

21. Saturday afternoon the large and elegant Air Balloon lately brought to this city by the ingenious Mr. Carnes was let off from the New Workhouse Yard. About six o'clock it rose from the ground, and ascended very majestically, amidst the approving acclamations of thousands of admiring spectators, (the wind carrying it slowly to the southward) until it got to so great an height as to appear to some no larger than a barrel, to others much smaller, and seemed then stationary, though rather inclining upward, when unfortunately it caught fire, and in a few moments was reduced to atoms. The stove or furnace, which was affixed to supply it with the proper air, fell near the New Playhouse.

At the moment of its catching fire the feelings of a number of people at a distance were much hurt, on the supposition of a person having gone up with the balloon: and their apprehensions were increased by the falling of the furnace, which, to those not near, presented to their imaginations the dreadful spectacle of a man falling from an immense height. Happily, however, the apparatus which held the person broke near the ground and he only sustained a fall of about ten feet; when, had he gone up with the machine, he must, in all probability, have fallen as many hundred feet.