

## OLDEST BALLOONIST and STORY HE TELLS

No one watches with more eagerness all news of airship triumphs than Jesse Johnson, of Ithaca, N.Y., who is believed to be the oldest living balloonist.

Now ninety years old, he recalls the days of a half century or more ago, when all the world was watching balloon ascensions and experiments near Ithaca as keenly as it has regarded recent airship exhibitions in Europe. Mr. Johnson was one of the most successful balloonists of that day.

It is entertaining to listen to Mr. Johnson's accounts of the balloon trips of the early fifties and of the public interest in such "foolhardy and dangerous experiments."

"The first balloon ascension in the vicinity of Ithaca," he states, "was by a man named Thurston, in 1849. The balloon landed near Union, in Broome county, and Thurston did not stop laughing for a week at the sensation his landing created. He dropped in among a gang of Irishmen who were constructing the Erie railway. They dropped their picks and shovels, crossed themselves, and ran away from the sky serpent, some of them miles before they halted.

"When I saw Thurston rise a mile or more and disappear in the clouds, I decided that he was as dead as if lowered into his grave. I was standing in a furrow on father's farm where the in a Cornell campus now; I did not dream that in a short time I would be trying the same 'fool experiment' that Thurston was.

"Thurston later made an ascension from a Canadian town, and was never heard of again, unless bones thought to be his, found by hunters in that section who were on the lookout for him, really were his bones. Nearly all professional balloonists that I knew met a similar fate.

"Brooks, the balloonist, came into this part of the world in the fifties and made numerous ascensions. I had become deeply interested in the much-debated question, 'Did a current of wind circle the earth three miles high, running from east to west?' I doubted it, and could only prove it by going up. I made my desire known to Brooks that I might make the daring trial alone. He had then become a prominent citizen, which fact gave additional interest and curiosity in the community to his experiments.

"Letting no person into the secret, when Brooks consented, I stepped into the basket and Brooks untied the ropes and let her go. When it was seen that I was going up alone some of my female friends in the crowd below considerably fainted. Some of my male chums made an attack on Brooks, thinking he had sent me up for punishment, but after explanation on his part they ceased their assault.

"The earth dropped away. I can see it yet," he said, closing his eyes, "the way God's architecture on folded before me. It was grand beyond description. The streams turned to silver threads. Cayuga and Seneca lakes seemed close together and Ontario only a little distance away. People and houses were soon lost to view. I began to get cold. My face felt as if stung by insects. I whipped my hands to warm them and put on my overcoat.

"The sublime and beautiful earth on which men do murder and struggle to possess stretched out peaceful and beautiful. I felt different after that ascension toward my fellowmen, and always have. Nor would my fellowmen act so selfishly and brutally to wards one another and the world if they could see it in all its peace and grandeur as I saw it for miles in the air.

"I watched for the alleged wind current at three miles high. It did not materialize. The balloon turned.

### Grew Thinner Every Day

Appetite Was Poor, Dizzy, Fain Weak, Continuous Cruel Backache.

Another Case in Which Dr. Hamilton's Pills Saved a Life That Physicians Despaired Of.

What a pitiful sight it is to see a handsome, able man being gradually robbed of good looks, health, and ability to work. Such cases are frequent—the one here described being that of E. P. Lascelles, a well-known Printers Supply man, residing in Hamilton. "About six months ago I began to notice a worn, tired feeling coming over me. I was unable to shake it off. It was not the fatigue that follows hard work—it was sort of an unaccountable laziness that assailed me. I was anxious to work, but didn't have the energy. Something was dragging me down, robbing me of my health and spirits. I got tired of taking prescriptions that did me no good, and used Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Their action soon proved to me that I was suffering from a terribly congested liver and acute indigestion. Dr. Hamilton's Pills brought back my appetite, cured the heavy pain in my side and back, gave me a new grip on life. I gained in weight and now I am stronger, look better, work better than ever before I was taken sick.

If you want to get back the vigor and spirit of youth, if you want the sparkle of robust health on your cheeks—use Dr. Hamilton's Pills regularly. They cleanse, purify, tone, strengthen—make the sick well, give this grand medicine a faithful trial. 25c per box, or five boxes for \$1, at all dealers, or the Cattaraugus company, Kingston, Ont.



Jesse Johnson, Ithaca, N.Y. 90 Years Old, A Balloonist of the Fifties

### DOINGS IN STAGELAND

#### THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL NEWSPAPER PLAY

Is Entitled "The Fourth Estate"—Mantell Was Offered a Big Salary to Produce Shakespearean Scenes As Vaudeville.

Mr. Fiske will again be seen at the Shubert's theatres in "Salvation Nell."

"The Hot Air King," with John C. Slavin in the leading role, is to be given in Chicago at an early date.

Another "Dollar Princess" company is to be organized to open in Chicago and go west as far as the Pacific coast.

The title of the new piece in which Andrew Mack is to star under the direction of Lew Fields is "The Prince of Bohemia."

Marie Dressler has returned to begin rehearsals of a new musical play called "Ellie's Nightmare," to be produced by Lew Fields.

Forbes Robertson gave a special matinee performance of "The Passing of the Third Floor Back" for charity, a large number of whom attended.

That she cannot afford the luxury of an idle and expensive husband, is the very good reason Grace Van Studdford gives for seeking a divorce from her husband.

George Ardis, who played "The Devil" last season, has returned from Europe, accompanied by his wife. He has been away since May and will place in "Septimus."

The title of the new piece in which Andrew Mack is to star under the direction of Lew Fields is "The Prince of Bohemia," which remains one of the "Princes of Pilsen."

The play that Clyde Fitch wrote for Miss Zella Sears is entitled, "The Kitty and the Canary." The play is

to be produced early in the season and the rehearsals and preparations have already begun.

Robert Mantell was offered a big salary to go into vaudeville and do a sketch in which he would introduce some of the biggest scenes in Shakespeare, but being bound to William A. Brady, he had to refuse.

Melnyre and Heath in the John J. McNally musical comedy, "In Hayti," with music by Jerome and Schwartz, will open their road tour in Philadelphia this week. The supporting company numbers one hundred.

Miss Olga Nethersole announces "Locke of Wall Street" as her contribution to the dramatic literature of reform for the coming season. It deals with the struggle between capital and labor and is said to be very strong.

The Shuberts have engaged Winnie O'Connor, a London actress, to play the title role in "The Belle of Brittany" in support of Frank Daniels. Miss O'Connor has never appeared in America, but is favorably known in England.

The New Theatre, New York, has obtained from Beerholm Tree, its American rights to "False Gods," the English version of Brienx's "La Foi" which made such a decided hit when it was produced in London by Mr. Tree last month.

Miss Florence Roberts will appear shortly in a new drama by Kate Jordan Vernihy. The name of the play is "Mrs. Dakan." Thuroy Burgen will be Miss Roberts' leading man, and Miss Laurette Taylor will have an important part in the play.

Miss Margaret Anglin, the Canadian actress, has decided to abandon weepy roles and play comedy parts in future. "I want to make people laugh instead of cry," she said. "I have literally wept my way around the world, and left a damp trail behind me. I have earned my rainbow."

Miss Lulu Glaser's role in "The Girl from the States," a musical play, Glen MacDonough, Raymond Hubbard and A. Baldwin Sloan have prepared for her, is that of Daphne Dearborn, niece of the mayor of a town in Ohio that Mr. MacDonough calls Gumpopolis. She is taken abroad by her uncle with the object of marrying into royalty, which accounts for the title of the play.

"The Fourth Estate" is the first play based on actual newspaper life to "get over." Joseph Medill Patterson has not only written a clever story but one which manages to "hold the bottom up," to resort to "stage burlesque" until the final curtain, the last act, by the way, takes place in the composing room of a modern newspaper.

Klaw & Erlanger presented for the first time on any stage at the Forest theatre, Philadelphia, Tuesday night, their new musical production, "The Silver Star," with Adeline Genece, the dancer, in the principal part. Bickel and Watson and more than 100 singers, dancers and comedians are employed. The book is by Harry K. Smith and the music by Robert Hood Browers.

Max Beerholm, the London critic and brother of Sir Herbert Tree, refers to Sir Arthur Pinero's new play, "Midchannel," as "Midgutter." Its performance by Miss Barrymore will mark her well-earned promotion to the honor of playing in the Empire Theatre, New York, hitherto held sacred by Mr. Frohman to the art of Miss Maude Adams and John Drew. J. M. Barrie has recently given to Miss Barrymore the exclusive rights to a new one-act play, with the suggestion that she act it some time for the benefit of the actors' fund of America.

## THE TIVERTON MURDER MYSTERY



James F. Monroe and his dog "Don"



Mysterious woman who seeks lost daughters

Tiverton, R.I.—Two men have been arrested charged with the murder of the believed to have been Miss Amelia St. Jean, whose limbs and torso were found in near here.

## PERUNA A WONDERFUL BOON IN MY OLD AGE.



MRS. MAHALA REID, Heartily Approves of Peruna and Man-a-Lin for Kidney and Bowel Trouble

MRS. MAHALA REID, Corbyville, Ont., Canada, writes:

"Your celebrated remedies have been a wonderful boon to me in my old age."

"I have not been in so good health for several years as now. I was troubled with constipation, rheumatism and kidney trouble."

"A little over two years ago, I completely lost my health, becoming almost helpless, when a dear friend sent me your remedies, Peruna and Manalin. I began to take them, following the directions on the bottle. I very soon began to feel benefited by their use and continued to take them."

"I am now completely recovered from the above ailments, in fact, better than I have been for years past. I cannot praise the remedies too highly and will always recommend them to others."

Constipation is almost sure to set up other derangements.

Retained accumulations within the bowels are partly reabsorbed into the system, producing sometimes rheumatism, sometimes kidney trouble.

The blood being surcharged with acids, which ordinarily find their escape through the bowels when they are regular, rheumatism is the result.

Acid blood forms crystals, which accumulate about the ligaments, cartilages and sometimes the bones in the joints.

Such morbid accumulations of blood throw extra work upon the kidneys. The kidneys being unable to perform the unusual labor of excreting these poisons, often give way and kidney trouble is the result.

Permanent relief cannot be reasonably expected except by correcting the constipation.

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"I suffered for twenty-six years with bladder and kidney trouble, and being advised to try Peruna a trial, I did so. Eight bottles of Peruna and three bottles of Manalin entirely cured me."

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A Woman's Reason.

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"Oh, how could you be false to the youth I loved so dearly? She turned away and hid her face. Her eyes began to blur. 'I didn't mean to,' she exclaimed. 'I really loved you better. But, oh, the man I've taken now—wrote such a lovely letter.'"

"Tush, tush," the youth then made reply. "This foolish, such a reason! Your words to me in days ago were but the raptures of treason."

"I really couldn't help it, dear." The maiden said in answer. "My new love was so nicely dressed, and such a lovely dancer."

"You mean," the youth then blurted out. "That love is just a matrig Of how the little things you see May cause your heart to patter?"

"I mean," she slowly answered him. "And then there came a pause— I mean—oh, well—just never mind— I threw you down BECAUSE."

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