

M0010326: Contemporary engraving of Blanchard's Balloon Ascent 1784

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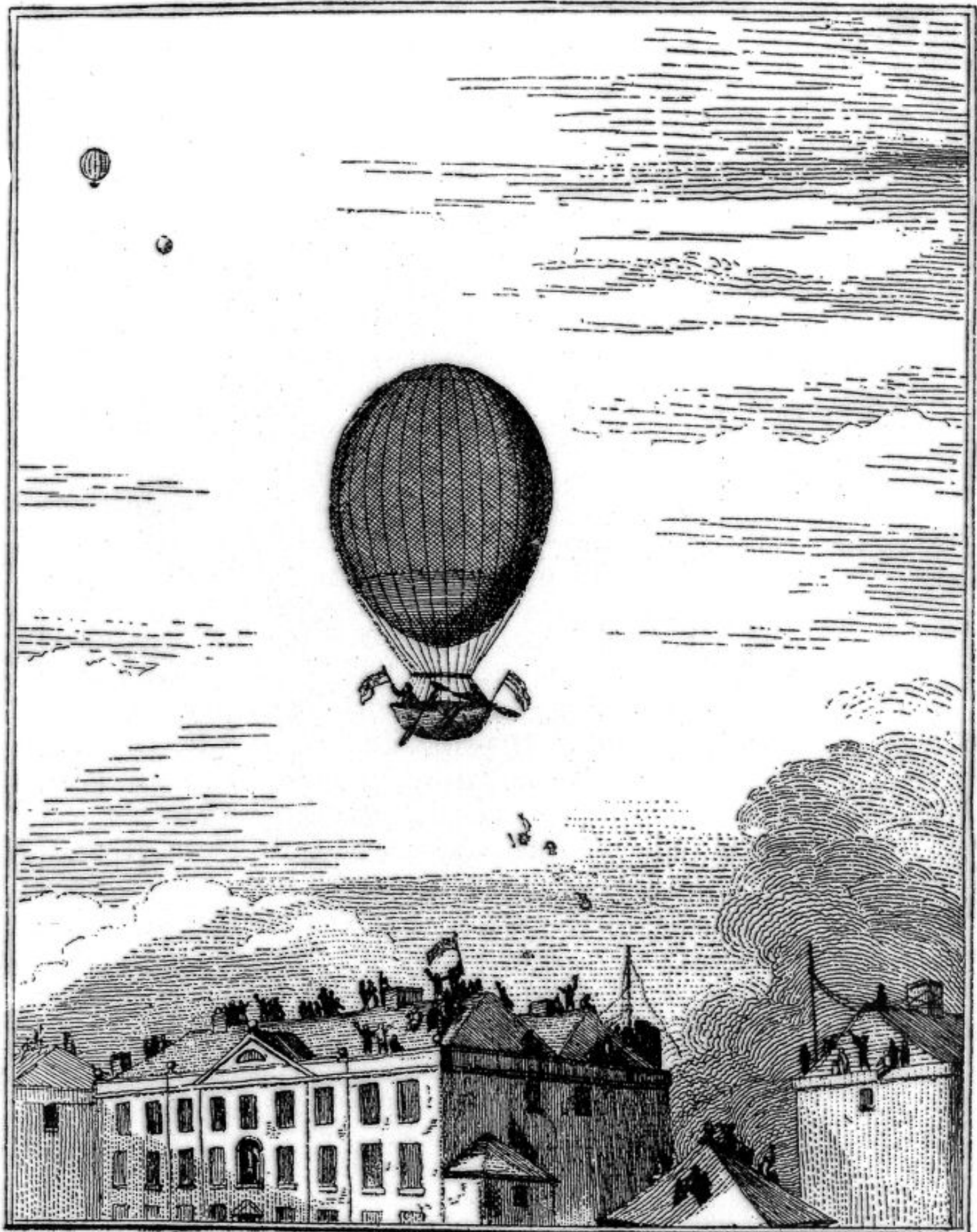
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GRAND AEROSTATIC BALLOON.

on which M. Blanchard, on Sat. Oct. 16. 1784, ascended from the Royal Military Academy at Little Chuteau, a fourth Time into the Atmosphere, accompanied by the ingenious M. Pillet, at Ten Minutes after Twelve, the two gallant adventurers preceded by two small Balloons as signals, after taking leave of their generous Host & a numerous circle of Nobility & Friends, arose with the most majestic grandeur & wafted by the prayers & plaudits of upwards of Four Hundred Thousand spectators in Eighteen Minutes were lost in Aether after a number of astonishing manœuvres & Evolutions the Travellers made a stop at Salisbury, where for the repairing the Machine the gallant Pillet (voluntarily) descended & left his friend to pursue alone his Journey through the trackless void, who after passing over Guildford Farnham &c. about 3 o'clock in the afternoon finding the day too far spent to cross the Channel to Bristol, after hovering a considerable Time over Bournemouth the Sea of Wight &c. &c. alighted at Rumsay near Southampton and amidst universal acclamations finished by for the next extraordinary Journey was performed by a culinary boy.

Fig. 45.