

ASSOCIATIONS FOR THE DETECTION OF HORSE THIEVES

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

A MEETING of inhabitants of Strasburg, Leacock and Lampeter townships was held on Saturday, November 9th, 1811, at the house of David Witmer, for the purpose of taking into consideration the wisdom of forming an association for the detection of horse thieves. David Witmer was called to the chair, and John Lightner, Jr., was appointed secretary. Those present were asked to pledge themselves, individually, to assist in the capture and prosecution of all persons guilty of horse stealing, or any other theft upon a member of the association. A meeting was called for Saturday, November 23rd, at which time rules and regulations for the government of the association were to be adopted.¹

Ten years later, a meeting of inhabitants of East Hempfield township was held at John Hatz's tavern, in Lancaster city, for a similar purpose—that of taking into consideration the question of forming an association for the prevention of horse stealing. John Huber was appointed chairman, and Christian Eggert, secretary.

A committee was appointed to draft by-laws and regulations for the association. It consisted of the following persons: John Johns, Jacob Hostetter, Henry Bare, John Huber, Andrew Kauffman, Jacob Kinsh, Christian Eggert, Daniel Grosh, Benjamin Bare, Henry Lichty, Michael Seitz and Henry Mayer.

The meeting adjourned to meet on Saturday, September 15th, 1821, at Jacob White's tavern, in East Hempfield township.

The Lancaster Journal of Friday, June 21st, 1822, contained the following announcement, under the heading, "Association to Detect Horse Thieves and House Breakers:"

"The following citizens have for some time past associated themselves, for the above laudable purpose, in the township of Warwick, Lancaster county, Pa. All persons wishing to become members thereof, will please call on Abraham Gipple, secretary of the association, in order that their names may be entered."

¹ Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser, Saturday, November 16th, 1811.

² Lancaster Journal, Friday, September 7th, 1821.

The officers were: President, George Dutt; secretary, Abraham Gipple; treasurer, Abraham Reist. The members were: Christian Summy, Samuel Longenecker, John Capp, John Long, Abraham Reist, Jr., David Kauffman, John Summy, Jr., Christian Stoner, Henry Becker, John Summy, Sr., Samuel Slott, Jacob Wolf, Jr., David Summy, Lewis Becker, John Hershy, Jacob Summy, John Metz, Jacob Newcomer, Andrew Kemmerer, Jacob Snebely, Jr., and John Spickler, Sr.

PUBLIC-HOUSE KEEPERS IN LANCASTER COUNTY IN 1772

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

IN The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, there is preserved a list of tavern-keepers who applied to the Lancaster county court in August, 1772, for licenses to conduct public houses.¹ One hundred and thirty-nine applied; thirty-two were for taverns in Lancaster borough, and the remaining one hundred and seven were scattered throughout the county. Lancaster county in 1772 embraced all the territory now included in Dauphin and Lebanon counties, as these counties were not erected until 1785 and 1816, respectively, and were formed out of a part of Lancaster county. Five of the applicants were women.

The names are as follows: *Lancaster Borough*, Matthias Slough, Adam Reigart, John Feltman, Lodwick Stone, Christian Voght, Philip Graffort, Laughlan McCartney, Michael Diffendorfer, Stephen Martin, George Hoofnagle, Martin Lowman, John Hagenswiller, John Eppele, Peter Walter, William Ross, Christopher Breidenhart, James Davison, George Strehley, Philip Baker, John Cross, Henry Rankin, George Widele, Godfried Kline, Frederick Glasser, Christopher Reigart, Robert Davinson, John Massencop, Christian Zorn, Rosina Kneyer, John Jourdan, Henry Gross and George Bealer; *Bart Township*, Robert Thompson; *Bethel Township*, John Brown, Peter Mourer, Charles Shade and Henry Sowerder; *Caernarvon Township*, Edward Hughes and John Martin; *Cocalico Township*, Henry Miller, Michael Witman, Mathias Kam-

¹ Miscellaneous Papers, 1772-1816, Lancaster County, Vol. 2, page 5.