

Dr

On my first connection with the College
in 1801, I was given to understand by the College Council
that it was highly probable, ~~even~~ almost ~~more~~ ^{than} ~~certain~~, ~~that~~ the Hon^{ble} Language, ~~would~~
use of, that Gov^t would purchase my Apparatus
for the use of the College, with this ⁱⁿ view and
to render the Appr more complete I ordered an
investment of Instruments from London, to the am^t
of about 300 pounds Sterl. - For four years past

I have been constantly employed in giving
~~Alternate~~ courses of Lectures on Natural Philosophy and
Chemistry ~~alternately~~, with ^{occasional lectures} two short courses
on some branches of Natural History and ^{the} ~~ancient~~
and modern art of war. Besides these I have
~~seasonally~~ given Lectures in Mathematics, to
such Students as wished for them.

— This (day) the grand English Air Balloon
constructed by M. Linnardist a Neapolitan
by birth and Secretary to the Ambassador of
that Kingdom, was filled by Coctw. Foudye
and launched from the Artillery ground
at two o'clock. The Balloon was made
of silk the same of yours, and nearly
spherical, the pieces were green, red and
straw coloured alternately. The Diameter
was 33 feet but the Balloon ^{much more} was not
than half filled. Its power of ascension when full
was computed at 200 Lib, but when they
came to try it, they found its tendency
upwards so far short of their calculation,
that a Mr. Piggam, who was to have gone
up with M. Linnardist was not only obliged
to resign his seat, but it was also found
necessary to affix a lighter gallery to
the Balloon before M. Linnardist could
ascend.

At ten he arose amidst the acclamations
of half a million of Spectators. It blew
what the sailors call a fresh breeze
breeze. The first Direction the Balloon took
was nearly due west. After rising or near
as I well estimate to the height of half
a mile it became apparently stationary,
for some minutes but upon Mr Linnæus
throwing out a bag of sand part of his
ballast, the Balloon ascended to a much
greater height, and now got into different
current which carried it almost directly
north. In this Direction it continued until
I lost sight of it which was at a quarter
of ten. Linnæus rose to an amazing
height and seemed very lightly loaded
carrying with him only one great
coat. The Doctor in filling the Balloon
followed nearly your plan. The weight
of six white hogheads. His water ^{weight} ~~weight~~ was

eight feet high and about five or six
feet, and instead of iron he made use of
The method of letting out the inflation
was by a silk rope which hung from the
top of the balloon and was raised by a line
in the same manner as you supply fresh
air to the Diving Bell. It was as likely
that it continued to blow fresh to the
westward while the Balloon at least than
a mile in height was carried by another
current to the westward. I long to hear of
Linnæus's fate. I have got to tell you that
he carried with him two pairs of ears
one to be wrought vertically, the other
horizontally. I always considered these
as only intended to amuse the spectators
and the result showed it, for he had not
ascended 200 feet before he dropped his largest
ears finding them not only useless but
in all probability dangerous. I have
heard of his return to the Earth.