

That Balloon

19th century balloon flights in Winnsboro

You may not have realized it, but Winnsboro was once a hotbed of early aviation activity. Several early balloon flights took place in the Town. Read on:

The following articles were published in 1873 in the News and Herald.

The Prof. Wise cited was living in New York and trying to fly to Europe in a balloon.

July 16, 1873 Issue of the News and Herald

Balloon Ascension.

It was rumored on the streets Thursday that Mr. Dannenburg was constructing another balloon. That evening by six o'clock, quite a crowd of juveniles had assembled before Landecker's store, anxiously awaiting the ascension. At precisely seven o'clock the balloon appeared on the scene, escorted by a guard of honor composed of the elites of Winnsboro.

The procession was brought up in the near by the local and several small boys, and the usual complement of dogs.

The place fixed upon for the ascension was the site of the old "Odd Fellow's Building".

A fire was kindled and a stove pipe inserted in the balloon. As she gradually filled, intense excitement was manifested by "the boys," while a few curs howled their appreciation. The word was given and off she went.

But she sprang a leak

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