometimes in the habit of stretching his imagination instead of his legs. The editor does not undertake to say which he relied on in getting up the above story.-Editor." (Knoxville [Tn] Tribune, April 25, 1897)

(H)

April 24, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-A strange buzzing sound was heard in the morning. The witnesses saw the airship going south, 200 feet up, and at 100 mph. A man was standing in the rear of the lower part of the cigar shaped craft. There were 2 other men sitting in the helm. The man in the rear dropped a card which bore the words "Mattoon, Illinois." (Louisville Courier-Journal, April 25, 1897)

→

April 24, 1897-Columbus, Ohio-At 1900, the airship passed over the house of S. Beebe. It came to the ground with a "dull heavy, sickening thud" in an alley behind the house. It set fire to a barn and the airship was completely burned. (Columbus Sunday Press, April 25, 1897) The Akron [O] Beacon and Republican of April 26th reported that it was a meteor bursting.

April 24, 1897-Greenfield, Indiana-Emma Stephens, Mrs. George Johnson, and others saw the airship at 1930. It rose from the Greenfield Paper Mill filter to 50 feet up. It went northeast and carried a light at each end. A man was seen in front of a boat shaped basket. (Hancock [In] Weekly Democrat, April 29, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Interior, Michigan-At 2015, F. Waggoner and others saw a moving object to the southwest and going west. It veered to the north and south and up and down. It carried white, red, and pale green lights and was seen for 30 minutes. (Chicago [Il] Record, April 30, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Carthage, Missouri-T. B. House saw a sudden flash of white light flame out three times at 2030. Then there were 3 more flashes further to the northeast. He called out the rest of his family and the saw it for 20 minutes. It was a light like a searchlight and the 3 flashes were in quick succession and were about a minute apart. It was at a great height, moving northeast, then west, then back to the northeast. It was found to be a kite that was pulled around the city. (Carthage Press, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Lacoste, Texas-At 2050, the airship was seen by a large number of people for 10 minutes. It was going north at 60 mph at an altitude of 1/2 mile. It was 40 feet long, had a canvas covering, and circled the city. A telescope revealed 2 men in it. (San Antonio [Tx] Express, April 27, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Kansas City, Missouri-At 2100, many saw 2 bright lights to the northeast and 1/2 mile up. They were 75 feet apart with a dark shadow between the lights. The lights were reddish and much larger than stars. They were moving west to east and kept a constant distance apart. Once it gave a series of spasmodic upward leaps. It was seen by Constable Jeff Brennan. (Kansas City Times, April 25, 1897) The Kansas City Journal of April 25th reported that it was at 2200, 3 miles up, and left southeast.

April 24, 1897-Hillsboro, Wisconsin-Many saw a bright light approaching from the southeast at 2100. It came over the city, hovered, turned, and left rapidly east. It was the size of a water pail and had dark lines on the sides of the light. Some said it changed from white to red and blue. (Hillsboro Sentry, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Oxford, Mississippi-At 2230, Tom Harkins and Capt. Neill saw a cigar shaped thing coming at them. It sent forth rays of lights. They saw 5 heads looking over the sides. Attached and lying centrally beneath, there was a roll of some kind. (Greenwood [Ms] Enterprise, April 30, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Toledo, Ohio-At 2300, Howard Warn and his father saw the airship during a light rain. It was bright lights of different colors moving rapidly to the southwest. They were attached to a cigar shaped object, 500 feet up, and just beneath the clouds. There were no indication of wings or propellers. (Cleveland [O] Plain Dealer, April 28, 1897) The Toledo Bee of April 27, 1897, said it was 30 feet long and apparently round.

April 24, 1897-Laurel Heights, San Antonio, Texas-Before midnight, a man saw a strange, solitary light. (San Antonio Daily Express, April 26, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Cape May, New Jersey-During the evening, several saw a large ball of fire surmounted by a halo resembling a crown. It faded away to the south. (Scranton [Pa] Times, April 30, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Alice, Iowa-Many saw the airship in the evening sky. It carried 2 large white lights and moved rapidly. Some saw 2 great wings covered with electric lights of red, white, and blue. It was 500 feet up and some saw "Kansas City or Bust" on the lighted cupola. (Grundy Center [Ia] Grundy County Democrat, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Omer, Michigan-In the evening, "the tail of the airship seems to have brushed over Omer..." (Saginaw [Mi] Courier Herald, April 27, 1897)

(H) April 24, 1897-Potosi, Wisconsin-A witness heard a whirring noise during the night. He saw the airship with 2 men sitting on the railing smoking cigarettes. When they saw the witness, one of them said, "Dull, get onto the bum mug" and laughed fiendishly. The witness' "face is on exhibition at Deeken's Saloon for any who doubt his statement." (Chicago [Ill] Inter-ocean, April 26, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Rheanover, Illinois-At night, several saw a very bright light to the northwest and going northwest. It was rapid, moved in an unsteady manner, varied its height, and seen for 15 minutes. (Chester [Ill] Tribune, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Grano Junction, Colorado-At night, Orson Adams saw the airship going northwest at a terrific speed at 2,500 feet up. It was a cylinder like craft with outriggers and fan shaped sails with a steady light from the stern. (Denver [Col] Rocky Mountain News, April 26, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-At night, Cy Graham and Harry Purcell saw the airship. (Logansport Reporter, April 26, 1897)

(H) April 24, 1897-Eagle River, Texas-Sheriff R. Dowe saw the airship and the 3 men on it said they had come from Uvalde where they spoke with Sheriff Baylor. They said they were going to Devils River in search of buffalo. They asked about Capt. Akers and was told he was over the river counting sheep. They got some water for the Rio Grande and left. (San Antonio [Tx] Express, April 27, 1897)

(H) April 24, 1897-Washington, Pennsylvania-The airship was reported to have landed and the crew spent the day in town. The captain, William Gasser, was interviewed by a reporter. The story went that he and a group of men were living in the Rockies. There was a young man in the group whose name was Wonders and under his direction they built an airship. "We made the first stop at Carson City to see the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight, but as it was all a bluff we got sick and tired of it after the first four rounds and pulled out." "Why, we tried to sail by Topeka when the

populist smell that we could only go about four miles an hour." They then went to Chicago where "Altgeld heard of us and as it was but a few days before the Chicago election he came out and wanted us to help swell the Democratic majority." The rest of the article continues with political cuts like the above. It gave no real information concerning the airship nor the inventor. (Washington Observer, April 26, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Lorain, Ohio-The airship was seen and a letter was found by George Wickers. It read: "Aboard the Aurora, altitude 1,500 ft. The finder of this letter may be somewhat surprised when he reads the contents. Our ship is a simple affair. The hull or body is merely a wire netting covered with a very thin and light but extremely strong casing of oiled silk, through which neither water nor air can pass nor can the fiercest gale rent. It is filled with hydrogen gas. The hull is in the shape of a cigar and stayed with aluminum bars. It is 82 feet in length and 19 feet in diameter. The whole is supported by an egg shaped balloon about 35 feet in diameter. The motion is secured by a propeller wheel at the stern. This wheel is 15 feet in diameter and has 8 paddles run by storage batteries. The weight of the Aurora, including myself, wife, and child, bedding and edible, is only 928 pounds. It was made in an out of the way place near Santa Fe, N.M. From there our journey over the United States began. In a few days we will return to Mexico, where I have a much larger boat under construction, with which I hope to cross the seas. Hoping this letter will have the desired effect-that is solving a deep mystery-I remain sincerely yours. William R. Harris April 22, '97" (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 25, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Carlisle, Kentucky-The airship was seen. (Carlisle Mercury, April 29, 1897)

April 24, 1897-Portsmouth, Ohio-Agent Hughes found an envelope with a string and weight attached. It read: "On Board Electric Air Ship 'Buckeye' No. 5. April 23, 1897. To the people of Portsmouth: We passed over your city about 1:30 this morning at an altitude of 500. We are enroute to Washington, D.C. and want our friends to know that we are all well. Captain Air Ship no. 5 P.S. Please hand this to some paper so that our friends will be sure and hear from us. Captain 'Buckeye'" (Portsmouth Blade, April 24, 1897) (H)

April 24, 1897-Westerville, Ohio-Three letters were found: 2 by Cyrus Riggle and 1 by Clave Boyer. One letter found by Mr. Riggle said it was written at 2,134 feet up. It described its journey through the air at 40 degrees parallel at 2130. The writer seemed to be (a friend of Arthur Burr of Columbus,) to whom the letter was directed. It was headed for Baltimore and signed Jim McX. The other letter he found was directed to Walter Hartrum of Westerville and written at 34 feet up. The letter found by Mr. Boyer was directed to him and thanked him for signal lights he had sent up. (Columbus [O] Press, April 25, 1897) (H)

April 25, 1897-San Antonio, Texas-Before 0100, many saw an object like a comet low to the northwest. It moved east, then south, and passed over the city 2 miles east of City Hall. The sky was heavily overcast and no stars were visible. It was a bright white light and as it turned and approached a dozen or more dim lights were seen on the side. There was a

(H)

cluster of green lights on one side and a cluster of red at the stern. It rose, lowered, and left southeast. (San Antonio Daily Express, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Rusk, Texas-At 0230, the witness was awoken by a roaring noise and saw a large object 100 feet up and 200 yards away. He left and returned with another witness and they found that the airship had landed and some men were working on the wings. One of the men asked for some 20 penny nails, which he was given. The wings were 45 feet long, the craft 275 feet long and 12 feet deep. It used compressed air at 150 psi. It had immense headlights at each end and 13 red and green side lights. The inventor came from Wisconsin and said he built five of the airships in a small town in Kansas. (Houston [TX] Post, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-near Austin, Texas-At 0300, George Proctor, Ted Robin, and Jno. Caldwell saw the airship during a rain. At intervals of every few seconds it would throw its searchlight. It was as big as 4 arc lights. It came from behind Mount Sennell and left north after 15 minutes. (Austin Statesman, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Roseville, Illinois-George Smith saw the airship at 0530. It was high, seen by others, and going east rapidly. (London [O] Times, April 29, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Metagorda, Texas-At 1200, several saw an object going west. (Houston [TX] Post, April 30, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Mt. Gilead, Ohio-Many saw a great light high in the air at 1000. It was moving northwest and had several lesser lights at the rear. Its headlight was like that of a train. It came down until it was just above the trees. It was very red and its movements were slow and easy like a balloon. (Mt. Gilead Union Register, May 12, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Johnson City, Illinois-At 2000, John Kopp saw the airship moving northwest. (Marion [Ill] Leader, April 29, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Clarksville, Tennessee-Many saw a bright light to the southwest at 2045. It was cloudy and raining. It moved quickly about and was 1/2 mile up. (Clarkeville Leaf Chronicle, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Marshall, Missouri-At 2100, many saw a red light going east. (Marshall Saline Citizen, April 28, 1897) The Kansas City [MO] Times of April 26, 1897, reported that it came from the southwest and had several colored lights.

April 25, 1897-Van Alstyne, Texas-At 2130, the headlight of a train was mistaken for the airship. (Dallas [TX] Morning News, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Tonganoxie, Kansas-H. Kline and others saw a moving light at 2200. It was white, then red, and would dim and brighten. It moved north, then south, and left west. It was seen the next night also. (Tonganoxie Mirror, April 29, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-At 2230, 3 men saw the airship moving erratically like a kite. It had red, white, and blue lights. (Logansport Daily Reporter, April 27, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Ogden, Utah-Many saw a long, cigar shaped object at 2300. In the center there seemed to be a cabin with different colored lights. It floated about for 2 hours before leaving west. It would hover, dart about, rise, and fall. (Salt Lake City [Ut] Daily Tribune, April 29, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Rosanky, Texas-At 2320, the airship was seen 200 feet up. It made a noise like a swarm of bees, had 3 bright lights, and was 20 feet long. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 29, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Ballyhacky, Virginia-About midnight, the airship was seen sailing over Mill Mountain. It was going toward Hollins and hovered briefly over Virginia College. The voices of O. Marston, L. Davis, W. Eberhardt, City Editor Pepper, and W. Daniel could be heard singing "Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming." The airship was white, like a large swan, and had flapping wings. A flash of light from it lit up the area and showed 2 men drinking behind a barn. It had colored lights in arrangement like the British flag. When it was last seen, it was sailing over northeast Roanoke and voices heard singing "We Won't go Home Till Morning." (Roanoke [Va] Times, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Belleplaine, Kansas-During the evening, many saw a bright light to the northeast. It had curious antics and unsteady movements. It was a little above the horizon. (Belleplaine News, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Allenton, Wisconsin-Several saw the airship with colored lights in the evening. It was only a balloon. (West Bend [Wi] Democrat, May 5, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Sunbury, Ohio-W. Whittier took a photo of lightning in the evening. It showed the flash of lightning, clouds, and the outlines of an airship. (Dayton [O] Daily Journal, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Fort Wayne, Indiana-A strange light was seen at night, but it turned out to be a steeple climber with a lantern. (Fort Wayne News, April 27, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Chanute, Kansas-At night, many saw a large dark red light. It came from the northeast and moved in a zigzag manner to the southwest. It was a fiery red light larger than a star. It went west, then south, then north, and left west. (Chanute Tribune, April 27, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Merkel, Texas-At night, many saw the airship dragging a heavy object on a large rope. It caught to a railroad track. It had a searchlight and smaller lights shining from windows. After 10 minutes, a man descended the rope and he was small and wore a blue sailor suit. He stopped when he saw the people, cut the rope, and the ship left northeast. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 28, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Callaway, Nebraska-Charly Thompson heard the sound of distant music moving rapidly northeast. The music was distinct and the notes of several instruments were heard. It was heard by Ed Bennett, Max Field, Joe Savidge, and others. Fred Hutton saw something moving in the air. (Callaway Courier, April 30, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Emporia, Kansas-The airship was seen at night. (Emporia Gazette, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Freeland, Michigan-At night, Leonard and Henry Krause saw the airship. (Saginaw [MI] Courier Herald, April 30, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Moran, Indiana-Conductor Price, Harry Fender, Robert Wilson, and David Matheman saw the airship going northwest with its headlight burning. (Frankfort [IN] Daily Crescent, April 26, 1897)

April 25, 1897-Warrenton, Oregon-Several saw a very large balloon moving slowly northwest. (Warrenton Port Oregon Tribune, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 26, 1897-Salida, Colorado-At 0010, several saw a strange light directly overhead. It was like a searchlight with green, blue, and red and was going north. The next day a message was found in a broken beer bottle. It read: "Midair, April 25, 1897. To Whomever, et al; We are three belated, bewinded, bedrizzled, and bedamned aerialists who are awung through the heavens uncomfortably near the angels. We have risen our provisions and are living on dried apples, prunes, and navy beans. We are too full of these either for comfort or utterance. We would like to get down to pay our taxes. We would also like to behold the bosom of our families. We know when we have got enough. We have run out of water but the stock of evaporated fruit of Adam still holds out. We can't hold our jobs and stay up here. We need a change of shirts. We desire to be buried in Mother Earth, as graves can not be kept green in the clouds. We also need a change of socks. For the sake of humanity come up and pluck us down. J. W. Pillsbury, Boston, Peer Hoochert, Boston, Andon Fricasee, Paris, F.S. Please bring metallic caskets for 3 if you can't start inside the next 4 days." (Salida Mail Twice a Week, April 27, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Buena Vista, Colorado-At 0030, a light was seen passing over going north. (Salida [CO] Mail Twice a Week, April 27, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Emmettsburg, Iowa-Charly Terwiliger was awoken at 0300 by a noise like a whistle. He saw a large, bright light, with a lesser light on each side, going northeast. It passed low over a ball park. He and his wife watched it leave to the northeast. (Emmettsburg Democrat, April 28, 1897)

→ April 26, 1897-Little Rock, Arkansas-At 0515, C. Lawrence was awoken by someone saying that a large balloon was hovering over Baring Cross. He and others saw what looked like a large balloon moving south at a rapid rate. It approached toward the river, veered east, then north, and left. During the 15 minutes that it was seen, he took a photo. It showed a cigar like object, 40 feet long, with a car hanging beneath it. It had a

heavy anchor on a long rope, propeller at one end, and was going 50 mph. (Little Rock Arkansas Democrat, April 26, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Trenton, New Jersey-People at City Hall saw an object that was 1 mile up at noon. It was moving very slowly and glittered in the sun. Glasses revealed that it was shaped like an immense cigar and probably made of aluminum. By 1300, it had worked well to the west and disappeared behind some clouds. (Trenton Evening News, April 27, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Elkton, Tennessee-At 1900, residents heard a dog barking and saw the airship. It was cigar shaped and had immense white wings and guy ropes and rods. They saw 3 men frantically waving their hands and the craft seemed to be out of working order. (Clarksville [Tn] Chronicle, May 1, 1897) (H)

April 26, 1897-Mt. Ephrain, Ohio-At 1930, many saw the airship pass to the west of the city. (Caldwell [O] Press, April 29, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Columbus, Ohio-Sam Six heard a terrific noise like the passage of a flock of pigeons at 2030. He saw the airship 960 feet up. He saw that it was a large airship followed by 4 smaller ones. He pointed then out to others. They came from the north, gradually turned south, passed over Camp Chase, and left toward Grove City. All of them were egg shaped, pure white, and rigged in the latest styles of sailing riggings. The largest one was 80 feet long and the smallest was 25 feet. (Columbus Evening News, April 27, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Trenton, New Jersey-At 2100, Peter McAuley and about 100 others saw what appeared to be brilliant shooting stars in the rain. The next morning, McAuley found a package wrapped in manilla paper and tied with ravelings of cloth. It was a Boston baked bean can with a note inside. The note read: "In the clouds; April 26, '97; night-to whom it may interest: A terrific wind and rain storm, which has been raging has just abated. Our airship revolved like a leaf in a minature whirlwind. Nearly three weeks ago we descended upon a vast prairie, evidently in the western states. Since then we've been sailing, we know not where. We've been out of water frequently, and as often have melted snow for relief. Please notify Maurice Porter, Greenwich, New York. He knows who we are. We hourly expect to perish. We are Four." McAuley now felt that the shooting stars were distress signals. (Trenton Evening Times, April 27, 1897) (H)

April 26, 1897-Winterset, Iowa-Between 2100 and 2200, many saw the airship to the southeast. It passed gracefully over the eastern part of the city to the northwest. It was 1/2 mile up, moved rapidly, and carried a red light. It sank out of sight to the northwest. (Winterset Review, April 28, 1897) The Winterset Semi-Weekly Madisonian of April 27th said it was a balloon.

April 26, 1897-Atchison, Kansas-Half a dozen people saw a large yellowish light to the northwest at 2200. It ascended to several thousand feet and was like a toy balloon. It was seen for 3 minutes before it left to the northwest. (Atchison Daily Globe, April 27, 1897) The Globe of the next day said it was a balloon.

April 26, 1897-Sidnaw, Michigan-At 2300, a man saw 3 large lights moving southeast at 60 mph. They were red, green, and white and were 2,000 feet up. He could plainly see a cigar shaped object with a basket beneath which resembled a street car. (Marquette [Mi] Mining News, May 1, 1897)

(H) April 26, 1897-Reno County, Kansas-A lone witness heard the sound of wings at 2300. He soon saw a large dark object with small lights in the fore and aft. It was to the northwest and going northeast at 1/2 mile up. A glass revealed that it was like an immense 3 masted schooner with sails and jibs set. He saw a man standing at the wheel steering the craft. It had a rudder shaped like a wind vane and was being followed by 5 lines of geese. (Hutchison [Ks] News, April 30, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Bayard, Nebraska-Lute Roberts saw the airship passing to the northeast at 2330. He could distinctly hear the whir of machinery and it carried a powerful light. It seemed to have wings and it moved at a very fast rate. (Bayard Transcript, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 26, 1897-Santo, Texas-At midnight, A. Lamon and Tom Humphrey saw the airship and the man in front dropped a letter to them. (Palo Pinto [Tx] County Star, May 7, 1897)

(H) April 26, 1897-Pigeon Roost, Ohio-The airship was seen to land, a door opened, and a man came out. The ship was 40 feet long, 8 feet wide, pointed at both ends, had slowly flapping wings, and landed on 10 legs, 5 on each side. One of the men said he invented the airship in southern California and it could go 200 mph. On it were instruments that could locate anything on earth from coal mines to prohibition drug stores. "Just then an agonizing cry attracted the attention of the men and they turned around to see the cow down on her knees, praying in an audible voice to--and we would like to make this lie a little bigger, but a storm is raging and telephone connection with Joe Mulhatton is broken and our base of supplies is cut off." (New Lexington [O] Perry County Tribune, April 29, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Norwalk, Connecticut-Many saw a fire at sea that looked like a burning vessel. However, no vessels were reported missing that night. (Brooklyn [NY] Daily Times, April 27, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Atchison, Kansas- A bright light was seen that changed color and zigzagged at night. It turned out to be a star. (Atchison Champion, April 28, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Burr Oak, Kansas-At night, the airship was seen. (Burr Oak Herald, April 29, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Carthage, Missouri-Rev. Sifton, his family, and others saw 3 lights in a row to the northeast. They were at a great height and in a horizontal row. The lights were 10 feet apart, fluttered a moment, turned south, and became 1 light. (Nevada [Mo] Mail, April 28, 1897)

April 26, 1897-Fort Wayne, Indiana-A steeple climber with a lantern was thought to be the airship. (Fort Wayne News, April 27, 1897)

2

April 26, 1897-Lansing, Michigan-The airship landed at the Taylor House and the crew consisted of a correspondent for the Arizona Kicker and 3 others. After 15 minutes, they left for Cuba and from there they were going east to watch the "Greeks kick the Turks for a few hours." Then it was going to Topeka to find out all about the bribery investigating business, and how much hush money Representative Keefer got from Bailey Waggoner." (Lansing News, April 29, 1897) (H)

April 26, 1897-Devine, Texas-The airship was seen 300 feet up and going south at a rapid rate. It was 40 feet long and there were 7 or 8 people in it. A piece of paper fell from it which read, "This is the best part of Texas we have passed over. The climate seems delightful, the air pure and the scenery picturesque. In fact we are prone to pronounce this the finest country that a flying machine ever flew over. Tell them that you saw us." (San Antonio [Tx] Express, April 28, 1897) (H)

April 27, 1897-Fitzgerald, Georgia-At daybreak, several saw a huge floating vessel. It was 1/4 mile up, moving 100 mph, and the outlines and lights were plainly visible. (Atlanta [Ga] Journal, April 27, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Iola, Kansas-Frank Travis and W. Cubertson heard a whining noise above them in the afternoon. They saw a cigar shaped airship, 300-400 yards away. It had an immense turbine wheel at the stern, a balloon above, and a sort of platform beneath. It was going northeast at a rapid rate. (Iola Register, April 30, 1897)

April 27, 1897-south of Portsmouth, Ohio-A cigar shaped object was seen at 1930. It was brilliantly illuminated with at least a score of lights. The numerous witnesses saw men moving about it as if making repairs. (Portsmouth Blade, April 28, 1897) (H)

April 27, 1897-Fairplain, Pennsylvania-At 2045, a man saw a very bright light moving west rapidly. It would occasionally turn sideways and show a red light on the side and a green one on the end. It would rise and fall and was seen for 55 minutes by him and others. (Erie [Pa] Daily Times, May 4, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Meadville, Pennsylvania-Several saw the airship at 2150. It was 1,000 feet up and moving swiftly in the overcast sky. It was brilliantly illuminated and threw out bright rays. It was 30 feet long, canoe shape, and 1 man saw 4 men seated in it. These men were of ordinary size, had long snowy white beards, and one of them seemed to be propelling or guiding the machine as it left to the southwest. (Meadville Gazette, April 30, 1897) (H)

April 27, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 2230, Jud Wichham saw what looked like a train headlight with a blinding glare. It slowly turned and revealed a cigar shape with a balloon above it. It hovered briefly and left southeast. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, April 29, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Norwich, New York-At 2330, the airship was seen going south at an altitude of 100 feet. It was cylindrical shaped, 25 to 30 feet long and had a fan shaped screw at the stern. The witness heard a shout and saw a man's head. Something fell and hit the horse. It was a

(H) lead pipe with a note which read: "On board the 'Icarus,' April 27, 1897. Machine partly disabled; unable to proceed further north against the wind. Going back to southern station for repairs and will return to Norwich Friday forenoon next. I. Green." (Norwich Sun, April 28, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Leavenworth, Kansas-Lts. Lindsey, Wolfe, Birch, and Murphy saw the airship pass over to the northwest at midnight. (Leavenworth Times, April 28, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Philadelphia, Pennsylvania-A man saw 2 mysterious lights moving rapidly to the southwest. They were like 2 powerful calcium lights and shed rays in a number of directions. He thought it made a whirring sound and saw a 50 foot long cigar shaped shadow. (Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, April 29, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Geneseville, Michigan-Several saw the airship with red, blue, and green light to the west. It went south, retraced its path, and left upwards. (Flint [Mi] Daily News, April 28, 1897)

April 27, 1897-Dak Mills, Kansas-Many saw 2 strange lights that were 25 feet apart and going southwest rapidly. They were the size of train headlight and seemed to be lowering very fast. The one in front seemed to be moved from side to side and up and down. The other was a small green light. When they were 1 mile away, they turned and went east. This revealed a large body between the lights. (Atchison [Ks] Daily Champion, April 28, 1897)

(H) April 27, 1897-Point Pleasant, West Virginia-Capt. Sam Parsons and others heard a rumbling and hissing sound. They saw the airship sailing rapidly to the south. It had brilliant red headlights and a cigar shaped body. After crossing the Kanawha, it slowed and hovered. Parson saw a man at one of the openings smoking a cigar. (Point Pleasant Weekly Register, April 28, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Mattawan, Michigan-At 0330, a large light was seen going southwest at 70-80 mph. It was in view for several minutes. (Kalamazoo [Mi] Weekly Telegraph, May 5, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Austin, Texas-In the early morning, Otto Porsch was awoken by dogs barking and growling. He saw a glare of light on the clouds. All of the dogs were barking at something overhead. He saw a great light moving slowly from southeast to northwest and was 300-400 feet up. After it passed him he saw that the rear was V or fish tail shaped. There was movement on each side like the flapping of wings. It increased speed and left in the drizzling rain. It was seen by several others. (Austin Statesman, April 29, 1897) The Austin Evening News of April 28, 1897, said that it was at 0430, 250 feet up, and shaped like a skiff. It was large, wide in the center, and tapered at the ends to form a cigar shaped craft. It was seen for 10 minutes.

April 28, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 1930, a light was seen at 45 degree elevation and moved slowly east. In 15-20 minutes, it reached the zenith and was drifting east. It was 1,000 feet up and appeared like a bat of light. It was perpendicular and 2 feet long. As it came closer, it

assumed the shape of a huge kite with lights on the perpendicular part of the frame and at each outside corner. As it hung in the zenith, it appeared less brilliant. (Toledo [O] Blade, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Marietta, Indiana-At 2000, a man heard a shrill blast of a trumpet from above. He saw an object resembling a huge butterfly with a body like a torpedo boat and a caudal appendage like that of a catfish. It had 2 wings and he heard the music of a caliope. The music stopped and one of the passengers asked through a trumpet, "What town is this over here to the northwest?" The witness answered that it was Bengal. The voice said, "Well, that is the muddiest town we have seen in all our journey." A package fell and the airship left toward Smithland. The package contained a pair of boxing gloves. (Shelbyville [In] Twice a Week Republican, May 7, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 2000, Ralph Meyer saw a peculiarly shaped light at 40 degree elevation. It was seen until 2130. (Cleveland Leader, May 4, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-At 2030, Mr. and Mrs. John Rieher saw a faint light to the west. There were 3 lights arranged with 1 in front and 2 farther back beside each other. From these, extended comet like tails. (Cleveland Leader, May 3, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Auburn, Indiana-Between 2000 and 2100, Chas. Fisher saw a cigar shaped airship with 2 green lights. (Auburn Courier, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Cleveland, Ohio-Between 2030 and 2100, S. Blak saw something in the sky. It was 4 feet long and 15 inches wide. It grew brighter and he pointed it out to others. When it was somewhat southeast, a beam of light shot out from one end. This beam was brighter at its source than at the end of the ray which spread out. This subsided and then reappeared. This was repeated several times at 30 second intervals. It was going west very slowly. (Cleveland Leader, May 2, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Salem, Ohio-Many saw the airship at 2100. It was a bright streak of light, many feet long, and ending in a globe of light at each end. It would disappear and reappear at 2-5 minute intervals. It was 1 mile away and one end was higher than the other. It was moving northeast, turned, and left west. (Salem Daily Herald, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Monmouth, Illinois-At 2130, 2 men saw something sail over. It had 3 colored lights and left east against a wind. (Monmouth Daily News, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Richmond, Indiana-Several saw a strange light to the northwest at 2200. It was very bright, 8 feet long, and would dim and brighten. (Richmond Daily Register, April 29, 1897) The Richmond Evening Item of April 29, 1897, said it was a kite with lanterns being pulled around.

April 28, 1897-Cincinnati, Ohio-At 2200, Officer John Ringer and others saw a string of lights moving across the sky. There was 1 large light in front with a row of smaller lights. They were high and moving rapidly to the northwest. (Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Glenville, Ohio-W. Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. T. Small, and others saw a large body in the evening sky. It was just lights gradually growing dimmer as they went northwest. (Cleveland [O] Leader, April 29, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Fox Lake, Minnesota-The airship was seen at night. (Sherburne [Mn] Advance, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 28, 1897-Louisville, Kentucky-A man claimed to have taken a trip on the airship to Evansville. There were 5 men on it and one of them took ill and was left at Evansville. He was returned and landed near Jeffersonville. He said they were leaving for London, England, and that he would send a cablegram to the Journal. (Louisville Journal, April 30, 1897)

April 28, 1897-Conroe, Texas-B. Hord saw the airship at a great distance and going southwest. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Salida, Colorado-At 0020, hundreds saw the light of the airship. It seemed to go straight up, then sailed over the city. When it was over the town, a bright light like a searchlight was displayed. After a few seconds, it changed to red and left toward Buena Vista. (Phoenix [Az] Arizona Gazette, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Buena Vista, Colorado-A strange light was seen at 0030. (Phoenix [Az] Arizona Gazette, April 30, 1897)

(H) April 29, 1897-Dayton, Michigan-Two residents saw the airship at 0200. It was a big cigar with a basket hanging beneath it. There were lights around the basket and the forms of 3 people were seen in it. It was going south at a rapid rate. (Detroit [Mi] Free Press, May 1, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Elyria, Ohio-In the early morning, Judge Himmer and others saw the airship pass over. (Delaware [O] Semi-Weekly Gazette, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Malta, Colorado-An operator saw a red light approach from the south in the early morning. It changed its course and left west. (Phoenix [Az] Arizona Gazette, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Munroe Falls, Ohio-At 2100, C. Gaylord heard a dog barking furiously and saw the airship moving west at a rapid rate. It was about 1,000 feet up and he pointed it out to others. (Akron [O] Times Democrat, May 5, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Holton, Michigan-At 2330, the airship was seen to come from the north and descended to 200 feet. It was lit with electricity and loaded with revellers. It was 300 feet long, 90 feet wide and deep, and had a 40 foot tail. After 55 minutes, the tail began to whirl and

2

it moved off toward Fremont. A grappling hook was let down and caught a man who was hoisted aboard and carried away. He returned on the 2330 train from White Cloud. (Muskegon [Mi] Daily Chronicle, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Wellsville, Ohio-The airship was seen and a letter was found. The letter was rather longwinded. It was dated April 29, 1897, 11 p.m., and said "Aboard the Aurora." The letter said they had planned to go to New York City, but were forced to return homeward as "Baby has taken the measles..." They were making 70 miles per hour with favorable wind. It indicated that another letter had been dropped last Friday and believed it was over Lorain, O. They had met with an accident last Saturday and took him three days to make repairs. It said a better ship was being built with a 40 foot wheel of 1500 rpm to give 200 mph. It was signed "William R. Harris." (Wellsville Daily Union, May 1, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Washburn, Wisconsin-Over 100 people saw the airship at night. It was like a star with 1 corner dipped in paris green or some other color. One man said it was like one of Capt. McDougal's "whale-backs" or "pigs." (Washburn Times, May 5, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Melrose, Colorado-At night, 2 men saw a cigar shaped object and heard a voice giving orders. A message was dropped for it saying that the name of the airship was "Alpha" and that it was headed for California. A searchlight was seen and the laughter of women was heard. (Denver [Col] Times, April 30, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Mt. Vernon, Ohio-At night, several saw the airship to the northeast. It passed over their heads as it went southwest. It was seen 5-8 minutes and they felt that it was a paper balloon. (Mt. Vernon Republican, May 1, 1897)

April 29, 1897-Albuquerque, New Mexico-Two men saw a bright light to the east in the night sky. It landed and they saw the outlines of a ship and heard a buzzing sound. They approached to within 50 feet of it before they were confronted by 2 men. They were dressed in seal's fur, over 7 feet tall, and had ivory clubs in their right hands. The spoke in broken English and wanted to know what city it was and what the bright light was. They were told that it was the Metropolitan White Front Restaurant. They ordered a bucket of ice cream and pigs feet and left. As they left they said, "The White Front is out of sight." (Albuquerque Morning Democrat, April 30, 1897)

April 30, 1897-Logansport, Indiana-Robert Ray saw a strange object in the sky at 0400. It was a ball of fire the size of a cart wheel. It was to the north and moving east to west. It would decrease to a small, dim star, then burst forth again, giving off sparks like a rocket. When it was its brightest, it hurt the eyes to look at it. (Logansport Pharos, May 1, 1897)

April 30, 1897-Greenwich, Ohio-At 2100, G. Jacoby saw the airship at 45 degree elevation and going east. It was raining and the stars were not visible. It was all lit up and larger than an ordinary passenger coach. It had 2 large lights in the rear and other lights with dark objects

between them. It moved in an undulating fashion at the speed of a train.
(Cleveland [O] Leader, May 2, 1897)

(H) April 30, 1897-between Cedar Rapids, Nebraska, and Albion, Nebraska-At night, Elie Morehead, Frank Lick, George Williams, and Stark Inghram saw a bright light blaze across their path. The heard the rattling of machinery and the hum of voices. When it was first seen, it was near the ground and gradually rose to 1 mile up and left. They went to where it was and found a monkey wrench, a long necked bottle (supposed to have held "city water") and a cork screw. The bottle was empty. Dr. Brash said that when a man sees airships he should take something for his liver. (Albion Argus, May 7, 1897)

April 30, 1897-Middlesborough, Kentucky-Gillis Hendricks saw the airship at night. It was conical in shape and carried white and blue signals. It did not travel in any given direction for 30 seconds, but veered alternately to the 4 winds. (Louisville [Ky] Courier Journal, May 2, 1897)

April 30, 1897-Miles City, Montana-At night, Capt. James McNeill, Mrs. Walters, and others saw the airship. (Miles City Weekly Yellowstone Journal, May 1, 1897)

(H) April 30, 1897-Kellerton, Iowa-The airship landed at night. The occupant woke the witness and asked for a pipe of tobacco. The witness was asked to go away on the airship, but he declined. (Mt. Air [Ia] Record, May 6, 1897)

(H) April 30, 1897-Marion, Ohio-A reporter saw the airship land and approached it. He met 2 occupants of it and they gave him a cigar. The airship was 6 x 10 feet in size and 3 feet deep. It was suspended from a 40 foot long cylinder that was pointed at both ends. It was powered by electricity and propelled by 4 8 foot wide turbine wheels, above, behind, and on the sides. It had 2 wings that were 5 feet wide and 18 feet long. The 2 men gave their names as Charlie Ross and William Patterson and they said the name of the airship was the Air Queen. The remainder of the article concerned cuts on various Ohio cities and political figures. (Marion Daily Star, May 1, 1897)

The following is a listing of the sightings that were undated, but occurred during April. These reports are ones in which the date was not given and usually referred to as last week, a few days ago, or at least during April. There is no significance to their order and they will be presented with no date heading.

Nashville, Tennessee-Sam Keith, president of the 4th National Bank, saw a strange object sailing through the sky. He used banking terms to describe it and said that it had 2 golden yellow lights and 1 the color of a 50 cent piece. (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

Boot Lake, Michigan-At night, Henry Northrup saw the airship land in Boot Lake. Wm. Jones, C. Snell, and F. Blanot swear they saw it land on or sink into the lake. (Wayland [Mi] Globe, April 24, 1897)

Lec, Michigan-Between 2200 and 2300, a bright light was seen to emerge from the river. It was a ball of light the size of a hen's egg, 10 feet up, made a whizzing sound, and moved in a zigzag manner. (Detroit [Mi] News, April 6, 1897)

Galesburg, Michigan-A hunter found a hole in the ground saw the outlines of some iron instrument. Visions of airships and grappling hooks arose before him and he made all speed to town to report his discovery. A correspondent jumped at conclusions and that day the papers told of the anchor that had been dropped by the ship of space and the hole it had made in the earth by the force of its fall. The next day, a party found a steel trap in the entrance of a skunk's dwelling place. (Grand Rapids [Mi], April 23, 1897)

Parkersburg, West Virginia-The airship seen here was a kite with a lantern on the tail. (Parkersburg Daily State Journal, April 23, 1897)

Paducah, Kentucky-A fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Paducah Daily News, April 22, 1897)

Pillsbury, Kansas-A man named Tolliver had arrived from Weir City on the train. He said the airship had been seen by hundreds of people at Weir City and was 150 to 200 feet up. The man on it lost his Fredonia hat which fell and was found to bear the mark of a Kansas City clothier. The agent wired Weir City and was informed that no one there saw it except for Tolliver and no one believed him. (Galena [Ks] Evening Times, April 20, 1897) (H)

Farley, Iowa-At night, some men on a train saw a blazing red light that oscillated. It was identified as Alpha Orionis. (Dubuque [Ia] Telegraph, April 14, 1897)

Saginaw, Michigan-Lumberman Quinnin said he had recieved a call from a Bay City lumberman and coal dealer who said that a lady had call him needing 250,000 to 300,000 tons of coal to fuel her airship for its return trip to the North Pole. He told her that he did not have enough and advised her to try the coal mines in Saginaw. The night force said they saw a boat shaped machine land and they heard a female voice. It said that the airship was the Pegasus and that her husband had spent 19 years inventing it. It had just been completed at the North Pole when he died and she decided to make the initial trip. She desired 300,000 tons of coal and an electric shovel on the ship loaded this in 30 minutes. Everyone who ventured to 100 feet of it recieved an electric shock. She said that no one of this earth would learn her secret. She said the story of the letter and the sailor's needle at Battle Creek was a lie. She said they were on their way to Reynolds to check on the man injured by her 9 1/2 foot tall engineer. If he was seriously hurt, she was prepared to give him \$100,000, as she was immensely wealthy. (Saginaw Courier Herald, April 22, 1897) (H)

Shoals, Indiana-James Rogers saw the airship and on the cow-catcher saw a long white-bearded populist reading the Referendum. (Shoals Referendum, April 22, 1897) (H)

Lacey, Michigan-The airship was seen but it was a saw in a tree reflecting light. (Marshall [Mi] Chronicle, April 27, 1897)

Winslow, Illinois-A great red light was seen to rise out of the woods north and east of town. It bounced up and down, then swung to the east and back to the west. It seemed to be a cigar shaped airship in distress. After searching fully an hour, they found on the tallest tree short pieces of peculiarly woven rope. A short distance from town was found an odd shaped hole in the ground. There was no dirt piled up about it as if something had been driven into the earth. They dug and noticed the clay about the hole had a baked appearance and was very warm. At ten or twelve feet down the spades struck some hard substance. It proved to be half of an iron wheel resembling an emery wheel some ten feet in diameter. It was of a very light metal of a greenish hue. Farther on was what must have been ballast like ashes but was twice as heavy as ordinary sand. (Freeport [Ill] Bulletin, April 15, 1897)

Koskonong, Wisconsin-A bright light was seen moving slowly as if looking for something. (Fort Atkinson [Wi] Jefferson County Union, April 23, 1897)

Keokuk, Iowa-A balloon was seen as the airship. (Newton [Ia] Journal, April 14, 1897)

Beaver, Wisconsin-Between 1900 and 2100, several saw the airship to the west. (Wausaukee [Wi] Independent, April 24, 1897)

Whitewater, Wisconsin-Capt. Kiser saw the airship to the west at 2100. It was several times brighter than Venus. (Whitewater Register, April 15, 1897)

(H) Homan, Arkansas-Capt. "Jim" Hooton said he saw the airship on the ground near at 1800. It made a sound like an air pump and there was a man wearing smoked glasses working on something. The man said it was the airship. Three or four more men came out of the keel. The front of the ship ended in a knife like edge and the sides bulged gradually to middle, then receded. There were three large wheels on each side, four paddles at rear, and aeroplanes on top. The man said they used condensed air as motive power. (Little Rock [Ark] Arkansas Gazette, April 22, 1897) The Kansas City [MO] World of April 24th printed a statement by Hooton that it was a hoax.

Hankinson, North Dakota-A kite with a lantern attached was seen as the airship. (Hankinson News, April 1897 issue)

LeRoy, Minnesota-The airship was seen in the evening. (Austin [Mn] Mower County Transcript, April 21, 1897)

(A) Aroma, Indiana-The airship hovered over the city and a line was let down with an order for compressed natural gas which was supplied. Then another line was let down with an order for water and provisions and gold coin was supplied. These were obtained, sent up, and it left. (Noblesville [Ind] Hamilton County Ledger, April 23, 1897)

Sioux Falls, South Dakota-The airship was seen but it was a balloon hoax. (Madison [SD] Sentinel, April 23, 1897)

Marion, Indiana-At 0200, Ralph Johnson saw a red light in the sky. (Marion Chronicle, April 23, 1897)

East Palestine, Ohio-The reflection of the city lights were thought to be the airship. (East Palestine Revivelle Echo, April 29, 1897)

Luxemburg, Nebraska-Pete Brown said that he rode in the airship and the captain was a man named Thompson. He was taken over the course "pursued by Jack McCall in his race for governorship." It was built on Phil Smith's island. Fred Morgan was the engineer and the man who struck Pat Murphy was Second Mate. "The ship is run be wind collected by following up Billy Bryan during his campaign tour." (Bellwood [Nb] Gazette, April 30, 1897)

Clarence, Iowa-The airship was seen and identified as a kite with a lantern attached. (Tipton [Ia] Advertiser, April 22, 1897)

Elburn, Illinois-It was reported that some men saw the airship land. They found 2 men with it. It weighed 500 pounds and was made of light material. They conversed with the men but learned little. They said they were going from the Pacific to the Atlantic and were following the Northwestern Railway. (Rockford [Ill] Republic, April 12, 1897)

Nashville, Tennessee-A man was up late working on Centennial Stock Certificates. He saw a huge machine pulling, blowing, and flashing different colored lights. He saw a man in the stern putting on earthbrakes. He wore a cap and put something to his face, either a telescope or a bottle. There was the sound of tinkling of bells as the ship went toward the Centennial Grounds. It was about 200 feet up. (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

Eddyville, Iowa-A man said the airship landed in order for repairs to be made. On it were 25 men, and while repairs were being made, they scattered through the timber making a geological study. A whistle sounded and the men returned to the airship, it rose, and left. They found traces in the form of potatoe peel and corn husk and a man who had been left behind. His language was unknown and he was placed in a cage for exhibition. The people on it were from a country beyond the North Pole. (Eddyville Tribune, April 23, 1897)

Larned, Kansas-A kite with a lantern attached to the tail was thought to be the airship. (Santa Fe [Ks] Trail, April 15, 1897)

Waseca County, Minnesota-A man saw the airship descending toward a pond. He ran toward it and saw some men laughing at him. When he neared it, it turned tail to earth and left. (Windom [Mn] Reporter, April 22, 1897)

Nauvoo, Illinois-A balloon was thought to be the airship. (Nauvoo Rustler, April 20, 1897)

Hiawathia, Kansas-At 2100, Rev. E. Smith saw a red light. (Hiawathia Brown County World, April 16, 1897)

(H) Taos, New Mexico-At 1930, on the eve of Good Friday, the airship was seen circling several thousand feet up and music was heard. It was like an immense eagle with enormous wings, a fan shaped tail, and a very long neck ending in a head with a headlight. The cap had strange hieroglyphical characters like old English letters or German text. A cowboy fired several shots at it and it came to a stop. A clear voice said "perfuchte schwinehund" and it left south. On the tail were the words "Avril Nahr" which means "April Fool." (Pueblo [Co] Daily Chieftain, April 23, 1897)

Grand Haven, Michigan-D. Lane, A. Thomas, Rev. Richardson and others saw the airship with red and green lights at 2130. (Grand Haven Tribune, April 16, 1897)

Sandusky, Ohio-A military kite was seen as the airship on several occasions. (Sandusky Register, April 28, 1897)

(H) Deadwood, Texas- H. C. Legrone reported that he heard a commotion caused by his horses at 2000. He saw a light 1/4 mile away and 300 feet up moving southwest to northeast. It circled, hovered, then landed in a field. There were 5 in the crew, 3 of whom talked with him and the other 2 fetched some water. They said this was one of 5 airship cruising over the country and was the same one that landed at Beaumont. They were constructed in Illinois and that a factory would be built in St. Louis. They carried a good supply of food, beer, champagne, and musical instruments. (Houston [Tx] Post, April 30, 1897)

Maple Grove, Wisconsin-At 2100, Rev. Ryan saw a mysterious object bearing colored lights. It rose in the east, moved northwest, and went down behind a hill. Pat Linane went over the hill and saw it. (Brillion [Wi] News, April 30, 1897)

Camp Point, Illinois-Venus was thought to be the airship which disappeared and reappeared. (Camp Point Journal, April 21, 1897)

Joplin, Missouri-A bright light was seen to the southwest at 2015. It moved northwest and stopped 2 miles west of the city. It hovered for 30 minutes then sank rapidly to the west. The light was fan shaped, intensely bright, and had an indistinct shape of something like the hull of an airship. (Carthage [Mo] Press, April 22, 1897)

Bowling Green, Ohio-The airship turned out to be a kite with 3 red light on it. (Rushville [In] Twice a Week Republican, April 20, 1897)

(H) Racine, Wisconsin-A boy said he saw the airship land for water. He talked to one of the crew who said they were from Cuba and had been up for 62 days. They were lost and desired to get to Key West. After they filled the boiler, it rose and left toward Milwaukee. "The boy was taken down into the cellar and spanked by his mother and said he would never again tell a lie on Sunday." (Racine Journal, April 12, 1897)

Philbrook, Minnesota-The airship turned out to be a fire balloon. (Staples [Mn] World, April 22, 1897)

Sheffield, Illinois-The airship was seen to land for 10 minutes. Several people were seen oiling the machine. They left traces in the form of a small fire and a pair of tongs that took 4 men to place in a wagon. The craft was so large that it covered 20 acres and it flew the Stars and Stripes. The beings were 20 feet tall, weighed 1,000 pounds, and the women wore bloomers. When the craft left, it caused a current of air that upset people 40 rods away. After it left, a 3 inch rain fell. (St. Edward [Nb] Sun, April 23, 1897) (H)

Milford, Indiana-An illuminated kite was thought to be the airship. (Warsaw [In] Northern Indianian, May 6, 1897)

Lockland, Kentucky-At 2000, Dr. Blanton and L. Arbegust saw the airship and heard a sharp whirring sound. It was a bright light that moved rapidly against a strong wind. After a few seconds, it went over the Indiana Hills. (Middlesboro [Ky] Weekly Herald, April 25, 1897)

Beaumont, Texas-Rabbi Levy said that the airship had landed nearby. He went and found they had landed to get a supply of water. The airship was 150 feet long, shaped like a sewing machine shuttle, and had 100 foot long wings. The machine was powered by electricity and he could not remember the name of the occupant or where they came from. (New Orleans [La] Times Picayune, April 25, 1897) (H)

Carrollton, Louisiana-A boat shaped airship was seen, but was found to be paper blowing in the wind. (New Orleans [La] Daily States, April 24, 1897)

Mauston, Wisconsin-A long cigar shaped body with a car containing 2-10 people turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Mauston Juneau County Chronicle, April 15, 1897) (H)

Eldridge, North Dakota-A family saw the airship to the north. It was a car attached to a large kite shaped structure with large wings. It rose and lowered, stopped, and swung around. It left south with a humming sound. (Bismarck [ND] Tribune, April 21, 1897) The Jamestown (ND) Weekly Press of April 22nd reported that it had colored lights and was seen between 2100 and 2200.

Hermann, Missouri-At 0330, Dr. Henry Johns, Judge Wensell, Mayor Leisner, Judge Herzel, and others saw a brilliant light to the southwest. It threw a flood of light on the city and darted about for 15 minutes. It was canoe shaped, had 2 wings on each side, and 25-30 feet long. Above this was a large dark hull. The light grew dim as it neared the earth. (Owensville [Mo] Republican, April 22, 1897)

Montevideo, Minnesota-Charles Ginder and Paul Soule saw the airship pass over at 0355:02. It was cigar shaped with 3 white lights and 1 red one. It moved at terrific speed. (Portage [Wi] Weekly Democrat, May 7, 1897)

Dumont, Iowa-A fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Greene [Ia] Iowa Recorder, April 20, 1897)

Walnut, Iowa-At 2100, several saw the airship to the northwest. The rumble of machinery was heard and the movement of huge wings was seen. It had an immense electric light and 3 red lights at the stern. (Walnut Bureau, April 16, 1897)

Ashland, Nebraska-Mrs. Cornelius and her son saw a small light hovering to the west at 2100. It moved rapidly to the north and it flashed a brilliant light twice. On another occasion, Prof. Cornelius saw a bright red light at 2200. It was low to the northwest, too large to be a star, and moved rapidly with a swaying motion. (Ashland Gazette, April 16, 1897)

Altamont, Kansas-A new railroad switchlight was mistaken for the airship. (Oswego [Ks] Independent, April 16, 1897)

Adrian, Minnesota-At 2100, a red light was seen to the northwest. It was 1/2 the size of the moon, high, and moving leisurely to the southwest. (Eldorado Springs [Mo] Sun, April 20, 1897)

Roann, Indiana-The airship was seen. (Peru [In] Republican, April 23, 1897)

Milton, Iowa-The airship seen here turned out to be a kite with lanterns. (Milton Herald, April 21, 1897)

Chillicothe, Missouri-An article taken from the Chillicothe Tribune of an unspecified date stated that the airship had landed 50 feet from the electric plant house in Chillicothe at 0330 one morning. Mr. Baker and Mr. Boyd, night electricians at the plant, went out and saw it. It was cigar shaped, 50 feet long, 12 feet wide, and three men were about it. One of the men looked like A. W. Pennington. They had landed to get the accumulators charged, which was done. It left to the northwest. (Trenton [Mo] Tribune, April 16, 1897) The Trenton Republican of April 16th printed an article from the Chillicothe Constitution which said Manager Wheeler of the Gas and Electric Light Company said it was a hoax and so did Mr. Baker. They said the Mr. Boyd made the whole thing up.

Waterloo, Indiana-Dr. Welch and A. Sinclair saw the airship. (Waterloo Press, April 15, 1897)

Center, Illinois-A bright light turned out to be an illuminated kite. (Rushville [Il] Times, April 29, 1897)

Tishomingo, Oklahoma-The airship was seen by 2 men. (Fort Smith [Ak] Daily News Record, April 28, 1897)

Atchison, Kansas-Venus was mistaken for the airship. (Atchison Globe, April 28, 1897)

Buffalo, Wyoming-At 1400, the airship was seen approaching from the southwest. It was conical, had a propeller at one end, and wings. It

stopped and hovered over the city and a telescope revealed that there were 5 men on it and they were preparing to lower something. Soon a rope with a basket on it reached the ground. Inside was a note written in Danish. It read: "In air, 3,400 feet-To the Hon. Mayor and Council-Gentlemen: We ask you for aid in the shape of feed. There are five of us in this air ship. We left Sliswig, Denmark, on the 27th day of March. We had our ship under perfect control until ten days ago, when a part of the machinery got out of order and since then we have not been able to lower the ship or keep on any direct course, but have to drift at the pleasure of the air currents. We hope to remedy the defect in a few days. We have run short of provisions and beg of you to send us some canned meats, flour, and coffee, for which we will ever thank you. C. N. Johnson, Commander." The request was filled and they sent up 2 sacks of flour and 20 can of corned beef. (Lusk [Wy] Converse County Herald, May 6, 1897) (H)

Silver Cliff, Colorado-The airship was seen. (Silver Cliff Rustler, April 7, 1897)

Decatur, Michigan-A large kite with lanterns was thought to be the airship. (Decatur Republican, April 29, 1897)

Cambridge, Ohio-The airship was seen. (Cambridge Daily Jeffersonian, April 27, 1897)

Goshen, Indiana-A fire balloon was seen as the airship. (La Grange [Ind] Standard, April 22, 1897)

Freestate, Missouri-At 2100, the airship was seen to pass over with red and green lights. It was 1/2 mile up and going southeast. He saw 10-12 ladies on it and they wore the latest fashion, including the new spring bonnets. At Freestate Springs, residents saw the airship and saw men on it. A piece of paper fell and it read: "The people of the planet Mars send greeting to the people of Freestate." (Armstrong [Mo] Herald, April 22, 1897) (H)

Oregon, Wisconsin-The reflection of street lights was thought to be strange aerial lights. (Oregon Observer, April 29, 1897)

Alliance, Ohio-The airship was seen. (Canton [O] Repository, April 20, 1897)

Bentonville, Arkansas-The airship was seen. (Gentry [Ark] Journal, April 23, 1897)

Lancaster, Iowa-A kite was seen as the airship. (Ottumwa [Ia] Courier, April 15, 1897)

Ellwood City, Pennsylvania-The airship landed and was in charge of one man. It was roped off and over 1,000 people had seen it. More were expected as special trains were coming from Pittsburgh, New Castle, and Youngstown. The man said he was J. H. Ballard, lived 3 miles from Tuscon, Arizona. He had left on March 2nd and planned to be in New York by the middle of May. He could make New York City in 1 1/2 hours, but he (H)

was testing the machine. (Hutchison [Ks] Weekly Interior Herald, May 8, 1897)

Fayetteville, Arkansas-The airship was seen. (Fayetteville Arkansas Sentinel, April 26, 1897)

Manhattan, Kansas-The airship turned out to be a balloon. (Scandia [Ks] Journal, April 16, 1897)

Sherman Hill, Wyoming-The airship was seen. (Denver [Co] Post, April 27, 1897)

Sheldon, North Dakota-Peter Hoff saw the airship. (Lisbon [ND] Free Press, April 16, 1897)

Pipestone, Minnesota-At 2230, a large kite made of red and green paper was seen as the airship. (Tyler [Mn] Journal, April 30, 1897)

Downs, Kansas-A man saw the airship. (Cawker City [Ks] Public Record, April 22, 1897)

Christine, North Dakota-The airship was seen. (Wahpeton [ND] North Dakota Globe, April 22, 1897)

(H) Decatur, Texas-The airship landed in the city and was viewed by almost everybody in the city. There were 4 men on it and they said they had landed to add another feather to the tail to make it go faster. They were collecting valuables to put on exhibition at the Grand Royal Palladium of Wonders in Jericho from July through August. In Decatur, they picked up a copy of the Star, a box of Hayter's Eye Salve, a lock of Thad Shaw's hair, an Abe Mulkey song book, and a jug of Blind Tiger Cough Syrup. They were now headed for Hong Kong, China, to collect a Chinaman's pigtail, a box of tea, and Li Hung Chang's battle ax. When the airship took off several witnesses were standing to close to one of the tails, and they were injured: Doc Wilson had his back broke, Denson had a finger broken, and Mr. Middleton, who attempted to steal a ride, was fatally crushed. It left toward China. (It is interesting to note that the article stressed certain points, such as, that all the witnesses were "temperant" and "perfectly sober". (Decatur Star, a May issue)

Hollenberg, Kansas-Several saw the airship 1/2 mile up. It was 80 feet long, 20 feet wide and had 2 screws and 2 wings. (Washington [Ks] Republican, April 16, 1897)

Hermann, Missouri-A balloon was taken for the airship. (Pittsburg [Ks] Headlight, April 19, 1897)

Cheyenne, Wyoming-Jefferson Martin saw the airship, high up and rapid. (Cheyenne [Wy] Sun Leader, April 23, 1897)

Spokane, Washington-Some people declared they saw the airship.. Others had seen people who had seen the machine. One man, named Thurber, declares he saw a cigar shaped machine made of aluminum about 25 feet

long. It was stranded beyond Mead at the mouth of Dead Man creek, and had one propeller broken. It seemed to have been abandoned by its owners. (Spokane Chronicle, April 16, 1897)

Phillips, Wisconsin-Several saw a bright light in the evening. (Phillips Bee, April 14, 1897)

West Union, Iowa-At 2200, Judge Fellows saw the airship lengthwise. (Lansing [Ia] Mirror, April 16, 1897)

Ottawa, Kansas-Venus was thought to be the airship. (Ottawa Journal and Triumph, April 8, 1897)

Glouster, Ohio-A Press correspondent sent a very long article and stated that the airship landed and some men were loading coal. They loaded half a car of coal and several 3 barrel tanks of water. He went forward and met the men. They wore black uniforms and one said his name was Frank L. Lossing, of Denver, Co., the captain was August DeFalamath, and the other man was Mr. Gordon. The ship was built in a small town near Albuquerque, NM.. They were on a trial trip and carried 12 sailors and his family. It used a dollars worth of fuel daily and went 150 miles in 12 hours. (Columbus [O] Press, April 23, 1897) The April 25th issue of the Ohio State Journal of Columbus, O., published another dispatch from Glouster which said the whole story was a hoax. (H)

Martinsville, Indiana-The airship was said to have landed near on Weed Patch Hill. The operator and inventor was E. J. Pennington and he said they would remain there for several days to make repairs. In an interview, Mr. Pennington said they were on their way to Cuba to aid the patriots. He said they had three ships in the air: one would be at the Tennessee Exposition, one exploded (presumably at Kalamazoo, Mi.) and the one here. (Columbus [In] Republican, April 21, 1897) The Franklin (IN) Republican of April 23rd wrote: "However it developed as usual in such cases, that the story was a pure fabrication. None of the natives of Brown (county) have been able to see the machine and it has not been anchored on the Hill." (H)

Belleville, Illinois-Between 2030 and 2130, the airship was seen but it was only a kite with lantern attached. (Edwardsville [Ill] Intelligencer, April 29, 1897)

Hewins, Kansas-Several saw a ball of fire that lit up the night like day. (Cedar Vale [Ks] Commercial, April 16, 1897)

Long Lake, Michigan-Mysterious lights had been seen during the past week. (Grand Traverse [Mi] Herald, April 29, 1897)

Hopkins, Missouri-At night, George Hughes, Artist Dooley, and others saw the airship. It was rather high and going northwest. It had the shape of a ship and the outline of a man was seen in it. (Hopkins Journal, April 22, 1897) (H)

Livermore, Iowa-The airship was seen sailing over and the town marshall flashed his badge at the pilot and blinded him enough to cause him to be

(H) lost momentarily. When he would not come down when ordered to, one Vinton Moses threw his lariat around one wing. This caused it to go only in circles and Deck Denison shot it in the rudder and it came down. The ship was dismantled and the parts were distributed around town. The headlight was used to light a railroad crossing, the red and green lights were placed on the sidewalk to the Methodist church to lure sinners down, the wings were cut up for awnings, and the hiss was used to make fun of a company. (Livermore Gazette, April 16, 1897)

Fudge Creek, Iowa-A very beautiful light had been seen. (Eddyville [Ia] Tribune, April 16, 1897)

Elkader, Iowa-The airship was seen but it turned out to be a balloon. (New Haven [In] News, May 6, 1897)

Brunswick, Missouri-The airship was seen. (Brookfield [Mo] Gazette, April 24, 1897)

(H) Wayzata, Michigan-Capt. Charles Deering took a party of hundreds to the western arm of Minnetonka. He was walking alone when he noted the smell of electricity and heard a roaring noise. In a clearing, he found a long cylindrical object with a car on top. It had a headlight at each corner. He crept closer and saw a party of a large man, a youth, a woman, and several children. The men were of a dark, swarthy complexion, with a stunted beard, lofty brow, dark hair, and the frame of Apollo. A pool of water was on fire and this was extinguished before they left. The lines of the airship were drawn in and it rose and left. (Minneapolis [Mn] Evening Press, April 14, 1897)

(H) New Castle, Pennsylvania-Eli Houk and others saw a huge airship pass over the Energy Creamery. It was near the ground and they saw 2 occupants in it. (Salem [O] Daily Herald, April 24, 1897)

Clinton, Missouri-Several saw a strange light that moved across the sky. It dipped out of sight in a most unaccountable manner. (Clinton Eye, April 24, 1897)

Logansport, Indiana-Minor West saw a light the size of a football that was revolving rapidly. (Logansport Daily Reporter, April 17, 1897)

(H) Alma, Colorado-Miners saw a light near Mt. Lincoln. It was brilliant and voices in distress could be heard. It left toward Breckenridge. (Denver [Co] Rocky Mountain News, April 24, 1897)

Alta Vista, Kansas-A strange light was seen in the sky. (Junction City [Ks] Union, April 23, 1897)

(H) Vandalia, Illinois-A reporter for the paper met a C. Devonbaugh, living near Vandalia, Ill., who built the airship. The reporter was shown the airship which was kept in a barn owned by Devonbaugh. "The machine or airship was composed of two cigar-shaped spheres of aluminum, each 45 feet in length, and eight feet in diameter at the center, tapering to a point at the bow and stern. The two were bound together by slender but exceedingly strong steel rods." The floor was made of pine and a cabin,

large enough for 5 or 6 people, was fitted with divans and provisions. Devonbaugh refused to show the power source but said that it was electricity "generated by a new process which he wished to perfect and cover with letters of patent before allowing the secret to pass into other hands." It had wings that were hinged to the sides and these were the same size as the craft. "The raising and propelling power were derived from three 'rothascopes,' composed of canvass and steel ribs which were attached to revolving masts and which could be set at any desired angle." The rudder was operated by a wheel. Above the revolving masts were two more masts which supported a parachute in case of accident. At a later date, the reporter even took a trip on it. He, Mr. and Mrs. Devonbaugh, her sister, and a hired man took a flight in it. They pulled it out of the barn, threw over several large iron weights, and it rose. Devonbaugh pulled a lever and the steel mast began to revolve and it rose faster and faster. Then the wings were extended and the position of the "rothascopes" were changed and it began to move forward. He was told they were 2,000 feet up, going at 65 miles an hour, and that the destination was Chicago. When they were over Chicago, they turned on all the lights of the ship to startle the people below. The reporter tied a rock to a copy of the Republican and threw it overboard. After circling about Chicago for several hours, they headed back to Vandalia. "Mr. Devonbaugh states that he has been in correspondence with the Cuban junta and if certain arrangements can be made the ship will be taken to Cuba and used against the Spanish army. The effect which dynamite bombs may cause when they come tumbling from an invisible source, high in the air, can be imagined." (Decatur [Ill] Evening Republican, April 15, 1897)

South English, Iowa-A kite with a lantern attached was thought to be the airship. (Siouxney [Ia] News, April 22, 1897)

Shullsburg, Wisconsin-The airship was seen, high and moving rapidly. It had white and reddish lights. (Shullsburg Pic and Gad, April 15, 1897)

Rockport, Missouri-Some boys told a story that the airship had landed between here and Tarkio, but it was a lie. (Rockport Atchison County Journal, April 30, 1897)

Downing, Wisconsin-The airship was seen to pass over at night. (Baldwin [Wis] Bulletin, April 23, 1897)

Cambridge, Nebraska-Sirius was identified as what was believed to be the airship. (Holbrook [Nb] Herald, April 30, 1897)

Elmo, Missouri-"Some Elmo man who signs his name 'xxx' has a friend named J. W. Barry who has seen the air ship, and who claims it ran into his windmill and damaged it considerably." (Albany [Mo] Ledger, May 21, 1897)

New Troy, Michigan-Residents said the airship passed over 2,000 feet up. (Benton Harbor [Mi] Palladium, April 13, 1897)

North Portal, NWT, Canada-A strange object passed rapidly over the city. (Vancouver [BC, Canada] News Advertiser, May 11, 1897)

Pierre, South Dakota-The airship was seen but was only a fire balloon. (Sioux Falls [SD] Argus Leader, April 26, 1897)

Red Key, Indiana-W. Jones saw the airship pass over. (Winamac [Ind] Democrat Journal, April 30, 1897)

(H)

Newport, Arkansas-Two reporters found the airship landed near the river and the crew were sitting around reading the Chicago papers. The crew consisted of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Turksley, of San Francisco, and W. B. Framley, of Chicago. Turksley was the inventor and Framley furnished the money to build it. They said they were unable to reach the speed they desired, but were capable of a pretty good clip. At 1920, it rose and left west. (Memphis [Tn] Commercial Appeal, April 22, 1897)

Lina, Missouri-The airship was seen moving 100 mph in a zigzag manner. It was cigar shaped with a light the size of a water bucket. (Brookfield [Mo] Gazette, April 24, 1897)

Armstrong, Missouri-Dr. Walker saw a red light at night. It was like a red light attached to a kite. (Armstrong Herald, April 22, 1897)

Nelson, Nebraska-A fire balloon was thought to be the airship. (Superior [Nb] Daily Journal, April 20, 1897)

Seneca, Kansas-A man saw a red light that dove and rose like a kite at a great distance. (Hawathia [Ks] Brown County World, April 16, 1897)

Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin-Several saw a cigar shaped object with red and white lights. (Chippewa Falls Weekly Herald, April 16, 1897)

(H)

Britt, Iowa-Many saw the airship and it was displaying signals of distress. They sent a kite up to it and pulled it down after awhile. Written on it in pencil was an account of the adventures of the airship. They had left Benicia, California, in the middle of March, crossed the Rocky Mountains, and had to land in the crater of an extinct volcano when their hydrogen gas ran low. They found some gas escaping from a crevice in the ground, and with the aid of a hose, filled their balloon up with this gas. The airship then ascended like a flash. The new gas set every valve and they are now unable to release any to descend. They had provisions for 10 more days and desired that their families in Benicia be notified of their predicament. They cannot decide whether to go back to the mountains and land or go on to Mars. They are able to see the people of Mars plainly. The line thought to be canals are actually bicycle paths. The Martians are 20 feet tall and have tails like monkeys. When riding their bicycles, their tails stick straight up in the air. (Algona [Ia] Republican, April 21, 1897)

Milan, Missouri-Many saw a bright light approach from the southwest. When it was over the city, it turned and left southeast. (St. Louis [Mo] Star, April 25, 1897)

Minnesota-A man saw the airship and shot at it. He could hear the pellets strike the metallic bottom. Then a brilliant light shot out from its upper deck. (Winona [Mn] Reporter, April 22, 1897)

Argos, Indiana-A man with lanterns working late in a field was thought to be the lights of the airship. (Argos Reflector, April 29, 1897)

Seymour, Indiana-About midnight, Bert Edmonson, James Honar, J. McClellan, and others saw a 30 foot long light that moved rapidly to the east. (Columbus [In] Evening Republican, April 22, 1897)

Jefferson City, Missouri-The story went the rounds that the airship had landed and the occupant asked for and spoke to Mr. Perkins, an old friend. The story was not true. (Jefferson City Tribune, April 24, 1897) (H)

South Byron, Wisconsin-The airship was seen by a few. It was horizontal in form and had a bright headlight. (Fond du Lac [Wis] Commonwealth, April 12, 1897)

Pender, Nebraska-The airship turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Pender Thurston Republic, April 23, 1897)

Tampa, Florida-A light was seen to emerge from the river. It was a ball of fire the size of a baseball. (Jacksonville [Fla] Florida Times Union, April 16, 1897) ←

Noblesville, Indiana-Issac Edwards, Issac Forrer, Rant Ault, Alf Leeman, and John Richwine saw the airship. A line was let down with an order for compressed natural gas which was supplied. Another line was let down with a basket and money and order for water and provisions which was filled. Gold coin was used to pay for it. It hovered over the town for a few moments, circles, and left northwest. It was felt that it was from Mars. (Noblesville Hamilton County Ledger, April 23, 1897) (H)

Ashland, Pennsylvania-D. Hartman, T. Barron, and others saw the airship. They had received a call from Girardville about the airship. It was very high, had a bright light at the base, and was 6 feet tall. (Easton [Pa] Express, April 24, 1897)

Boscobel, Wisconsin-In the late evening, several saw the airship approach from the direction of Elkhart, Indiana. It was 1448 feet up, of great size, and in the shape of a sweeper cigar with the sweeper being the tail. It glittered with electric lights, had fly shaped wings that moved rapidly, and moved at 60 mph toward Sleepy Eye, Minnesota. (Boscobel Dial, April 7, 1897)

Caldwell, Kansas-At night, S. Horner saw a flying machine or a sea serpent sail gracefully over the city. (Caldwell Weekly Advance, April 22, 1897)

Clay City, Kansas-Several claimed to have seen the airship, headlight, propeller, and all. (Clay City Times, April 8, 1897)

Hawardian, South Dakota-Many saw the airship and heard laughing and talking from it. They could distinguish a woman's voice. (Alexandria [SD] Herald, April 15, 1897) (H)

(H) Lyon County, Minnesota-A man saw the airship and on its side was a sign reading "Peace on earth, good will to men." When he called, he heard voices as if in conversation with someone outside it. (Windom [Mn] Reporter, April 22, 1897)

(H) Minnesota-A man saw the airship and said it was so low that he heard delightful music of harps and angels singing. It then suddenly shot skyward at a tangent for the Evening Star. (Windom [Mn] Reporter, April 22, 1897)

Nashville, Tennessee-At 2300, Gen. Harvey Hannah saw the airship. His description contained many political overtones. It paused for a few moments over Capitol Hill and showed red, white, and blue lights. The "public welfare section seemed to be armed with a huge revolving wheel or propeller." (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

(H) Nashville, Tennessee-Dr. White saw the airship about midnight. It had 2 searchlights and the sweetest music came from it. One singer sang "Coming Thro the Rye" and "Put Me off at Buffalo." It stopped overhead for a few moments then left. (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

Nashville, Tennessee-H. Roak saw the airship overhead at night. He began to run and it gave a snort, flew over him, throwing sparks and puffing and snorting. (Nashville Sun, April 18, 1897)

Nebraska City, Nebraska-Many saw the airship. It was 50 feet long, carried 2 red lights, and an electric flashlight. It circled around then left to the south at a great speed. (Cedar Bluffs [Nb] Standard, April 23, 1897)

(H) St. Mary's, West Virginia-Several saw the airship land on 4 legs. Its great wings "sent the wind howling through the streets, completely demolishing the lookout glasses in the 'easy street' building." (Fairmont [WV] Free Press, April 29, 1897) The article itself was very anti-alcohol.

Alexandria, South Dakota-At 2200, many saw a very bright light pass over the city. It moved southeast to northwest and changed to red. (Alexandria Herald, April 15, 1897)

Berea, Kentucky-At 2200, Joe Johnson saw an object with a light at each end and going east. Mr. Golden saw a similar light and heard a peculiar noise. (Owensville [Ky] Messenger, April 24, 1897)

Berrien Springs, Michigan-For 10 nights, residents saw a bright light that was apparently hanging over the Union Soap Company in Michigan City, Indiana. It was 500-1,000 feet up and they were led to believe that Union Soap had placed it there. (Michigan City [In] Evening News, April 15, 1897)

Brainerd, Minnesota-Several saw a bright light darting about the sky at high speed and changing colors constantly. (Brainerd Dispatch, April 16, 1897)

24
Cable, Illinois-The airship was seen to the northwest. (Aledo [Ill] Democrat, April 27, 1897)

Cassville, Wisconsin-Charles Kuenster saw the airship high to the northwest. (Cassville Index, April 22, 1897)

Shenango Township, Pennsylvania-A huge airship was seen to pass over and the witnesses distinctly saw 2 occupants in it. (Salem [Pa] Herald, April 24, 1897) (H)

Fremont, Nebraska-A man saw the airship and he saw an occupant drop down a snare and pick up a chicken. He then dropped a note which read: "This dod gasted airship business is not what some people might crack it up to be. My vehicle is out of order and will not down. A goose hunter shot the flim-flam off my flying jib and a Kansas cyclone took me in its warm embrace and didn't do a thing to this blamed machine. I can't come down. The machine won't work. I have grown gray-headed in the business. Excuse hast and poor writing and search for my remains." (Kearney [Nb] Hub, April 26, 1897) (H)

Henderson, Kentucky-The Henderson Journal printed a story that Fred Frayser saw the airship with a canopy top and a rotary screw. Frayser said the story was a lie. (Owensboro [Ky] Inquirer, April 22, 1897)

Clay Center, Nebraska-Many saw a very strong light to the west, going south to north. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 17, 1897)

Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin-The airship was seen with a white light ahead and red lights at the rear. It was 50 feet long and 500 feet up. (Jacobs)

Glava, Kansas-The airship was seen to the northwest and sank about the same time each evening. One man saw a bucket of swell and potatoe peelings be thrown overboard. (McPherson [Ks] Daily Republican, April 23, 1897) (H)

Gilmer, Illinois-Will Hall saw a bright moving light approaching from the southeast in the evening. It drew nearer and passed over the city. It had red and green lights at the rear and left northwest. (Libertyville [Ill] Lake County Independent, April 30, 1897)

Horton, Kansas-A curious light was seen to the northwest for several evenings. It was a brilliant light, seen 1 1/2 to 2 hours, and then sink below the horizon. (Horton Headlight, April 22, 1897)

Humboldt, Iowa-Many saw a bright light to the east, gradually passing to the north. It turned out to be a balloon hoax. (Humboldt Republican, April 15, 1897)

Nashville, Arkansas-Several saw the airship. It was cigar shaped, had a propeller at the rear, and wheels on the sides. One witness saw a beautiful lady on board and he spoke to her for a few moments. (Nashville News, April 1897) (H)

Mackford, Wisconsin-A man saw the airship going north and it had lights of 7 different shades. (Berlin [Wi] Daily Journal, April 24, 1897)

Millbrook, Illinois-Several saw a light moving east to west in the northern sky. It was the size of the moon, seen 1 hour, and changed from white to red. It would frequently disappear, then reappear. (Piano [Ill] Kendall County News, April 21, 1897)

Morocco, Indiana-At night, 2 airship was seen for 30 minutes hanging to the northwest. (Kentland [Ind] Democrat, April 30, 1897)

Ortonville, Minnesota-Several saw the airship showing red and green lights to the west. (Ortonville Big Stone County Journal, April 23, 1897)

Oxford, Nebraska-A light was seen 2-3 miles to the northwest. Faint rays of light shot upward from it and it was seen for 15 minutes before it left northwest. (Arapahoe [Nb] Public Mirror, April 15, 1897)

Shelbyville, Indiana-Harry Lane, Albert Chriecken, Forest Buell, and others saw the airship. It was 4 times the size of a balloon and left west. (Indianapolis [Ind] Sentinel, April 20, 1897)

Spearfish, Arizona-Several saw several 3 lights moving west to east. When 3 miles west of town, the lights separated. One went toward Whitewood, one toward Bellefourche, and one toward Ragged Top. (Kingman [Az] Our Mineral Wealth, April 30, 1897)

St. Bonifacius, Minnesota-The airship had been seen all week. (Chaska [Mn] Weekly Valley Herald, April 22, 1897)

Watervliet, Michigan-A couple saw the airship moving rapidly northwest. (Benton Harbor [Mi] Evening News, April 15, 1897)

Ypsilanti, Michigan-During the evening, several saw the airship 1/2 mile up and going southwest. It had red and green lights that were 30 feet apart. (Ypsilanti Commercial, April 22, 1897)

Greeley County, Nebraska-Frank Gay saw the airship and it was close enough to talk to the inmates. (Fullerton [Nb] Post, April 16, 1897)

Forest, Indiana-Albert Betts, Joe Zoar, and Doc Hunt saw the airship pass over going northwest. It took 30 minutes to do so. (Frankfort [Ind] Daily Crescent, April 23, 1897)

Lexington, Nebraska-At night, James Breedlove and 30 others saw the airship from a train. (Omaha [Nb] Bee, April 17, 1897)

Lancaster, Ohio-Several evenings ago, a man was on his way home between Baltimore, O., and Lancaster between 8 and 9 o'clock. Suddenly, his horse became highly agitated. He looked around and saw the airship descending nearby with a hissing noise. He saw the forms of two men who were conversing in an unknown language. He went closer and met the men. One was apparently Oriental and the other was American or English. They

(H)