

was contributing to the comfort of those who came to do honor to her native city through the Lancaster Fencibles. She would always revert to that occasion with feelings of gratification and joy; and whenever she recalled this mark of esteem from her visitors, it would be to remember with gratitude "her friends and pitcher."

The company retired to the dinner table, where in reply to a toast from Captain Findlay in favor of "our friends and pitcher," Mr. J. J. Snyder, of Baltimore, "made some very neat and eloquent remarks delivered in a very handsome manner." He concluded by toasting "Lancaster County, the Eden Spot of Pennsylvania." This was briefly responded to by a member of the Lancaster committee.

It would be interesting to know what became of this pitcher. If it is still preserved, it should have an honored place in Lancaster's museum, when that fire-proof structure is erected.

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## THE ALLENTOWN FIRE

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON Thursday, June 1st, 1848, a destructive fire visited Allentown, Pa., and left it in a deplorable condition. The fire started about three o'clock in the afternoon, and, owing to a southeasterly wind, the flames spread with rapidity. Three hours later, the progress of the fire was arrested. The loss was estimated at about \$250,000. More than forty families were rendered homeless.

Pursuant to public notice, a meeting of citizens of Lancaster was held in the court house on Tuesday evening, June 13th. Hon. Ellis Lewis was called to the chair. Mayor Michael Carpenter was appointed vice-president and treasurer, and George B. Withers and E. W. Hutter, secretaries.<sup>1</sup> Judge Lewis stated the object of the meeting, and read a circular from a committee appointed by the citizens of Allentown, detailing the extent of the calamity that had overwhelmed them.

E. W. Hutter proposed the following resolutions, which were

<sup>1</sup> Lancaster Examiner and Herald, Wednesday, June 21st, 1848.

seconded, with appropriate remarks, by the Hon. Alexander Laws Hayes and George M. Steinman and unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, we learn with profound sorrow, that the inhabitants of Allentown, the flourishing capital of Lehigh county, in this State, have recently been visited by a conflagration, which in the brief space of two hours laid waste the fairest portion of the town, destroyed more than one-fourth of the value of all its assessed real and personal property, and plunged entire families from the heights of affluence to the depths of want, be it, therefore,

"Resolved, That the people of Lancaster heartily sympathise with the unfortunate sufferers in their deep affliction, and deem it one of their Christian obligations to make a general public effort to contribute in some degree to the mitigation of their losses.

"Resolved, That to this end we invoke the united and hearty cooperation of those in the different towns and townships of Lancaster county, who are blessed in their basket and their store, not knowing in what hour a similar catastrophe may befall them, appealing to the public sympathies."

The following committees were appointed by the officers of the meeting to solicit contributions: North-west ward, Michael McGrann, Peter McConomy, Godfried Zahm, Jacob Weaver; south-west ward, John P. Myer, Hugh Fitzpatrick, David Lebkicher, James Black; north-east ward, William Frick, George B. Withers; south-east ward, Christian Kieffer, John F. Shroder, Walter G. Evans, Neal Lagan; Bart township, Samuel Slocum, William W. Withers; Brecknock township, Dr. J. B. Hauer, Richard Davis; Carnarvon township, E. D. White, Andrew Robinson; West Cocalico township, D. B. Eberly, Samuel M. Shirk; East Cocalico township, John Echternach, Col. A. Ream; Colerain township, A. D. Whiteside, Hugh Andrews; Columbia borough, John Barr, Samuel Shoch; Conestoga township, Adam Kendig, Benjamin Urban; Canoy township, J. G. Hamilton, Frederick Hipple; East Donegal township, John Kolp, J. Cassel; West Donegal township, Samuel Bosler, B. F. Bear; Drumore township, Sanders McCulloch, A. E. Ewing; Earl township, Dr. I. L. Winters, A. E. Roberts; West Earl township, Samuel Boozer, Isaac Firestein; Elizabeth township, Christian Bentz, Samuel Eberle; Elizabethtown borough, A. Redsecker, A. Greenawalt; Ephrata borough, Peter Martin, Jer. Bowman; Fulton township, Jer. Brown, Jr., E. C. Stanford; East Hempfield township, Dr. T. Ellmaker, John Davis; West Hempfield township, Dr. A. K. Rohrer, D. W. Witmer; Lancaster township, Andrew Dunlap, J. M. Frantz; Leacock township, Joel

L. Lightner, H. A. Lechler; Upper Leacock township, Jacob Holl, Benjamin Rohrer; Little Britain township, James Patterson, J. K. White; Manor township, George G. Brush, John Brady; Marietta borough, Jacob Grosh, J. J. Libhart; Martic township, David Laird, Marris Hoopes; Mount Joy borough, James Laird, William Patterson; Paradise township, T. McSorley, N. E. Slaymaker; Penn township, Charles Stork, Abraham Kauffman; Sadsbury township, Andrew Armstrong, George Whitson; Salisbury township, S. J. Henderson, R. Baldwin; Strasburg borough, Joseph Potts, S. P. Bower; Strasburg township, J. Neff, Jr., C. H. Lefever; Warwick township, Peter Felies, Col. George P. Geyer; Washington borough, Dr. A. Bitner, D. Urban.

In the Lancaster Intelligencer of Tuesday, August 22nd, 1848, appeared a partial list of contributions, as follows:

Collected in North-west Ward, Lancaster city, .....	\$106.00
" " Southwest " " " .....	134.60
" " North-east " " " .....	87.37½
" " South-east " " " .....	18.75
" " Strasburg borough .....	25.56½
" " East Cocalico township .....	14.37½
" " Upper Leacock " .....	15.25
" " Fulton " .....	11.00
" " Martic " .....	4.25
Private contributions .....	2.00
	<hr/>
	\$419.16½
Forwarded by check and receipt obtained .....	376.72½
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Balance in hands of treasurer .....	\$ 42.44

Mayor Michael Carpenter, treasurer of the fund, promised to furnish the editor of the paper with a complete list of subscriptions when all the money was received. Subsequent issues of local papers do not contain such a list.

## A RELIGIOUS RIOT IN LANCASTER

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**C**HURCH unity is a subject in which progressive clergymen and earnest laymen in this modern day are vitally interested. No longer do the several religious denominations antagonize one another, as a rule, over mere trifles of doubtful value. Their efforts,

generally, are spent in seeking to advance the cause of Christ and His Church, and in assisting struggling humanity rather than wasting their activities by engaging in theological disputations of little consequence.

Harmony and brotherly love, however, were not always maintained among the religious sects in old Lancaster. Less than one hundred years ago a disgraceful disturbance or riot occurred in Zion German Lutheran church this city, the cause of which, as we look back through the mists of nearly a century, seems childish and unwarranted.

The Examiner and Herald of Thursday, January 29th, 1835, contained the following account of the event, which occurred on Saturday evening, January 17th:

“The vestry or board of trustees of the church which was the scene of the outrage in question, had previously (in October last, if we mistake not) stipulated with the Universalists (who are without a building of their own in Lancaster) for a certain pecuniary compensation, to have preaching by one of their own denomination at certain stated periods. Upon the strength of their contract with the vestry, the Universalists had for several weeks announced in the public prints, that Universalist discourses would be delivered in the English language on the evenings of the 17th, 18th and 19th instant by the Rev. Mr. Rogers, a clergyman of Susquehanna county, to be brought hither for the purpose. On the evening first mentioned, at the hour advertised, when a very large congregation, male and female, was peaceably assembling, the church was taken possession of by an evidently organized band of individuals. A most disgraceful riot forthwith ensued, in the course of which the lights were extinguished, volleys of brickbats and other offensive missiles hurled from all quarters, and blows dealt with clubs and bludgeons. Several individuals were severely hurt—one of the vestry, in particular, had his head much injured by the discharge of brickbats, etc. It is needless to add that the congregation was forced to disperse, and that the intended services could not possibly be proceeded with. The mayor and police officers were speedily on the ground, and, by their active and energetic interference, succeeded in arresting the progress of

further violence. On the two following evenings, no recurrence of a similar disturbance was attempted.

“We have heard various pretenses assigned for the commission of this truly disgraceful outrage, an outrage which inflicts discredit on all concerned, but have understood that the principal ground assumed of defense or exculpation is, that the charter of the church does not permit English preaching, and that as the introduction of a clergyman to deliver an English sermon was a violation of the provisions of that instrument, the preventive proceedings resorted to were justifiable.”

A number of the rioters were arrested.

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## AID GIVEN TO NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH IN THE YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC OF 1855

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**I**N the summer of 1855, the scourge of yellow fever was epidemic in Norfolk and Portsmouth, Virginia. Business was paralyzed, much suffering ensued from a lack of nurses, and many inhabitants died. Subscriptions for the relief of sufferers were solicited in the principal cities of the country.

Lancaster city and county, never behind in deeds of mercy and charity, responded to the call for assistance from the afflicted inhabitants of the two Virginia towns. A meeting of citizens of Lancaster was held on Tuesday evening, September 11th, 1855, in the city hall, for the purpose of securing funds to aid the unfortunates. Mayor Jacob Albright was called to the chair, and Francis H. Carpenter was appointed secretary.<sup>1</sup>

Committees were appointed to solicit subscriptions as follows: North-east ward, Charles M. Howell, Esq., John Wise, Esq., Abm. W. Russell; south-east ward, Charles W. Cooper, David Bair, Hugh S. Gara; south-west ward, Col. William S. Amweg, Carpenter McCleery, Esq., Peter G. Eberman, Esq.; north-west ward, Capt. J. H. Duchman, Dr. J. Miller, Dr. J. H. Longenecker, Lewis Haldy.

<sup>1</sup> Lancaster Examiner and Herald, Wednesday, September 12th, 1855.