

FIRST OF AERONAUTS.

Blanchard Sailed in Air Before Balloons Were Made.

Eighty-five years ago there died in Paris, Blanchard, the first man to gain celebrity as a balloonist, says the New York Mail and Express. He was born in 1738 and before the balloon was invented he had navigated the air in an atmospheric machine of his own invention, which was propelled with oars and which attained a height above ground of about eighty feet. Blanchard made his first ascent in a balloon at Paris, March 2, 1784. On January 7, 1785, he crossed the English channel in a balloon, accompanied by Dr. Jeffries. Under the circumstances it was a feat of great daring. The aeronauts the trip ended cast away everything but the basket under the balloon, and were about to cut it away when they were carried over the town of Calais and finally dropped in a forest. The officials of Calais gave Blanchard a dinner, presented to him papers of citizenship in a gold box, gave him \$1,200 for his balloon and a pension of \$125 yearly. The king of France also pensioned him. Blanchard boasted that he had risen 13,000 feet higher than any aeronaut of his time. He made sixty ascensions, the last one causing his death. His wife continued the business after him and was killed by a fall from a balloon in 1819. Albert of Saxony, a Dominican monk, is credited with having formed the first correct idea of building balloons early in the fourteenth century, but his ideas never took practical shape. While the scientists were working on the question in 1783 the brothers Montgolfier, paper makers, near Lyons, made and sent up the first balloon on June 5. This balloon was made of linen, was 315 feet in circumference and rose 1,600 feet. It was filled with heated air. About three months later Prof. Charles sent up his balloon, called a "Charliere." It traveled some miles from the starting and fell in a village. The peasants regarded it as a living monster, and fell upon it with pitchforks and flails and tore it to pieces, to the loss and disgust of its owner.

The first living things to leave the earth in a balloon were a sheep, a hen and a duck. They landed safely and the sheep was found grazing. The first ascent in a hydrogen balloon was made by Prof. Charles in Paris, Dec. 1, 1783.

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The Karaim Jews.

The Karaim number 3,000 or 4,000 and live principally in the Crimea. They speak a Tartar dialect among themselves, and ethnologically are much more like Tartars than Semites. Their own legends, in fact, permit the assumption that they were Khazars and were converted to Judaism in the eighth century. Their form of Judaism differs from that of the 5,000,000 or more orthodox Russian Jews in rejecting the talmud and traditional theology altogether and confining itself strictly to the Mosiac revelation. It has been a favorite amusement with the Russians for generations to pretend the greatest admiration and affection for this obscure little tribe. Mme. Novikoff had her joke on the subject here in London when she gravely assured an interviewer some years ago that there never had been a law of any kind issued in Russia against the Jews. When this amazing assertion was questioned she coolly explained that she referred to the Karaim Jews, as in Russia they did not consider the disciples of the talmud were Jews at all. Inasmuch as the Karaites constitute only a two-thousandth part of the Jewish race—if, indeed, it be conceded that they belong to it at all—the insolence of the Russian attitude toward them is peculiarly exasperating to Hebrews in general and the spectacle of their being brought forward at Moscow as the sole representatives of Israel will smart and resent just as the genial Slavonic character desires it should.—Saturday Review.

Lincoln and "Our American Cousin." Gen. I. N. Walker, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, while at the Tacoma hotel on April 29, related the following rather striking coincidence. He was in Chicago at the time Mr. Lincoln received his first nomination. On the evening of May 18, 1860, the day the nomination was made, Gen. Walker was at the old McVicker's theater and witnessed a performance of "Our American Cousin" with Laura Keane as the leading lady in the cast. During the performance the rugged, kindly face of Mr. Lincoln was flashed by limelight upon the curtain, with the announcement of the nomination of "Honest Abe Lincoln" as the republican nominee for president. The audience went wild with enthusiasm for several minutes before the play could be resumed. Within a few days of five years afterward the same play was being given at Ford's theater in Washington, with Laura Keane as leading lady. On the evening of April 14, 1865, President Lincoln went to the theater, where he was killed by the assassin Booth.—Tacoma Leader.

Repeating Guns.

The king of Denmark's "sort of new invented guns, which being but once charged will discharge many times, one after another," in 1657, would seem to have had rivals about the same period. Pepys twice refers to such. On July 3, 1662, when "at the Dolphin with the officers of the ordnance, after dinner was brought to Sir. W. Compton a gun to discharge seven times, the best of all devices that ever I saw and very serviceable, and not a bawble, for it is much approved of, and many thereof made." And on March 4, 1663-4, he mentioned "a new fashion gun to shoot often, one after another."—Notes and Queries.

The Baseball Pitcher.

The famous base ball pitcher had walked the floor with the youngest of his family for an hour or so. "Mary," said he, "if the manor saw me sow, I bet I'd get soaked with a fine." "Why?" asked the wife, sleepily. "I don't seem to have any control of the bowl at all. I don't."

A Stylish Turn-out.



An Abused Wife.

Married Daughter—Oh, dear, such a time as I do have with that husband of mine! I don't have a minute's peace when he's in the house. He is always calling me to help do something or other.

Mother—What does he want now?  
Daughter—He wants me to traipse way up stairs just to thread a needle for him, so he can mend his clothes.

Out of Observation.

Miss De Fashion—I've been having a perfectly lovely time; teas and parties, and music and dancing, and private theatricals, and everything you can think of. Haven't had so much fun for a year.

Friend (shocked)—What? During Lent?

Miss De Fashion—Oh, it's all right, fear. We were in the country.

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NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that on the 26th day of April, 1899, at the east door of the County Court House, in the city of Lincoln, county of Lancaster, state of Nebraska, at 2 o'clock p. m. standard time, the undersigned will offer for sale at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash, or upon such credit as is provided by law, the following described real estate lying in said county of Lancaster, state of Nebraska, to-wit: 1. The west one-half, w. 1-2, of lot fourteen, 14, in block forty-four, 44, in the city of Lincoln. 2. Lot twelve, 12, in block two hundred and twenty-five, 225, in the city of Lincoln. 3. Lot five, 5, in block six, 6, in Truster's addition to the city of Lincoln. 4. Lot twenty, 20, in block two, 2, in Engleside addition to the city of Lincoln. 5. Lot one, 1, in block two, 2, in East Park addition to the city of Lincoln. 6. Lots one, two, three and four, 1, 2, 3, 4, in block two, 2, in Alonzo Barnes' subdivision in the city of Lincoln. Said sale will be made under and by virtue of a license of sale made by the District Court of Lancaster county, Nebraska, in an action therein pending by the undersigned for license to sell the same. Said sale will remain open for one, 1, hour, beginning at the time above stated.

GEORGE E. CLARK,  
As executor of the last will and testament of Alonzo Barnes, deceased.

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First publication April 15, 6  
Land Office at Lincoln, Nebr.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim and that said proof will be made before the Register of the United States Land Office at Lincoln, Nebr., on May 22nd, 1899, viz.: Frank Juricek, for the ne 1-4 of the nw 1-4 and the nw 1-4 of the ne 1-4 of section 17, tp 8, range 5, s. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz.: Felix Baumgart, John Kuna, Frank Kritai, Frank Husi, all of Berks, Nebr. Any person who desires to protest against the allowance of such proof, or who knows of any substantial reason, under the law and the regulations of the Interior Department, why such proof should not be allowed, will be given an opportunity at the above mentioned time and place to cross-examine the witnesses of said claimant, and to offer evidence in rebuttal of that submitted by claimant.

J. W. JOHNSON,  
Register.