DEMOCRATS TO STAND TOGETHER.

Ex-Governor Flower's Statement Solidifies Their Ranks.

NO NATIONAL QUESTIONS.

Leading Gold Men Say the Municipal Campaign Should Be on Local Issues.

"WE'LL WIN IN CITY AND STATE."

So Says Corporation Counsel Francis M. Scott---Senator Cantor, E. E. Anderson and De Lancey Nicoll on the Situation.

Ex-Governor Flower—The Gold Democrats would support a man, though he voted for Bryan, who would stand upon a platform confined to local and pertinent issues, though they would not, in my judgment, support a candidate running on a platform indorsing that of the free silver convention of Chicago.

I would be glad to vote for a silver Democrat * * * if he would run on a platform declaring unequivocally for economy in the administration of the city's affairs, better government and home rule.

The above, taken from the interview with ex-Governor Flower, printed in yesterday's Journal, attracted widespread attention. His view that the slogan "Economy and Home Rule" would win was generally held good. The paragraph quoted seemed to put into the fewest words one of the most important points to be considered by Democrats in the Greater New York election. Following are expressions of opinion on that and cognate points by leading Democrats:

Francis M. Scott, Corporation Counsel and prospective chairman of the Executive Committee of the Local National (gold) Democrats—The drift of public sentiment is toward Democratic success.

National issues will cut no figure in the municipal contest except so far as the passage of the Dingley tariff measure may affect the local situation.

With the passage of that bill the cost of certain necessities will be increased, while the present standard of wages will not be raised. This will strengthen the hold of Democracy upon the future.

Democracy is gaining strength every day. I believe that the party will not only carry the city, but the State.

As for what course the National Democracy will pursue in regard to uniting with other Democratic organizations or a candidate for Mayor, there has been but little discussion of the subject.

The Citizens' Union, I believe, will make a combination with the Republicans before they get through with it. Everything points in that direction. The Republicans will accept union on modified terms. Platt's statement means union.

I rather expect both the Democrats and Republicans to nominate candidates that have never been mentioned. I think Mayor Strong is quite as likely to be nominated by the fusionists as any other Republican.

The Citizens' Union would like to have Seth Low nominated. It is a question whether the Republicans would take him. From the Republican machine point of view he would be a dangerous man as Mayor. I don't think he would accept the nomination unless the Republicans would agree to support him. He certainly wouldn't consent to be put up simply to be knocked down.

No overtures have been made by the Citizens' Union for gold Democratic support, so far as I know. It looks now like a straight Democratic ticket against a Republican fusion ticket. National issues will not be considered.

Jacob A. Cantor, State Senator, president pro tem of the Senate under the Flower-Sheehan regime—In my judgment the issues in the coming campaign should be confined to local affairs entirely. I am reasonably satisfied, from the conversations that I have had with various Democrats, who will to some extent dictate the Democratic policy this Fall, that no reference whatever will be made to national matters.

The events in this city under the present administration are of such character that the people will insist upon the choice of public officers who can be held to a rigid accountability by a party and not by a temporary organization of individuals, self-chosen, no matter how meritorious the motives of those gentlemen may be.

The Raines law strikes at the personal liberty of the citizen, and if enforced, takes away the constitutional right of a trial by jury and arbitrarily destroys hundreds of thousands of dollars of property of our citizens, besides taking away from our treasury excise money which belong to us. This and similar measures have been supported by the friends of the present city government, and by the same class of men who to-day are endeavoring to control city affairs through the Citizens' movement.

I believe that it is easy to select a ticket that will receive the cordial support of not only all Democrats, but also of tens of thousands of our fellow citizens who believe that the present so-called non-partisan city government is a failure.

I believe, with Governor Flower, that "economy and home rule" would make a splendid battle cry, I mean home rule in its broadest sense—that policy which will not only confine public offices to residents of our city, but will also confine the selection of promotions in the schools of our city to the deserving teachers of experience and qualification, instead of doing as the Board of Education recently did—selecting principals from other cities.

I think also that another prominent issue of the campaign will be that of dollar gas, with municipal regulation, such as was so warmly advocated by the Journal throughout the session of the Legislature.

I do not believe it will make any difference whatever to the gold Democrats what the attitude of the candidate for Mayor was during the last Presidential campaign. If he is a good man, qualified by experience in public matters for that office, I am certain that the gold men—those that I have spoken to upon the subject—will support him.

In the Republicans' haste to gratify the trusts, that put up the cost of necessities of life, reduce wages, limit production and drive workingmen out of employment, they protect the trusts and assail capital otherwise employed. The bill I introduced did not interfere with capital honestly and legitimately employed for public as well as private benefit, but it could, if passed, destroy these trusts and combinations so dangerous to the Commonwealth and disastrous to the people. And so all the Democrats voted for my bill and voted against the Lexow laws. These laws protect trusts, while injuring other capital. The Democrats are determined, however, and will never rest, until these trusts are destroyed.

Ex-District-Attorney DeLancey Nicoll—The support of gold Democrats for a Mayoralty candidate who voted for Bryan will depend greatly upon the platform on which the Bryan man might stand. There would be, in my judgment, no reasonable excuse for refusing to support the Tammany Hall nominee simply because he happened to vote for Mr. Bryan. But there certainly would be cause for the most determined opposition should that candidate run upon the platform or the indorsement of the platform adopted at Chicago. I find it difficult to understand why it should be injected into a municipal campaign. If local issues sufficient to rally the Democrats are not to be found, then the party and all its organizations here had better go out of business.

The proper issues are: Economy, home rule and liberty from Puritanical persecution. Every citizen of the Greater New York feels in his pocket the result of the extravagance of the Republican administration at Albany and in New York and Brooklyn. Such recklessness in the squandering of the public funds has not been witnessed in decades. In the name of reform our tax rate has been increased, our city has been treated as if it were a village of the days of Plymouth Rock, our police force has become disorganized and demoralized.

Should Tammany Hall name a Bryan man for Mayor and put him on the Chicago platform, the Citizens' Union name an independent Republican or independent Democrat on a platform confined to local issues, and the machine Republicans name a machine Republican, on a gold platform I should support the Citizens' Union candidate.

E. Ellery Anderson, chairman of the Finance Committee of the National Gold Democratic party last Fall—In general I agree with ex-Governor Flower that the municipal canvass should be confined to municipal issues. Should Tammany name a candidate whose name is a synonyme for business capacity and integrity, without regard to his attitude in the Presidential canvass, and place him on a platform dealing with municipal questions exclusively, my belief is that the gold Democrats would cordially support him.

I mean a man of the business character and distinction of J. Edward Simmons or of the legal ability of Frederic R. Coudert.

To ex-Governor Flower's couplet of "economy and home rule" I would add that of "reasonable liberty." Though the Raines Liquor Tax law may be commended for the volume of revenue it provides, it is simply atrocious in its invasion of the rights of private citizens. I do not believe in wide-open saloons on Sunday, but I do contend that it is persecution to compel a man to submit to legal punishment because he happens to sell a glass of beer, under proper restrictions, on Sunday.

AS PLATT WOULD LIKE IT.

Tammany Central Association Election.

The annual meeting of the Tammany Central Association was held last evening at headquarters, No. 207 East Thirty-second street, and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, William J. Hill; vice-presidents, Thomas F. Woods and M. J. Devlney; secretaries, M. P. Mulvaney and John T. Mooney; treasurer, Eugene J. Reilly; trustees, James P. Keating, Michael Breen and Frank P. Young.

VIEWED BY AN ENGLISH MAYOR.

R. D. Holt, of Liverpool, Talks About Greater New York Problems.

STUDIES THE QUESTION.

Calls the Idea of a Bipartisan Police Board Simply "Amazing."

"Look at England!" is a familiar cry from the lips of those who denounce partisanship in municipal government. "The Britishers don't mix their national with their civic politics!"

"Oh, yes we do!" said R. D. Holt, a former Mayor of Liverpool, as he sat in the lobby of the Waldorf yesterday evening. "Why, what on earth gave rise to that idea? It is absurd, you know—simply absurd!"

Mr. Holt is the man who, in 1893, after a bitterly contested election, carried the traditional Tory stronghold of Liverpool for the Gladstonian party, of which he is one of the most influential provincial adherents. It was strictly a municipal event, yet the news of it rung all over the United Kingdom because of its vivid relationship to the politics of the nation.

A man of shrewd insight and kindly humor is R. D. Holt, who stands high in the councils of the Liberals. A picture of him would look like a picture of John E. Searles, but in the flesh he presents a far more engaging personality than does the famous secretary of the Sugar Trust. Mr. Holt belongs to the race of cotton brokers—the race that has made Liverpool the greatest seaport in the world. He is very rich. He is also a good fellow.

"I only arrived here yesterday, by the Teutonic," he said, taking his visitor by the arm and leading him to a divan. "And so you want to have a little talk with me. Something personal, eh? I've been told that your newspapers are very personal. I suppose you just want to know who I am, and all that kind of thing?"

If Mr. Holt were seen walking out of the Chamber of Commerce premises arm in arm with Charles Stewart Smith, he would readily be taken for a member of the Citizens' Union, and one of those who urged Mayor Strong not to sign the charter. His resemblance suggested a line of inquiry, and Mr. Holt's face lit up with interest at the first word.

Interested in the Big City.

"Greater New York?" he repeated. "I would dearly like to hear something about it! I have heard something about the unification of your city and the details of the scheme would interest me enormously. You know, I have had much experience with that kind of thing. I was a member of the commission appointed by Parliament to work out the details of the unification of London, and I also had a great deal to do with the Greater Liverpool plan."

Interjecting here and there a question that exemplified his keen familiarity with large civic problems, Mr. Holt listened attentively to a hasty sketch of the Greater New York charter and the legislative processes that led up to its adoption. Especially was he interested in the three provisions of the document which Mayor Strong had taken exception to.

"I can understand that idea of having two municipal chambers," he said. "Sort of safeguard against hasty action—eh?—like our House of Lords. But what were you saying about the police? That's a most important feature of municipal government, you know!

"Dear me! Bi-partisan, did you say? And does that mean that two of the Commissioners must be Democrats and the other two Republicans? Yes? Amazing! I hardly see how such a stipulation could be made. Is it constitutional?"

The British municipal expert thought deeply over the bi-partisan Police Commission, and smiled benignantly at what evidently appealed to him as a greater New World curiosity than would a herd of buffaloes in Broadway.

"But I should think," he said at length, "that such a body would soon arrive at a deadlock!"

He nodded his head sagely when informed that such was, indeed, the case. He continued to nod his head, with a sympathetic air, when it was explained to him that Mayor Strong had been in favor of a single Police Commissioner.

How They Starve 'Em Out.

"In Liverpool," said Mr. Holt, "we have what corresponds to your Police Commission, only we call it the Watch Committee. It is appointed from among the members of the Town Council, who are, of course, elected by the people. But the actual management of the department in detail is left to the Head Constable."

"And that is a permanent office?"

"It is permanent in the sense that the Town Council can't sack the Head Constable, but"—and the former Mayor bubbled into a rich smile—"they can refuse to pay his salary. It's perfectly absurd, y'know! They can't sack him, but they can stop his pay! Ha! ha!"

"Well, is the Head Constable a man who has risen from the ranks, like the chief of police here?"

"No, no! Oh, dear, no! The appointment is given to a gentleman—usually a military man."

And Mr. Holt smiled cheerfully as he went away to dress for dinner.

ALL SHOULD JOIN HANDS.

Ex-Senator Brice and M. E. Ingalls Say Democrats Should No More Be Divided on Money Matters.

Calvin S. Brice, former United States Senator from Ohio, and Melville E. Ingalls, president of that section of the Vanderbilt railway lines that connect the capital of Ohio with Cleveland and Cincinnati, dined at the Waldorf last evening, with a marked copy of Thursday morning's Journal spread out before them.

The interviews with United States Senator Gray and former Governor Roswell P. Flower, of New York, were interesting subjects of conversation between these two distinguished Ohio Democrats, who are just now about to face an important State campaign, in which a State ticket and a successor to Senator Marcus A. Hanna are to be elected.

"The Journals were handed to us aboard ship by the pilot in the morning," said Mr. Ingalls, "and among the many interesting things they told the belated passengers none were more interesting than the interviews with Senator Gray and former Governor Flower.

"There seems to me to be no reason why the Democracy in New York should not unite this Fall, as I know the Democrats of Ohio will, in bringing about party victory. I talked with our outgoing Consul-General, Mr. Morss, in Paris a few days ago, and took occasion to say to him that I could see no reason for the Democratic party in the State of Indiana, and, in fact, throughout the country, not reuniting as speedily as possible. The silver question alone could divide us, and I, as a gold Democrat, told him I was ready to waive that point, if the silver people were, for five years, in which time our first object should be the election of a Democratic President. Mr. Morse, who is the editor of an Indianapolis newspaper and an ardent and most intelligent silver advocate, agreed with me entirely, though he was not altogether sanguine that the rank and file of the silver followers in the West would share his view of the matter.

"The first duty of Democrats now should be the defeat of their political enemies, and the question of gold or silver may be easily left for time to settle."

Senator Brice spoke in the same vein. He was asked his opinion as to the chances for Democratic success in Ohio next Fall.

"So far in advance," said he, "it is only speculation. If I should sum up the situation at present I should say that the Democrats in Ohio are sanguine, the Hanna Republicans alarmed and the Foraker-Bushnell Republicans pleased to believe that a Democratic Legislature will be elected to send a Democratic successor to Mr. Hanna to the Senate, and that the Governorship will be in doubt.

"Whether this Democratic United States Senator from Ohio who will succeed Mr. Hanna will be a gold or silver Democrat I cannot in advance determine, but not being a candidate myself for that place, I may say that the outcome of the caucus will be a Democrat who, whatever his opinions on silver may be, or whatever his opinions on gold may be, will vote in the United States Senate on sound and conservative financial lines, and in accordance with the principles of the Democratic party.

"There have been a score of able gentlemen, including my friend Mr. Ingalls, Tom L. Johnson, Walter B. Ritchie, Lawrence T. Neal, James E. Neal, ex-Consul at Liverpool; Frank L. Southard, John R. McLean, Paul Sorg and ex-Governor Campbell."

"And what is your observation as to New York?"

"I have no suggestions to offer.

"I have no doubt that the total emptiness of the silver agitation is even more apparent to the New York Democracy than to the Democracy of Ohio, and, therefore, there should be even less cause for dissension here than in Ohio, and I believe the chances for a united party are excellent in both sections."

Against the Raines Law.

The Executive Committee of the Independence Hall Democracy met at its headquarters, Third avenue and Twenty-seventh street, last night, to make arrangements for beginning an anti-Raines law campaign. Ernest V. Harvier presided. A committee was appointed to arrange for a mass meeting to be held on the evening of May 25 in the big hall of Cooper Union. Three thousand tickets of admission will be issued.

FANNY RICE TO FACE CORBETT.

Not the Ex-Champion Pugilist, but the Great and Only Professor.

HE IS A WORLD BEATER.

Starting as a Chicken Raiser, He Became Innkeeper and Then Playwright.

NOW LAYS CLAIM TO HER PLAY.

Bernhardt Gave Him His First Inspiration, and Since He Met Her He Has Grown Both as to Reputation and Whiskers.

For many happy moons Fanny Rice and her company of players have appeared in a piece called "Nancy at the French Ball," or "At the French Ball," and have believed the piece belonged to them. But a few days ago one Adolphe Corbett notified them he was the author of a piece of that name, and to-day they will face him in the United States Circuit Court, in order that the ownership of the piece may be determined.

No wonder Fanny Rice and her husband, Dr. Purdy, are cast down, for, although they have not seen the plaintiff, they have learned he is a man of polished address and effective whiskers. Professor Corbett is a difficult man to cope with and he has with him that able jurist, Colonel J. F. Milliken.

But Mme. Damseaux, who has known Professor Corbett for years, and has been camping on his trail ever since she did some translating for him, and was unable to secure the $100 she claimed was due her, has cheered the hearts of the Purdys by her recital of wrongs. She says Corbett has been afflicted with the play-writing mania for many years past, and when he is not able to dispose of his plays persuades himself he is the author of plays of somebody else.

It appears that about twenty years ago Mr. Corbett was a resident of Long Island, engaged in the pastoral occupation of chicken-hatching, by means of an incubator of his own invention. He then took upon himself the title of "Professor of Gallinoculture."

Among the many customers who purchased his artificially-reared fowls was the proprietor of the Van Dyke House, at the corner of Hester street and the Bowery. Professor Corbett absorbed the hotel and embarked on a career of metropolitan innkeeping. Shortly afterward he became the proprietor also of a delightful cafe chantant on Fourteenth street, near Sixth avenue.

While the Fourteenth street establishment was being given over to a fashionable, worldly set, the Van Dyke House was making itself felt as a silent but powerful influence in the artistic life of that quarter. Here Professor Corbett established his salon, which was graced by the presence of many bon vivants, scholars and persons of artistic temperament.

Sarah Bernhardt had not been in America two days before Professor Corbett, a vision of white whiskers and fur-trimmed coat, called on her and, in the name of the twin arts of acting and chicken hatching, summoned her to a banquet at the Hotel VanDyke. Great was her surprise when her carriage stopped under the shadow of the elevated railroad and Professor Corbett escorted her to the suite of apartments occupied by himself and his family.

It is said that from that moment Mr. Corbett's ambition to write plays grew until it displaced all desire to excell in either chicken hatching or hotel keeping. Mme. Damseaux, who translated dramas for him to write, declares he was insatiate, and yet, with a trunkful of plays, he has been able to dispose of only one—"Is Marriage a Failure?"—bought by Stuart Robson.

SAWMILL BOILER KILLS FOUR.

One Victim's Body Was Blown Two Hundred Yards.

Tiptonville, Ky., May 13.—A sawmill boiler exploded to-day on Reelfoot River, several miles from here, killing Ed Patterson and Dink Hodges, white, and two colored men, whose names could not be learned. Three other men were terribly mangled and will die.

One of the victims was blown into pieces and the fragments scattered for two hundred yards. The mill was a small portable affair and had just been located on the river.

IRON HORSE RACED WITH A MUSTANG.

Pursued by the Locomotive, the Animal Dashed Into a Jersey City Depot.

CREATED A SMALL PANIC.

Horse Was Pinned In Against the Wall by the Engine, and Was Slightly Injured.

HUNDREDS SAW THE RACE.

It Was the Busy Suburban Hour at the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Station, and the Horse Was a Wild One from the West.

The horse won by a neck, and it's lucky for him that he did. For the locomotive claimed the right of way, and there wasn't room on that side of the train shed for both.

About 2,000 inbound and home-going suburbanites saw them arrive at the Jersey City terminus of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railway at 7:58 o'clock last night. The locomotive, No. 116, was attached to the inbound express from Orange. The horse was not attached to anything except life and liberty. It was his strong attachment to the latter that got him into trouble, and his attachment to the former that keyed him up to the effort which enabled him to run a neck and neck race with the locomotive.

Strong men offered long odds and nervous women shrieked when they saw the horse and the locomotive enter the went end of the long train shed simultaneously. The horse was on the south side of the track, next to the brick wall of the shed. He was running just alongside of the locomotive. That was his only chance. There wasn't space enough between the side of a coach and the brick wall to accommodate the horse.

As it was, the iron step of the tender caught the horse across the flank just as the train came to a halt, and the frantic animal, with blood streaming from a bad cut, dashed into the ferry-house among the passengers just leaving the ferry-boat Hamburg.

There was a momentary panic, but two employes of the ferry caught the horse as he brought up against the ferry gate, and led him through the passenger station and out of the depot.

The horse was one of two hundred comprising a consignment for Europe. Men were unloading them from cars in the yards below the freight sheds, preparatory to taking them to the steamer. Five wild Western horses got away from a careless groom and scampered all over the big many-tracked yard.

This particular horse ambled down the track until he met the 7:58 express from Orange. Then he turned and sprinted for life and liberty against the big engine, with the results above described.

The engineer says he didn't see the horse until it was in the station. But the fireman avers that the engineer offered odds of two to one against the animal.

The horse was not seriously injured, and its European trip will not be delayed.

LEGAL STATUS OF WOMEN

New Work Just Issued by Miss Jessie J. Cassidy, of Brooklyn, a Cornell Graduate.

"The Legal Status of Women" is the title of a book just issued for the American Woman Suffrage Association. It has been compiled by Miss Jessie J. Cassidy, of Brooklyn, a graduate of Cornell University.

The book is divided into seven chapters, which treat of "Woman's Position in the Past," "Property Rights of Married Women in the United States," "Divorce," "Guardianship of Children," "The Age of Protection," "Criminality Among Women" and "Woman Suffrage."

Upon the property rights of married women in the United States the author says:

"There are sixteen States where the married woman has not yet secured full legal control of her wages. Nevada furnishes a unique example of masculine legislative magnanimity, having as recently as 1873 enacted that 'her earnings are the wife's if her husband has allowed her to appropriate them to her own use, and it is deemed a gift from him to her.'

"There are five States—Florida, Idaho, Louisiana, Tennessee and Texas—where the husband has control of the wife's property, and in three more—Alabama, New Mexico and North Carolina—the wife's control is not full."

Miss Cassidy furnishes many interesting facts upon the subject of divorce. She says:

"In some parts of the country, and in some classes of society, a wife's relation to her husband is that of a child to a parent, or a servant to a master, much more than that of an equal to an equal. Public opinion, her early training, dread of notoriety and the absence of all means of support apart from her husband compel her to endure wrongs and ill treatment to which the ear of the judge would be open. The purpose of the divorce law is foiled. Hence the number of divorces decreed is no more a test of the wrongs endured by wives than the number of parents punished for cruelty to children is a criterion of the abuses children suffer. Divorces to wives measure their resistance, not their burden. Southern wives are probably more resigned and submissive than Northern, and in accordance with this fact the report shows that they are less inclined to seek a divorce. In seven Southern States less than half the divorces are granted to the wife.

"The error," continues the author "does not lie in divorce, but in marriage. The perpetuation of marriage and the home is not threatened by the increase of divorce. Instead, while it may be that the freer conditions breed some mischief, the increase is indicative of a condition which will lead to happier marriages and purer homes."

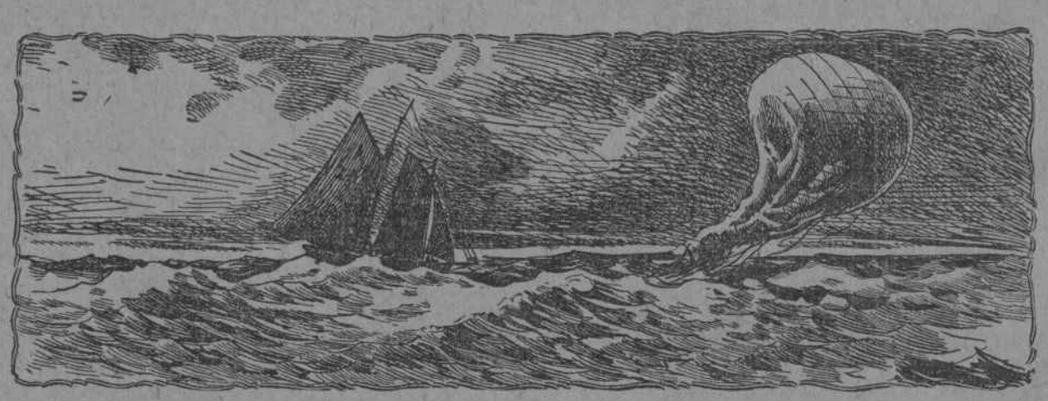
ARE EASY ON THE RICH.

Westchester Assessors Find the Law So Vague That They Are Merciful.

The Assessors of Westchester County met at White Plains yesterday to see what could be done to answer the complaints of other counties that wealthy residents of this suburb of New York have not paid their just part of the State tax.

Assessor E. Underhill, of Yonkers, had adopted a resolution that a committee of three be appointed to draw up a memorial to the Legislature stating wherein the law was vague, and requiring specific terms as to what they should assess.

The question asked whether Summer residents from New York should be assessed on property they had at their country houses could not be answered, and it was left with the assessors to exercise their own discretion. If they assessed them, and they paid, all right; but if they would not pay, well, they would not be forced to.



Mysterious Balloon Seen by a Pilot to Fall and Sink Off Sandy Hook.

FIVE miles southeast of the Sandy Hook Lightship Wednesday afternoon a big silk balloon dropped into the ocean, and, weighted by an anchor attached to fifty feet of rope, it rapidly sank. Where this balloon came from, who was its owner, or whether human life was sacrificed in its mysterious flight, are questions than cannot now be answered.

The balloon was first seen by Pilot William Furrie, who yesterday guided the little Norwegian fruit steamer Leon into port. It was then that the fate of the big balloon became known. Pilot Furrie is attached to the pilot boat Joseph Pulitzer. The boat, Wednesday afternoon, was cruising some three miles off the lightship when Furrie, casting his eyes aloft, saw the balloon. The airship was then at least four miles to the southward, but rapidly sailing north, driven by a strong upper current.

The air ship had partially collapsed, and was apparently sinking. It whirled around and around in the strong breeze in great circles and then fell over on its side and shot along for some distance in that position. Furrie saw that no basket was attached to the great net that encircled the balloon, but he could plainly see the dangling rope, with the anchor swinging at the end.

When the pilot boat had skimmed along half a mile the big air ship was circling about directly over the craft. She had to tack to avoid being struck by the balloon, which appeared to be fully twenty-two feet in diameter. It dropped into the water finally, about a quarter of a mile away from the boat, and when the little craft reached the spot the heavy anchor had dragged the collapsed silken bag below the surface. The balloon, slowly sinking, could still be seen.

So far as known no balloon has been sent up from this city or vicinity. Pilot Furrie is certain that the air ship was large enough to have supported a man. It was not unlike the sort that aeronauts use to make ascensions at county fairs throughout the country.