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SAN FRANCISCO, MONDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 23, 1896.

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## A WINGED SHIP IN THE SKY.

It Cleaves the Air With Pinions Like a Huge Condor.

## ALL SACRAMENTO SEES THE NEW WONDER.

The Inventor's Lawyer Describes the Machine and Says It Is Genuine.

### IT WAS SEEN SOARING NEAR SAN JOSE AT MIDNIGHT.

"The Call's" Exclusive Account of the Greatest Invention of the Age Is Now Corroborated by Thousands.

immaterial matters and departed, leaving

to talk business every time he came, but

that his courage failed him as soon as he

got in the office.

"Finally he got up courage enough to tell me he was not only an inventor but

that e really had an invention. He asked me if he could place confidence in

I told him that I could not recall any oc-

casion in which I had violated a friend's

or a client's confidence and that I thought

I was fully capable of attending to any

business he might wish me to transact for

him. He said that if his secret were made

public prematurely it would mean the loss to him of an immense fortune. He

further assured me that it was an inven-

tion that anybody would willingly steal if they had the opportunity. I talked to

as an attorney, would be just as anxious to protect his interests as he would be

"I am telling you the details of my first

meeting with this inventor because they

carry with them a good idea of the nature

of the man and also are evidence of his

"He is a resident of Oroville and a man

of wealth, about 47 years of age, and a fine

looking fellow. He does not talk for five

minutes without convincing his hearer

that he is a man of more than ordinary

intelligence. The first time he talked to

me of his invention he got as far as the

word airship; then I laughed, and laughed

"What kind of whisky have you been

This made him indignant, and had I

laughed any longer he certainly would

have got very angry and I should have

"'I have not been drinking, sir,' he

"Even that answer did not assure me

and I again said, 'Have any members of

your family ever been in the lunatic asy-"He did not appreciate this any more

than my other remark, and drawing himself to his full height and stamping one

foot on the floor, he replied, 'No, sir, I

am a man of business. I have come here

on a business errand, and had I not met

you previously and been convinced that

I could trust you I think our acquaintance

would end right here. However, I can ex-

cuse your surprise, for everybody believes

that an inventor must naturally be crazy

until he has proved that his invention in

practicable. Then, I suppose, people call

him a genius. I have got over the crazy

"He then proceeded to tell me of his in-

vention. He has been working for several

years, and in order to avoid suspicion or the part of local people he has had all the

machinery and material shipped from

stage, but I do not yet claim to be a genius; but I certainly am practical.'

said, 'and when I do it is not whisky.'

most probably have lost a client.

drinking?" I asked him.

For several days there have been per- | could not help noticing that there was sistent reports that a huge airship has desire on his part to tell me more than I been seen in the vicinity of Oakland, Sac- knew, and I could also see that he reramento and San Francisco. THE CALL has contained daily and exclusive accounts of the appearance, and now there me in wonder as to when he would confide everybody has seen. As soon as he told is an avalanche of testimony to the effect anything further to me. Altogether, he that many persons of truthful reputations made about haif a dozen of these visits, have seen something like a huge seraph in the air, spreading its electric pinions and soaring faster than a giant condor of the Andes. So numerous have been the reports that the possibility of aerial navigation is now the absorbing theme of the

There is now a vast amount of corrobo-rative testimony to the effect that there is or as an attorney?' He said, 'As both.' a practical airship affoat in the azure spaces hereabouts, and the meaning of this testimeny has been made clear by the positive statement of Attorney George D. Collins of Alameda that he has a wealthy client who is the inventor of the great aerial ship, and that it will soon be known to the entire world.

night, and the evidence is increasing that him for a little while and succeeded in the same great propeller recently passed assuring him that if such were the case I, through the heavens over Oakland and

The positive testimony of Collins that the airship is a reality has now been signally corroborated by the testimony of thousands of citizens of Sacramento who saw the great ship in the air last night. The sincerity and belief in the practicability following accounts from Oakland and Sac- of his invention. ramento make the matter as clear as ordinary human testimony could do. One of the most interesting of the corrob-

orative stories comes from Thomas Jordan of San Rafael, who states that he found a machine-shop in a mountain fastness some months ago: that six men were working on an airship and that it would soon be completed. In the first day's story of the airship,

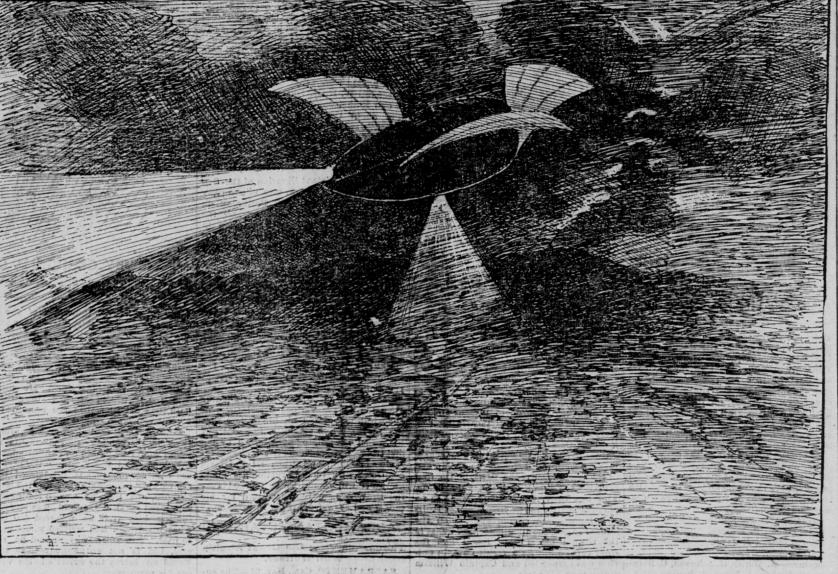
as printed in THE CALL, it was stated that an old hunter named Brown of Bolinas Ridge had seen an airship floating a few hundred feet above the pine trees one morning just as the fogs were lifting from

#### COLLINS' EVIDENCE IN. He Knows the Inventor of the

OAKLAND, CAL., Nov. 22 .- Attorney Collins was the busiest man in Alameda County to-day. During the first part of the day all his efforts were directed to keeping away from the curious throng that wished to talk to him and interview him and try to induce bim to describe and draw pictures of the Oroville millionaire's airship. Not until late in the evening could he be induced to go into the parlor of his home on Union street, Alameda, and tell what he knew of the invention that has startled not only this State, but the entire country.

"A few weeks ago," said Mr. Collins, "I came from Washington, whither I had been on important business. On my arrival in this State I met a gentleman who introduced himself to me, and when I told him where I had been he immediately said he was very sorry that he had not met me prior to my departure, as he had some important business to transact at the Patent Office in Washington which he would not trust in the mail or by any other means than a trusted servant.

"I asked him what his business consisted of, but beyond telling me that he was an inventor, I got no further details from him at that time. He told me enough in an indirect manner to convince me that he was a man who had a secret that he evidently cherished dearly, but he enlightened me no further, and beyond exchanging cards, our acquaintanceship developed nothing more till later. A few days afterward he called on me at my office in San Francisco, but as he did not talk about business, Iconcluded that he had merely paid me a social call. I became greatly interested in that inventon. I



### The Great Airship That Is Startling the People of Many Cities. Drawn From Descriptions of the Inventor's Attorney, George D. Collins.

erty to talk about them. As near as I can recollect the propelling power is produced strained himself from doing so. He called and also produces the light. There is in make his machine perfect. on me a second time, chatted about a few the airship a little motor of sufficient me this I hinted that it would be a good

the East in such manner as not to excite | interfere with the progress of his caveat, | ville in the afternoon, made a straight | tion of a little wavy motion, which progress of his caveat, | ville in the afternoon, made a straight | tion of a little wavy motion, which progress of his caveat, | ville in the afternoon, made a straight | tion of a little wavy motion, which progress of his caveat, | ville in the afternoon, made a straight | tion of a little wavy motion, which progress of his caveat, | ville in the afternoon, made a straight | tion of a little wavy motion, which progress of his caveat, | ville in the afternoon, made a straight | tion of a little wavy motion, which progress of his caveat, | ville in the afternoon, made a straight | tion of a little wavy motion, which progress of his caveat, | ville in the afternoon | ville prise. Now he is not so particular. He nearly all the details, but I am not at lib- has informed me that it is sufficiently adhas informed me that it is sufficiently advanced for him to patent, and that he can On that occasion he made sixty miles in ported he has made the necessary adjusttake out successive patents for any other by compressed air, which works the arms contrivance he may invent in order to there is practically no limit to the speed

power to produce the brilliant light that cently and after the machine had been everybody has seen. As soon as he told seen in various parts of the State. He told me that those fellows were right who made about haif a dozen of these visits, and I concluded that he really did intend refused, saying that publicity at that time mento and were telling the truth. On the

forty-five minutes, but I understand that ment to insure smooth flying. which can be attained, provided the neces-

that the principle of the airship would a most admit of lightning speed, but that conditions that have to be met of course limit its power of resistance.

"I believe, however that in a very short would call attention to his work, would night that it was seen there he left Oro- time it will be able to make three miles in Collins this evening to discuss the merits

and might prove the ruin of his enter- trip to Sacramento, which is about sixty duced the sensation very closely allied to miles, took a few turns over the Capitol, seasickness. This he was confident of preported he has made the necessary adjust-"From every quarter I have received re-

ports during the past few days of this sary machinery is made. I mean by this machine, and although there are many who may still be skeptical regarding what is claimed for it, I thoroughly believe that it is now perfect.

Mitchell, San Francisco, called on Mr.

# LOSS OF THE SAN BENITO

The Steamship Wrecked on the Beach Near Point Arena.

EIGHT MEMBERS OF THE CREW DROWNED.

Eleven Are Rescued and Twenty-Four Still Cling to the Rigging.

FUTILE ATTEMPTS TO EFFECT THEIR RESCUE.

Heavy Seas Break the Vessel in Twain and Sweep Over the Unfortunates.

POINT ARENA, CAL., Nov. 22 .- The Pacific Improvement Company's steel screw steamship San Benito was driven shore two miles north of the Point Arena light by a gale at 1 o'clock this morning. Eight of the crew were lost, eleven reached the shore and the rest, twent-four in number, are clinging to the rigging, swept each minute by the charging surf. The names of the known dead are:

O. W. SCOTT, first assistant engineer. C. CONDON, second assistant engineer M. PENDERGAST, fireman. M. SHERIDAN, messboy.

The steamer struck on the sand beach and after breaking in two the stern swung around and now lies about 500 feet from the beach, stern in shore. The forward part, on which the crew clings, lies broadside to the sea about 100 feet north of the afterpart of the ship and a little farther

Part of the men are in the rigging of the foremast and some are on the wheelhouse. The poor fellows in the rigging can be seen moving up and down in their efforts to keep warm, for they are kept wet by continual clouds of spray dashing upon them, and the cold north wind blowing on them would chill any one not a seaman in a very short time. The latest reports from the wreck are that the men are still hanging on and eagerly watching for the expected tug which they think will surely be sent by the owners of the vessel. The people on shore have built great fires from wood gathered on the beach, so a bright light is cast onto the wreck.

The San Benito, Captain Smith, left Tacoma on Wednesday afternoon with a cisco. It encountered head winds all the way down and the crew did not see land until Saturday. Then a heavy rain fell. They could not see any distance from the ship, but from the log believed they had passed Point Arena.

At 1 o'clock this morning the steamship struck suddenly north of Point Arena lighthouse and immediately blew its whistle for assistance. The surf was very high, seas breaking over the ship, which almost instantly broke in the middle, just back of the smokestack. The crew, in charge of First Assistant Engineer Scott, launched a boat containing nine men; but it was swamped immediately and only four reached the shore, nearly exhausted. Three of the survivors started inland

NEW TO-DAY.



Like an open book, our faces tell the tale of health or suffering and wrong living write their history on our fea-tures in unmistak-able lines. Hollow cheeks and sunken eyes, listless steps and languorous looks tell of wasting debilitating disease some place in the body. It may be one place or another, the cause is

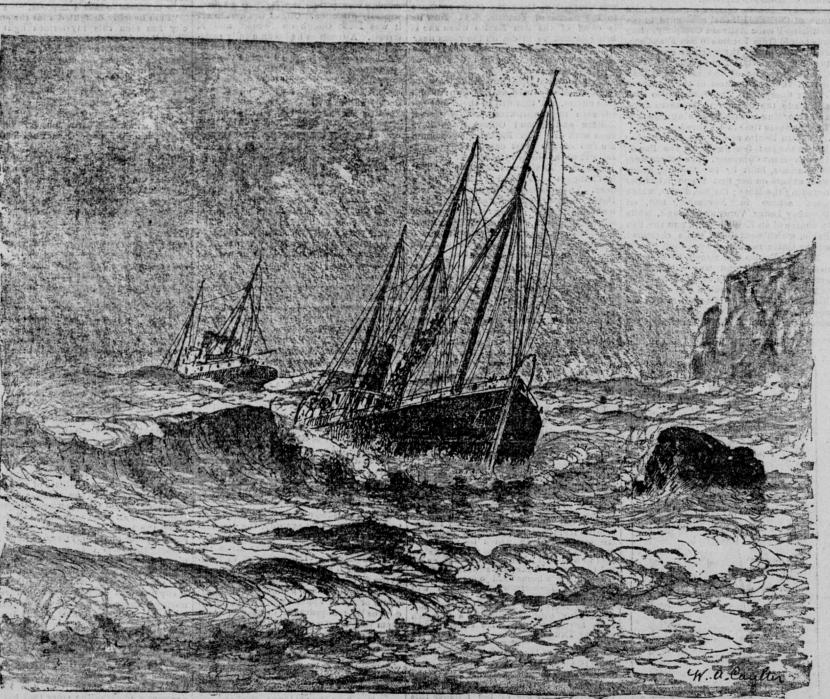
generally traceable to a common source impure blood, and impure blood starts in the digestive organ

That most dreadful diseasetion is what is known as constitutional. It is in the blood. In reality, it is scrofula of the lungs, and it can be cured 98 times in 100 if proper treatment be taken in its early stages. Sending good, clean, pure, rich, wholesome blood continuously through the diseased parts will gradually eradicate the disease. If the medicine taken be strongly purifying, healing and soothing, the cure will be even more rapid.

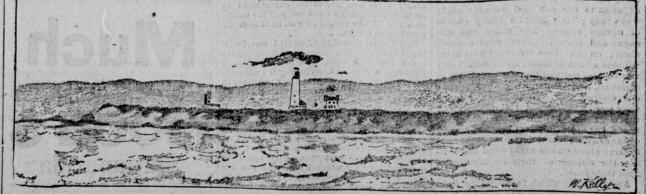
Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery purifies the blood, stimulates digestive purifies the blood, stimulates digestive action, searches out disease-germs wherever they exist and puts the whole body into a vigorous, strong and healthy condition. It builds up solid, useful flesh, rubs out wrinkles, brightens the eyes and makes life really worth living. A big book of 160 pages telling all about it and full of good, sensible health hints, with numerous testimonial letters and with numerous testimonial letters and reproduced photographs and addresses of those cured, will be sent free to any one who sends six cents to cover postage. Address, World's DISPENSARY MEDI-

CAL ASSOCIATION, No. 663 Main Street, CAUTION.—Nothing else urged by a tricky dealer, can be "just as good" for you to buy.

Continued on Second Page.



The Pacific Improvement Company's Steamer San Benito on the Rocks Two Miles North of Point Arena, and the Steam Schooner Point Arena Standing On and Off Ready to Lend Assistance. Chief Engineer Wood and Five Men Reached the Steam Schooner, but Captain Smith and 27 Men Had to Take to the Rigging of the San Benito. This Sketch Was Drawn From a Telegraphic Description of the Scene. Since Then, However, the Vessel Has Broken in Two.



The Point Arena Lighthouse, Near Which the Steamship San Benito Was Wrecked.

two minutes, and the inventor tells me, of the new invention. Mr. Mitchell had that more is possible. the idea when he called that Mr. Collins

"The machine did pass over Oakland last Friday night. The inventor came from Oroville and descended near Haywards. I do not know where the machine is now, but I think all day yesterday it remained where it descended. The inventor is making trips every night and has been doing so for over two weeks, and any hight the people look in the sky they are likely to see him. A week ago he told me

The New Champagne Vintage. By its remarkable quality and dryness, without being heavy, the splendid new vintage of G H. Mumm's Extra Dry now being imported is creating a sensation. It should be tasted to be fully appreciated.

that it was nearly perfect, with the excep-

had the inventor hidden in his house for the purpose of keeping him from the pub-Mr. Collins, how ver, denied this and said that he could not really give any information of the inventor's whereabouts. "I have no doubt," said Mr. Collins,

that if the night is at all pleasant the inventor is in his machine about half a mile over the earth startling some of the inhabitants of this State. To-morrov morning's papers may possibly inform ou where he was at this time. I believe he has gone home, and if he has he certainly flew there.'

Then Mr. Mitchell became very definite.