

WOMAN MAKES THRILLING BUT UNEXPECTED TRIP THROUGH AIR

Balloon Anchor Catches Female Spectator by Heel and Carries Her Aloft--Is Saved by Aeronaut.

Middleton, N. Y.—Hanging head downward from a rapidly ascending balloon, Mrs. Roper, of Brooklyn, a spectator at a balloon ascension at Ellenville, was carried nearly a thousand feet into the air the other afternoon.



The Balloon Rose Rapidly Carrying Miss Roper Head Downward.

several weeks ago by making a balloon ascension on a dare. Since then she has made six ascensions successfully. An immense crowd had gathered around the balloon at three o'clock in the afternoon, the balloon was fully inflated, and Miss Dailey was sitting on the tapeze. Her manager, Charles Williams, begged the crowd to stand back so as to allow the balloon to be cast off. Finally he gave the word, and the guy ropes were loosened. One of the ropes whirled into the crowd and the loop caught about Mrs. Roper. The balloon rose rapidly, carrying Mrs. Roper swinging head downward from the rope, and Miss Dailey sitting on the tapeze. Mrs. Roper gave one shriek of fright and then was still, having fainted.

The crowd was stricken dumb by the occurrence, but Manager Williams kept his head and shouted to Miss Dailey not to cut loose in her parachute. The latter understood and was apparently cool. The guy rope, which was fastened around Mrs. Roper's leg, hung from the top of the balloon, and she swung by Miss Dailey, describing great areas in the air. The crowd below was frantic, women fainted, and men shouted themselves hoarse. There was a stiff south wind, and the gas bag was carried rapidly northward.

Soon Miss Dailey was seen trying to grasp Mrs. Roper as the latter swung by her. She finally succeeded in getting hold of Mrs. Roper's hair. Then it was seen that the balloon was descending. The crowd rushed madly in the direction of the balloon. Men, women and children climbed fences and rushed wildly through the fields and woods. Miss Dailey, still holding Mrs. Roper by the hair, leaped from the balloon with her when it was a few feet from the ground. She succeeded in throwing off the rope when the balloon again soared into the clouds and was lost to view.

Mrs. Roper was carried to the home of Dr. Alice Divine, where after some time she recovered consciousness. Her injuries consist of a broken hand and many cuts and bruises.

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Middleton, N. Y.—Hanging head downward from a rapidly ascending balloon, Mrs. Roper, of Brooklyn, a spectator at a balloon ascension at Ellenville, was carried nearly a thousand feet into the air the other afternoon while 10,000 horror stricken people expected to see her dashed to death every moment.

The occasion was the Ulster county fair, and a large crowd had been attracted by the announcement that Miss Maggie Dailey, an amateur aeronaut of this city, would make an ascension. Miss Dailey leaped into fame several weeks ago by making a balloon ascension on a dare. Since then she has made six ascensions successfully.

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**Nina Postupack
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Farmers & Physicians:

**Uncommon
Occupations for
Women in the Early
20th Century**



**An Exhibit from the
Ulster County Archives**

*On display at the
Ellenville Public Library
& Museum*

Courtesy of

**Nina Postupack
Ulster County Clerk**

2017

More women in Ulster County were farmers and physicians than what we could display in this one exhibit. Listed here, along with the women featured in the exhibit, are some of the other women we found during our research who held these professions. They were all “Women of Note” in their own ways and contributed greatly to their communities and our history.

According to Ulster County census data, there were only 4 women physicians in 1905 and only 5 by 1915. This means that approximately 5% of doctors or physicians in Ulster County between 1905 and 1915 were women. By contrast, the nursing field was dominated by women. In 1915, 177 out of 187, or about 95%, of Ulster County nurses were women.

Women farm owners numbered higher than physicians, but were still only about 2% of all farmers listed in the 1905 and 1915 censuses. Approximately 130 to 160 women listed farming as their profession out of the 7,000 to 7,200 farmers in the census records for those years.

Farmers

Laura T. H. Varick
Locust Lawn, Gardiner

Theresa Rosenberg
Grand View House, Wawarsing

Luella Pierce
Lofin Dell Farm, Lloyd

Emma Cudney
Ginseng Farm, Olive

Jane Crosby Teller
Watson Hollow Farm, Olive

Fannie Benkendorf
Hill Top Acres Farm, Wawarsing

Adele Ebtinger
Maywood Farm, Rosendale

Marguerite L. Prindle
Grey Knolls Farm, New Paltz

Bertha S. Miller
Capstone Farm, Marbletown

Ruth M. Bratt & Edythe G. Bratt
Pine Grove Farm, Saugerties

Nana Sigourney
Bushkill Farm, Olive

Irene G. Breuchaud
High Point Springs Farm, Olive

Amelia M. Van Syckle
Sunnyside Farm, New Paltz

Jane E. B. Griffin
Stonycroft Farm, Lloyd

Physicians

Alice Divine
of Ellenville
Cornell University 1900

Clara Barrus
of West Park
Barton University 1888

Mary Gage Day
of Kingston
University of Michigan 1888

Mary Harley
of Wawarsing
Women’s Medical College 1894

Emilie Caroline Schirmer
of Oliveria
University of the State of NY 1900

Ebba E. A. Dederer
of Kingston
Cornell University 1907

Ethel Clarissa Russell
of New Paltz
University of the State of NY 1919

Emeline H. Maclean-Thomson
University of the State of NY 1902

Henrietta Johnson
of Kingston

Elizabeth S. Curry
of Kingston

Mary R. Bessell
of Marlborough

Thank you for your interest in the exhibit, *Farmers & Physicians: Uncommon Occupations for Women in the Early 20th Century*. I am honored to collaborate with the Ellenville Public Library and Museum by providing records from the Ulster County Archives. This exhibit coincides with the opening of the exhibit, *Woman of Note*. As you look through the exhibit, you will find records from the Archives that highlight hardworking local women in the early 20th century.

On display you will see Deeds, Farm Registries, Ashokan Reservoir Case Transcripts, Maps, Physician Registries, and Census Data from the 1905 and 1915 Ulster County Census records.

It is my hope that you enjoy the exhibit and that it encourages you to learn more about the amazing women in Ulster County’s history!

Nina Postupack
Ulster County Clerk