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OUR NATIONAL CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3, 1893. (Special Courier Correspondence.)—Professor Hazen, of the United States Weather Bureau, is going to make an aerial voyage across the Atlantic after a novel plan. He will travel in a balloon, but it will be formed of a strange material and equipped with devices hitherto unheard of. It will be directed by means of propellers and a rudder, and is expected to stay aloft two weeks or more, though the trans-oceanic trip may require only fifty hours. The enterprise will be paid for out of private funds, but such instruments as are required for meteorological and other scientific observations will be furnished by the government.

The balloon will be a small one, comparatively speaking. Nearly every aeronaut who has contemplated a project of this sort has supposed a monster airship, holding from 200,000 to 400,000 cubic feet of gas, to be requisite. Professor Hazen considers such a huge machine unnecessary, and, on many grounds, undesirable. It is enormously heavy, very difficult to handle, almost impossible to make gas-tight and costs a great sum of money. An envelope containing 100,000 cubic feet should be plenty big enough for a voyage to Europe. If enough cash for the purchase of such a one cannot be got, the attempt may be made in a balloon of 50,000 cubic feet.

The chief difficulty met with in aerial voyages is leakage of gas. But science has recently learned how to construct balloons that will not leak. At all events such gas bags are now made in Europe which lose gas only at the rate of one-half of one per cent a day. The signal office has already purchased one of this description. The material used is gold-beaters' skin, which is obtained from a part of the intestines of the ox called the "caecum." It is somewhat more costly than cotton or even silk, but it is superior for the purpose in many ways. The main point is that a tight balloon can be made of it, which is not practicable with any other substance hitherto tried.

The gold-beaters' skin comes in small sheets, the biggest obtainable being 22 by 10 inches. It looks somewhat like oiled tissue to the eye, but is not porous. Six layers put together make about the thickness of letter paper, with nearly the same weight as silk. However, four thicknesses will serve for a balloon, the sheets being overlaid upon each other in such a way that there are no joints or

seams. The first step in the construction of the balloon is to make a cloth bag of exactly the size required, which is oiled and inflated. Then the gold-beaters' skin is laid over the outside of it, one thickness at a time, being made to adhere in a manner which is as yet a secret. Finally the cloth bag is taken out and you have your balloon.

President and Mrs. Cleveland are living more quietly just now than has ever before been possible for them in this city. Outside of his working hours, the White House sees very little of the president. Mrs. Cleveland still keeps to her custom of either driving in town with him every morning or coming for him in the afternoon, when they extend their drive around the country, now so glorious in its autumn dress. Those who have seen Mrs. Cleveland lately say that she never looked as handsome. Mrs. Perrine, who went to Chicago with Postmaster General and Mrs. Bissell, returned also with them and is staying at Woodley. The ladies are at home to their friends pretty much the same as at the White House, but very naturally no other persons would call at the country house without a special invitation. It is quite probable that President and Mrs. Cleveland will remain in the country for another month at least, and in fact the house will be kept in readiness for them at any time during the winter. Mrs. Cleveland is just as devoted to the quiet of the country as the president, and as she is fond of walking about the woods, she can have all the outdoor exercise she wants in company with the babies, a pleasure not to be thought of by her in the streets of the city.

The fall house cleaning at the White House has not been started so far as the parlor floor is concerned. The carpets are not yet down nor the curtains hung, but there will be ample time for it all before the return of the family.

The official season, from the 1st of January till Ash Wednesday, will be very short in '94. Lent will begin on the 7th of February, and the season will, therefore, cover only about five weeks. If all the state dinners and levees are to be arranged within this short compass, the White House will be practically open all the time to society, and between the hospitalities that will be extended by the members of the cabinet the dates will be so close together that there will be little chance for any of those not in official station to do much during that time.

Washington has become in these days a citadel of science as well as government, and it is not correct to suppose, as many people do, that your men of

science have but one idea, that they wear their hair long, as they used to do, and go about in seedy clothes. A distant feature of the scientific life here is the social side. It is well represented by the Cosmos club, the most conservative organization of its kind, perhaps, in the city. It is composed entirely of scientific men, and is purely social in its nature. It is here that the scientists meet and find relaxation. The club property at 1520 H street is valued at \$60,000 or \$70,000, and is owned by the members.

Its house is now undergoing repairs. It used to be the home of Dolly Madison after the death of the president, and here she entertained royally for several years. Admiral Wilkes, who was connected with the Trent affair, also made his home here for some time. Later the house became the headquarters of General McClellan. After the repairs are completed it will be a very well-appointed clubhouse.

No voice is more missed in the senate these stirring days than that of John J. Ingalls, of Kansas. Whatever else Mr. Ingalls was he was always interesting, always bubbling with aphorisms; his effervescent eloquence always blew out trite bubbles which crystallized into axioms. No one knows what side Mr. Ingalls would array his talents on if he were wearing a senatorial toga now, but that he would be in the thick of the fight and that his two-edged sword would inflict deep cuts is not a matter for doubt.

There is an impression among the Kansas republicans in congress that the tide of politics will once more drift Mr. Ingalls back to his seat in the senate. "Ingalls has been a vacillating reed, a harp struck by every passing breeze of public sentiment," was the way one of them put it yesterday. "His talents seem to be heavy and his convictions feather-weighted, but the young republicans are controlling the party in Kansas now. The old faction which put Ingalls out has gone over to the populists, and I think he will gradually work his way back. He is not likely to succeed Martin, whose term is finished in 1895, but I believe he will come back to his old seat, which Peffer took from him, when Peffer's term is up, 1897. Ingalls is too brilliant a light to be snuffed out from politics. The people of Kansas are proud of his ability. Ingalls has a future."

At a wedding reception held in Washington not very long ago there was, I am told, a rather significant little incident which attracted no end of attention from those assembled, and threatened to mar the usual merry routine of such occasions. Among the guests bidden to the

feast there was, it appears, a young matron to whom the groom of the day had at one time been particularly attentive, and who, rumor has it, was by no means delighted to hear of his engagement to one of the prettiest girls of the capital. When the time for the wedding came, however, madame accepted the invitation sent her, and surprised everyone who knew anything of what had been going on behind the scenes, by gushing over the bride and congratulating her with tears of joy on "her happiness in having secured such a husband." But the astonishment of the initiated was not quite so great when, a few minutes later, they saw that the wily little *intrigante* had succeeded in getting the groom apart, and had managed to interest him so much in whatever she was saying to him, that the latter was apparently totally oblivious to the fact that all eyes in the room were riveted on him, and that his bride was taking in the whole situation. The latter, however, was equal to the emergency, and, on the principle probably of a *beau jeu, beau retour*, at once began what looked like a very flirtatious conversation with an old flame of hers, who seemed nothing loath to play into her hands. Affairs had been at this painful stage for some moments when the groom suddenly awoke to a sense of the fitness of things, and precipitately returned to his place at his wife's side. Things then resumed their equilibrium, but the episode was naturally, of course, the topic of the day, and is still being warmly discussed.

The newly arrived Danish minister, Count Reventlow, who last week presented the credentials of his office to the president, is, from all reports, likely to be an acquisition of no mean calibre to the social world of Washington. In addition to being handsome, still on the sunny side of forty, and as yet unmated, he is a brilliant musician and has, it is said, already announced his determination to make the Danish legation, under his sway, one of the musical centres of the capital.

No one ever supposed that fine erudition was a distinctive characteristic of the members of our upper house, but it was taken as a matter of course that the man who rose to the dignity of being a United States senator, had at least the dangerously little learning that goes with a "common school education." So the country has heard with surprise, as well as amusement, some rare blunders on the part of the tremendous intellects at Washington. Senator Peffer's excited utterance that "we are all Americans, all Anglo-Saxons!" repeated a dozen times in the course of his speech in the senate, was worthy of Sir Boyle, himself,

but it must yield precedence to the literary confusion that made Senator Teller refer repeatedly in the course of his tirade against the gold-bugs, to "Macaulay's 'Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.'" Then, along came Senator Wolcott, with his classics, all upset, possibly, by his colleague's mistaken notions of authorship, with an eloquent allusion to "the wooden horse of Carthage," when he meant, of course, the ligneous creature that was trundled into Troy.

Take back the heart that thou avest,
He wildly did implore.
He held them four good clubs
And needed just one more.

He was one of the life-saving corps
Who guarded at all times the shores.
One night in a squall
He fell from a yawl
And he never was seen any more.

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And that tired feeling, loss of appetite and nervous prostration are driven away by Hood's Sarsaparilla, like mist before the morning sun. To realize the benefit of this great medicine, give it a trial and you will join the army of enthusiastic admirers of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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Articles of incorporation of the Hall Bros. company.
Filed of record October 15, A. D. 1893.

First—The name of this corporation shall be the Hall Brothers company.

Second—The principal place of transacting its business shall be the City of Lincoln, County of Lancaster, State of Nebraska.

Third—The general nature of the business to be transacted is that of the sale of stoves, ranges, furnaces, iron castings and manufactured articles and the manufacture of metal work of all kinds pertaining to this business.

Fourth—The amount of capital stock authorized is ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars, fifty per cent of which is to be paid in before the commencement of business of this corporation, and the balance upon call of the directors.

Fifth—The time of the commencement of the life of this corporation shall be the 15th day of October, 1893, and shall terminate the 1st day of January, 1900.

Sixth—The highest amount of indebtedness or liability to which the corporation at any one time is to subject itself is two-thirds of the amount of the capital stock paid in.

Seventh—The affairs of this corporation shall be conducted by president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, which officers shall constitute a board of directors.

Dated at Lincoln this 15th day of October, 1893.

(Signed.) H. J. HALL,
CHAS. E. HALL,
J. E. HALL,
J. L. BAXTER,
Incorporators.

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