

# FLAG PRESENTED TO LANCASTER FENCIBLES IN 1842

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**T**HE Intelligencer and Journal of Tuesday, May 10th, 1842, announced that the Lancaster Fencibles, a local infantry company commanded by Captain John K. Findlay, intended participating in a military encampment to be held at Baltimore, Md., where a prize—a handsome flag—would be presented to the best drilled and most orderly company of soldiers. Naturally, it was hoped in home circles that the Fencibles would be awarded the prize.

In the succeeding issue of the paper, it was stated that the Fencibles had started for Baltimore on Monday, May 16th. The members of the company were handsomely equipped, and made a fine appearance. They were escorted to the railroad station by the Jackson Riflemen and Washington Artillery. Public interest in the competition was keen, and it was felt by all that the Lancaster representatives deserved to be successful.

The Intelligencer and Journal of Tuesday, May 31st, 1842, contained the following:

## “RETURN OF THE LANCASTER FENCIBLES.

“Captain Findlay’s company, the Lancaster Fencibles, after having been a week absent at the Baltimore encampment, returned home on Tuesday evening last, in the afternoon train from Columbia. The Fencibles were escorted into the city by Captain Ham-bright’s excellent Riflemen, and Captain Mosher’s Artillery, and by crowds of their fellow-citizens. The streets were filled with people, and the windows on all sides were gay with ladies smiling their welcome. A reception like this has never before been known under similar circumstances in this city.

“The Fencibles did not return home with the prize flag. This created general surprise and disappointment. Every citizen of Lancaster believed that the Fencibles would be formidable competitors for this ‘reward of merit;’ and when they heard their own opinions

confirmed by the people of Baltimore, the great majority of the volunteers in the encampment, the regular army officers who were daily observing the movements of the Fencibles, and, also, when they saw the public press in all quarters endorsing these not-to-be-mistaken expressions, they felt sure that the judgment they had so often passed upon the Fencibles was good, and that they would return home with the flag. Every one knows that they were disappointed. The flag was awarded to the Baltimore Cadets.

“Yet, when the Fencibles entered this city on their return, their bearing was not that of the vanquished. Never have we been more impressed with the superior ability of that admirable company than on witnessing their firm step and well-ordered and compact ranks, and (notwithstanding the fatigue of the camp and the journey, and the badness of the roads) their soldierly appearance on Tuesday last. If they did not come back with *the trophy* they certainly returned with *the victory*. If they did not happen to be fortunate enough to receive the decree of the committee, they certainly succeeded in securing the favorable and enthusiastic judgment of the people of Baltimore, of their companions in arms, and of all those (save the committee who bestowed the flag) who made pretensions to military knowledge. That they did not succeed in securing the flag has astonished all in Baltimore, where at least it cannot be denied that the people were disinterested. The public disappointment is very great among the citizens as well as among the citizen soldiery. There the Fencibles were tried upon their bare merits, at least so far as the people, the majority of the volunteers in camp, and other judges of military skill were concerned. The ability of the Fencibles in all the lessons of the drill, their deportment on and off duty, their strict obedience to camp orders, their fidelity while standing guard, and their devotion to discipline in laying out in all weathers—all this was witnessed, in connection with the other volunteers in camp; and never before have we known a more unanimous sentiment on any subject than the opinions thus formed. We are right in saying that the citizens and soldiers of Baltimore, with a few exceptions, concur in believing that the Fencibles were entitled to the flag. They have already given most decided evidences of this. And we are also right in declaring that every stranger, whether citizen or citizen-soldier,

present at the encampment, concurred likewise in awarding the palm to the Fencibles. That the committee chose to think differently, all unite in believing to be most extraordinary.

“The citizens of Baltimore, in the steps which they took subsequent to the decision of the committee, have nobly vindicated the high character they have always sustained, and we honor and thank them for it. Hospitable and intelligent as they are known to be, they have thus proven that even the act of a few of their own citizens cannot prevent them from being *just*. The feeling in favor of the Fencibles has become general; and the citizens, aided by a large majority of the volunteers present at the Baltimore encampment, are now preparing a splendid flag to be presented to that admirable corps. This delicate and appropriate mark of the opinions of the citizens and the citizen soldiery of Baltimore, is to be sent to this city by a committee, escorted by two of the best volunteer companies of that city. This demonstration is highly and warmly appreciated by the people of Lancaster; and they will long remember their fellow-citizens of Baltimore with grateful and enthusiastic hearts.”

The Baltimore Clipper of Wednesday, May 25th, 1842, contained the following:

#### “LANCASTER FENCIBLES.

“Agreeably to public notice this admirably drilled company paraded in Monument Square [Baltimore] yesterday morning at six o'clock, and went through various military evolutions with an exactness and precision which exhibited a high state of discipline. The numerous spectators were enthusiastic in their admiration of the company's performance, and the feeling was manifest to afford the company some testimonial of the gratification received. Between seven and eight o'clock the company was marched into the City hotel, to breakfast by invitation of the venerable and hospitable host, our respected friend David Barnum, who spread before his guests a bountiful supply of what could delight the eye and please the taste.

“After breakfast, the company was again formed, and, at the request of a number of ladies who had not witnessed their previous exercises, repeated them. There was then a spontaneous

movement amongst the citizens present, and a committee was appointed to proffer the compliment of a flag on behalf of the citizens of Baltimore, as an evidence of their high respect for Capt. Findlay, his officers and men. The committee having been introduced by Col. James O. Law, to Captain Findlay, Mr. Barnes, as chairman, delivered a short address to Capt. Findlay expressive of the satisfaction which the committee felt in being deputed by the citizens present to tender to the Lancaster Fencibles a flag, as a testimonial of the high estimation in which the citizens held that company. To which Captain Findlay made a brief and appropriate reply, returning the thanks of himself and company for the kindness and hospitality which they had experienced since their arrival in Baltimore, and assuring the committee that the flag would be received by the company with gratitude for the kind feelings which it manifested. He requested that the committee would convey to the citizens of Baltimore the acknowledgments of himself and company for this and other exhibitions of their friendly regard, etc. The whole was the result of sudden impulse, and was therefore the more honorable to the company than if there had been premeditation on the part of the citizens.

“Shortly after this ceremony, the company, escorted by Col. Law and officers of the Independent Grays, marched to the depot of the Baltimore and Susquehanna railroad, where, after an interchange of civilities and adieus, they departed in the cars, receiving three hearty cheers from the spectators, which they returned with great spirit.

“A company escort to the Lancaster Fencibles was tendered but declined, on the ground that it was unnecessary to call out men who had just returned from the fatiguing duties of the camp.”

A meeting of the contributors to the fund for procuring a flag to be presented on the part of the citizens of Baltimore to the Lancaster Fencibles, was held in Union Hall in Baltimore on Thursday, May 26th.<sup>1</sup> Samuel Barnes was appointed chairman; Henry Snyder, secretary, and Eli Lewis, treasurer. A committee of seven was appointed to arrange for the making of a flag, which was to be ready for delivery on the Fourth of July.

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<sup>1</sup> Intelligencer and Journal, Tuesday, May 31st, 1842.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of citizens of Lancaster was held at the Mechanics' Institute on Saturday evening, May 28th, for the purpose of making arrangements to receive and entertain the committee and escort from the people of Baltimore. Christian Bachman, Esq., was called to the chair, George Withers, Esq., John Shaffner, Col. Reah Frazer and Col. Joseph Mosher were appointed vice-presidents, and Luther Richards and John W. Forney secretaries.

The president having stated the object of the meeting, John L. Thompson, Esq., addressed the audience with great eloquence and effect, and much to the satisfaction of those present.

John W. Forney offered a number of resolutions which were unanimously adopted in which he expressed the appreciation of the people of Lancaster for the compliments which had been passed upon their ability as soldiers and their deportment as men. He stated that the volunteers of Baltimore intended presenting the Fencibles with a flag as a testimonial of their admiration for that company; that the Independent Grays, commanded by Captain Law and the National Guard commanded by Captain Presstman, of Baltimore, had volunteered to escort the committee bearing the flag to Lancaster; and that the hospitalities of the city of Lancaster were to be tendered to the Baltimoreans, and the people of Lancaster were glad of the opportunity to reciprocate through these two companies the kind and generous conduct of the citizens of Baltimore to the Lancaster Fencibles.

A committee of twenty-six citizens was appointed to make arrangements for the reception of the committee bearing the flag and the two military companies. It consisted of the following:

John Mathiot, John L. Thompson, John W. Forney, John Dougherty, Jacob Weaver, John F. Long, Anthony E. Roberts, Henry W. Gundaker, George M. Steinman, John Hertzler, Jr., Col. Reah Frazer, Peter Reed, Luther Richards, George B. Withers, Henry C. Locher, John Bomberger, John Shaffner, C. Hager, Frederick Dern, John Ehler, John Sherff, S. E. Gundaker, William Frick, William K. Huffnagle, Robert Moderwell and Charles Nauman.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Intelligencer and Journal, Tuesday, June 7th, 1842.

The following committee was appointed to address the Baltimore committee and volunteers:

Major Frederick Hambright, Major Charles Nauman, Col. James Cameron, Col. Joseph Mosher and Col. William B. Fordney.

Captain Findlay then addressed the meeting by request and was received with great enthusiasm. He detailed briefly and modestly, the particulars of the visit of the Fencibles to Camp Baltimore, spoke highly of the treatment they had received from the citizens and fellow-soldiers; and passed a high compliment upon the exemplary manner in which his company had sustained itself during its stay in Baltimore. He spoke eloquently of the manner in which not only Baltimore but his own fellow-citizens had honored the Fencibles.

Col. Reah Frazer was then called upon, and he responded in a speech of great spirit. His references to the Fencibles, and the manner in which they had conferred credit upon the city of Lancaster, and his allusions to the supposed presentation of the flag, were warmly applauded.

The Intelligencer and Journal of Tuesday, June 7th, 1842, contained the following:

“We are glad to say that the arrangements for the reception of the Baltimore committee and volunteers, bearing the splendid flag to the Lancaster Fencibles, proceed with great spirit. The ward committees report that the subscriptions of the citizens realize more than their anticipations. We feel well satisfied from the manner in which our citizens have responded to the noble movement of the Baltimoreans, that the occasion of the visit of the deputation from that city will be worthy of both cities.”

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## THE PRESENTATION OF THE FLAG.

The sixty-seventh anniversary of American independence was celebrated in Lancaster on Monday, July 4th, 1842, in a manner and with an enthusiasm seldom exceeded. The stirring events of the day united in making it a proud occasion for this ancient inland city, for the Lancaster Fencibles (a military company that included in its ranks some of the finest men of the community)

and for all who witnessed and participated in the imposing ceremonies.

On Saturday afternoon, July 2nd, of that year, a Baltimore committee, numbering about forty gentlemen, escorted by two volunteer companies from the Monumental City (the Independent Grays, commanded by Captain James O. Law, and the National Guards, commanded by Captain Presstman), arrived in Lancaster, bearing a flag to be presented to the Lancaster Fencibles from the citizens of Baltimore. They were met at the junction of the Columbia and Harrisburg railroads, where the Baltimore delegation was taken to the city in carriages, under the care of a committee of arrangements, representing the citizens of Lancaster; while the visiting volunteer soldiers were escorted into town by three local military companies—the Jackson Riflemen, the Washington Artillery and the Lancaster Fencibles. This gallant array marched down North Queen street and then to their respective quarters, encouraged by the smiles of ladies, who crowded every window, and with the warmest expressions of admiration and welcome from the thronging crowds on the sidewalks and streets. The Baltimore committee was quartered at the White Swan tavern, conducted by Mrs. Rosina Hubley; the Grays at the Leopard, on East King street, conducted by John Duchman; and the Guards at Kauffman's hotel, on North Queen street.

The Baltimore delegation was tendered the hospitalities of Lancaster city by John Mathiot, Esq., mayor. Henry Snyder, Esq., returned thanks on behalf of the visitors.

The Grays and Guards were given a fine open lot in the rear of East Orange and North Shippen streets, on which their tents were pitched. Every evening during their stay in Lancaster the camp was crowded with visitors. The ladies of the city, distinguished for their beauty and patriotism, added by their presence to the interest of the scene. Enlivened by the songs of a glee club attached to the Guards, the evenings passed off in a most gracious manner.

On Sunday, July 3rd, the military companies, accompanied by the Baltimore committee and the local committee of arrangement, attended services in Trinity Lutheran church, where an eloquent

sermon, appropriate to the occasion, was delivered by the pastor, the Rev. John C. Baker.

The morning of the Fourth came with a clear blue sky, and was ushered in by the roar of artillery and the ringing of bells. At 7 o'clock the local military companies marched to the junction of the Harrisburg and Columbia railroads to welcome four visiting military companies from York, Columbia and Wrightsville.

The Lancaster Intelligencer and Journal of Wednesday, July 6th, 1842, stated:

"As the day advanced, the interest taken in the proceedings by the people of the country began to manifest itself. From all quarters the throng of visitors poured in, and notwithstanding the fact that our farmers are now in their busiest portion of the year,—haymaking and harvesting—it was remarked that the crowd present on Monday last was as great as at any other period (excepting the two political conventions of 1840) within the remembrance of our citizens. All, indeed, contributed to distinguish and honor the occasion. The masses of people from Baltimore, York, Columbia and Harrisburg (our sister city Philadelphia had not a representative present, if we except a few of our old citizens), the crowds from this county, the nine military companies, most of them full in number, the ladies adorning every window, the flaunting banners at public places, these formed, on the whole, *a coup d'oeil*, a tableau, a picture, that can be supplied by the richer imaginings of the fancy rather than by the cold prosiness of description."

The ceremonies commenced at noon. The place selected for the presentation of the flag was at the corner of North Queen and Orange streets. The military companies formed into line, the right extended south on Queen street. The Lancaster Fencibles were stationed in front of the platform from which the presentation was to be made. The Baltimore committee, Henry Snyder, marshal, and the Lancaster committee of arrangement, Major Charles Nauman, marshal, escorted by the Independent Grays and the National Guards, passed along the line and halted at the platform. The military companies having formed into line, a band of music passed along the battalion, playing an appropriate air. Major Frederick Hambright was in command, and Lieut. John H.

Duchman was adjutant. Nelson Poe, Esq., representing the Baltimore committee, then advanced to the front of the platform, accompanied by Henry Snyder, bearing the flag, and addressing John K. Findlay, captain of the Lancaster Fencibles, said in part:

“Captain — The citizens of Baltimore, who are here present, have constituted me their organ with instructions to commit to your keeping this token of the respect and admiration with which they were filled by the deportment of the corps which you commanded during the recent military encampment [in Baltimore]. In advancing, Sir, to the performance of this duty, permit me to say, that, gratifying as it would be, under any circumstances, to our feelings, it is rendered doubly so, by the imposing preparations under which it is performed. We, the citizens of Baltimore, in the discharge of a delegated trust, have left our homes upon a mission of fraternal kindness and affection. We came here charged with a message, not to the people of Lancaster county, not to the citizens of this ancient capital, but to a single military corps. But, Sir, what is the spectacle that greets us on our arrival! Our path from the moment when we passed the line of this noble county, has been beset with hospitalities that could not be declined, but which it would have exhausted our nature fully to gratify. The people of Lancaster county have met us in their sovereign and aggregate capacity, and welcomed us to their homes. Long, Sir, may such continue to be the reception which Marylanders and Pennsylvanians give to one another! Long may he whose abode is upon the borders of the Patapsco and the Chesapeake feel that every dweller upon the banks of the Conestoga is his brother and his friend! Long may each, when he approaches the hearth-stone of the other, be made to feel how

“ ‘Heart leaps to heart; the sacred flame  
That warms us all is still the same.’

“But, Sir, we shall not commit the error, which would be equally vanity as respects ourselves and injustice towards your community, to suppose that this immense assemblage has been brought together solely for the purpose of witnessing the presentation of the flag, whatever may be the merits of those who have won or the motives of those who present it. We have met here to-day, Sir, upon the birthday of American freedom, to renew

upon the altar of our common country, our vows of fidelity to those principles which were first asserted upon the epoch of which this day is the anniversary. We have chosen this auspicious day to tender to our brethren of Pennsylvania the assurance that the men of Maryland, the descendants of those who stood shoulder to shoulder with the men of Pennsylvania in the war of the Revolution, cherish yet, in unabated strength, the love, the confidence, the fraternal affection for the whole people of their sister State which a participation in that arduous struggle and its priceless results was calculated to foster. We desire, here, beneath this July sun, in the presence of this vast concourse, to pledge ourselves anew to the perpetuation of those sentiments. We desire to strengthen, if they need strengthening, to warm, if there is danger of their growing cold, the feelings of devotion to that Union of which this State is the mighty Keystone. Let us rejoice that we are yet privileged to congratulate ourselves upon the preservation of this Union. Let us rejoice that, although more than half a century has passed since that flag was first unfurled upon the morning of Independence, since those stripes and stars were first blended in harmonious association as the emblems of a new-born nation, not one of them has been stricken or has fallen madly from its sphere, but that that flag yet displays all its original emblazonry, 'not one stripe effaced, not one star blotted out or obscured.'

"And, Sir, whilst we look back in pride and in gratitude to the past, let us, above all things, take care that we, each in our own day and generation, discharge ourselves of the duty that devolves upon us; let a reverence for the union of these states, in all its strength, and with all its powers undimmed and undiminished, be the lesson which we shall most constantly teach to ourselves, and the last and most solemn injunction that we shall leave to our children.

"It is, Sir, under the influence of emotions excited by the contemplation of these subjects that I discharge the duty enjoined upon me of committing to your keeping this emblem of the might, the dignity, the sovereignty of our Republic. In the name and on behalf of the people of Baltimore, I present to you the tribute which they have paid to these qualities of the soldier and the cit-

izen which were so conspicuously displayed by your corps whilst under their eye. They have sought, Sir, to make it worthy to display its silken folds even over the ranks of such a company as the Lancaster Fencibles. They have striven not only to adorn it with the embellishments of the pencil and the loom, but have invoked the aid of genius and fancy to

“Mingle with its gorgeous dyes  
The milky baldrick of the skies,  
And striped its pure, celestial white  
With streakings of the morning light.”<sup>3</sup>

“The staff by which it is to be upborne, was hewn from the sound and solid heart of an ancient oak, which for more than a century had spread its giant limbs over that field which the united valor of the old Lancaster Phalanx and the soldiery of Baltimore has rendered immortal. Almost beneath its shade fell and died the bold leader of the invading host.<sup>4</sup> We have transferred the most precious and durable of its remains to your hands, in the full assurance that if ever again there should be found foes presumptuous enough to hazard the fate of their predecessors, that standard will again be planted in its native soil, in the very van of the fight its folds will flutter in the breeze, and that where blows fall thickest and where blows fall fastest, there will

“Forever float that standard sheet!  
Where breathes the foe but falls before us,  
With Freedom’s soil beneath our feet,  
And Freedom’s banner streaming o’er us?”<sup>5</sup>

Captain Findlay replied as follows, as he received the flag:

“This splendid testimonial of the approbation of the citizens of Baltimore is received by the Lancaster Fencibles with feelings more easily conceived than expressed. The exquisite beauty and taste of the gift itself, hallowed as it is by its association with a field which the gallantry of citizen soldiers has rendered memorable, the generous and patriotic character of the donors, its escort

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<sup>3</sup> Joseph Rodman Drake’s, “The American Flag.”

<sup>4</sup> General Ross at the battle of North Point, near Baltimore, September 12th, 1814, at which time the British failed in their attempt to take the city.

<sup>5</sup> “The American Flag”—Drake.

of finely disciplined and magnanimous soldiery, the eloquent and complimentary language which has accompanied its presentation, all contribute to swell the tide of feeling which gushes too copiously from the heart to find utterance at the tongue. We assure you, Gentlemen, that they must be infallible, indeed, whose favorable judgment we would prefer to the approbation and esteem of the citizens of a city distinguished for the memorials which Gratitude has erected to Patriotism, whose public square is consecrated to the memory of the gallant dead who gloriously fell in defending the homes of their childhood from the desecration of the foe.

“We repaired to the encampment near your city to make the acquaintance of our fellow-soldiers from sister states; to share with them the duties and fatigues of camp; to enter into honorable and friendly competition with them for the prize proposed for our emulation; to show no ungenerous exultation at success; no vexation of disappointment, if we failed—and you, Gentlemen, have made us bless the day we went. We were about to return to our homes with thankful hearts for many kind and hospitable attentions received from citizens and soldiers, and regretting nothing but our separation from them, when the generous inhabitants of the Monumental City filled our bosoms with mingled feelings of delight and gratitude by the unexpected and unexampled honor which they proffered us, and which has this day been so nobly consummated. We thank you, gentlemen, and those whom you represent; we thank the gallant officers, and soldiers who accompany you, from the bottom of grateful and overflowing hearts.

“We thank you not only as soldiers, but as citizens of a sister State, for selecting for the gift with which you have so highly honored us the beloved emblem of that Union which binds you and us together with the cords of a fraternal affection destined, we trust in God, never to be severed. We thank you for the token that Mason and Dixon’s line is neither a chasm nor a wall, but is in politics as in mathematics, a mere imaginary line, limiting the territories but not alienating the affections of brethren. We thank you for the demonstration that those, who, reckless of the admonition of the Father of their country, would attempt to calculate the value of the Union, and ‘like the base Judean throw away a pearl

richer than all their tribe,'<sup>6</sup> are destined to find that they have blundered in their arithmetic."

The flag having been entrusted to Ensign Ihling, arms were presented by the military companies and an appropriate air was played by the band. Colonel William B. Fordney then addressed Captain Findlay and presented to him, in the name and on behalf of the Lancaster Fencibles, a magnificent sword as a token of the respect which they entertained for him as a commander and of their regard for him as a man. Captain Findlay received the gift with unaffected pride and pleasure, and deeply and impressively thanked the donors.

After the exercises had been concluded, the Baltimore flag committee and the Lancaster committee of arrangements formed in line, and the battalion, composed of nine infantry companies, marched in review before them. The members of the committees received them uncovered. After these ceremonies, the two committees returned to the White Swan tavern, and the volunteers marched through the streets.

The Lancaster Intelligencer and Journal of Wednesday, July 6th, stated:

"The mass which thronged the streets, clambered on the tops of the houses, on the trees in the squares, and on the posts, railings, etc., was immense. All could not see and hear, yet all appeared satisfied. The ladies from the windows, who, most of them, could see the ceremonies, seemed delighted at the unprecedented honors thus conferred upon our good old city through the Lancaster Fencibles.

"The flag is indeed a magnificent piece of art, rich, yet chaste and appropriate, no less beautiful and original in design than magnificent in execution. It is 7½ feet long by 4½ feet wide, made of rich silk, the stripes and stars having been adopted. The Union, which is very rich, has on the one side, the Fencibles in full dress on parade in Monument Square, Baltimore. The figure of Captain Findlay, as he stands facing his company, is a perfect reflection of the original, and the whole idea is exceedingly successful. On the

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<sup>6</sup> Shakespeare's "Othello." Act V., scene 2, altered.

other side is a magnificently drawn and painted Pennsylvania coat of arms. The flag is richly edged with heavy silver bullion, and hung with double cabled silver cord, and rich, heavy silver bullion tassels. The staff is of polished oak, from North Point, with a splendid polished steel ferrule. The spear of the staff, and the ornamented work attached to it are rich, heavy, embossed silver, representing the fasces supporting a circular entablature, surmounted by a laurel wreath, supporting the national eagle, above which is the point of the spear. The collar and socket are of patent black leather, with twenty-six silver stars, handsomely stitched and ornamented. The shield above the socket is of silver. Midway on the staff a silver plate has been inserted, which contains the following inscription: 'Presented to the Lancaster Fencibles, by the citizens of Baltimore, July 4th, 1842, as a testimonial of respect for their gentlemanly and military bearing, on their visit to Camp Baltimore, in May, 1842.'

"The following are the names of the different persons who were engaged upon the flag: John Gade, constructor of the flag; G. Folwell, designer and chaser; silver work by Johannes; painting executed by T. C. Ruckle.

"The sword presented by the officers and privates of the Fencibles to Captain Findlay, is really a splendid affair. The scabbard is of silver; the hilt richly embossed, and decorated. The belt, chains, etc., are in keeping with the whole. On the scabbard is the following inscription: 'A token of respect from the members of the Lancaster Fencibles, to their Captain, John K. Findlay, July 4th, 1842.'"

On the evening of the Fourth an assemblage of citizens of Baltimore and Lancaster met in the "long room" of the White Swan. Henry Snyder, Esq., of Baltimore, was appointed president; Col. James Cameron and Major Charles Nauman, vice presidents; and A. G. Helfenstein and Newton Lightner, secretaries. Captain George B. Withers read the Declaration of Independence admirably. Mr. George Meeser sang several selections, which brought forth repeated applause.

The City of Baltimore and the kindness and hospitality of its citizens, having been toasted, W. P. Preston, Esq., of that city replied. His remarks were thrillingly eloquent. He thanked the

citizens of Lancaster for the kindness and attention with which they had treated the delegation and volunteers of Baltimore. He referred to the proverbial hospitality of our city, and hailed it as a good omen that the 4th of July should be celebrated under circumstances such as these which had called citizens and soldiers of Baltimore to Lancaster. He considered the occasion a fit opportunity to renew here our pledges to the Union, and our thanks to God for the munificent blessings which surrounded this lovely city on every side. His reference to the Fencibles was exceedingly complimentary. Mr. Preston closed with the following sentiment:

“The City and County of Lancaster—The agricultural heart of the Keystone State; the rich and highly cultivated blessings of a bountiful Providence, promoted as they are by the hand of judicious industry, justly entitle this smiling region to its distinguished appellation, ‘The Garden of Pennsylvania.’ Long may the blessed influence of peace and plenty smile upon this garden, enabling its noble-hearted sons and beautiful daughters to dispense, as they have done upon the present occasion, the choicest gifts of sacred worth and sterling hospitality!”

This toast was replied to, at the request of the company, by John W. Forney.

A toast having been offered complimentary to Captain Findlay, that gentleman replied most feelingly, alluding to the honor which had been bestowed upon the Fencibles. He concluded by offering a toast to Captain Law, of the Baltimore Independent Grays, which was received with great applause by the meeting.

Capt. Withers toasted Captain Presstman, of the National Guards; and W. P. Preston, Esq., replied to the sentiment, in the absence of Captain Presstman, who was with his company in camp, in a manner that elicited much approval.

George Ford, Jr., Esq., was called upon, and addressed the gathering in an eloquent and appropriate manner, referring with fine effect to the events of the day. His remarks were warmly received.

A toast was offered, and loudly cheered, announcing the election of the gallant veteran, Major Frederick Hambright, to the office of Major General of this Division.

The evening was enlivened by songs from Messrs. Meeser Damant, Clarkson, and others, of Lancaster, aided by the glee club of this city; by songs from the glee club attached to Captain Presstman's corps, and from other gentlemen present. The festivities closed in the most gratifying manner, and the participants separated highly pleased with the occasion and with the circumstances which had thrown them together.

On the same evening, at their camp, Captains Law and Presstman, of the Baltimore militia, gratified our citizens by their polite attentions. The camp was brilliant with ladies. Hundreds of persons were present. They enjoyed a rich treat in the excellent music and refreshments of the gallant captains and their men, and departed more delighted than ever with Baltimore, its soldiers, and its citizens. A fine display of fire-works gave additional interest to the occasion.

The Lancaster Intelligencer and Journal of Wednesday, July 6th, 1842, stated:

"Thus closed the Fourth of July in Lancaster, a day that will long be remembered by the thousands who witnessed or participated in its celebration. The people of Baltimore have accomplished an act which, while it confers a high and distinguished honor upon a most excellent and deserving volunteer corps, will not stop here. It will establish between the people of this city and county and the people of Baltimore a chain of friendship that will lead, we are assured, to the best results. Baltimore has done, in this act, what those who know and have tasted of its hospitality are not at all astonished to see. The flag, however, that its citizens presented to the Fencibles is a gift which our whole people feel has been awarded as much to them as to that exemplary corps, and they will not fail to cherish the remembrance of the honor."

On Tuesday morning, July 5th, the Baltimore, York, Wrightsville and Columbia citizen soldiers and the Baltimore committee, departed for their homes. Prior to their leaving Colonel Reah Frazer bade them farewell in a few remarks of eloquence and power. W. P. Preston, Esq., replied in behalf of the Baltimoreans, briefly and eloquently. The visitors then departed on the train, amidst the cheers of the citizens at the depot.

It would be interesting to learn what has become of the flag and the sword. Does any one know? These interesting treasures should be carefully preserved in Lancaster's museum when that new fire-proof structure is erected. The Lancaster County Historical Society will be very glad to receive any information of them.

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## RIDING ON THE COLUMBIA AND PHILADELPHIA RAILROAD

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**I**N the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., is a small volume of 148 pages, published, in 1836, by Grigg and Elliott, 9 North Fourth street, Philadelphia, Pa. The book is entitled, "A pleasant Peregrination through the Prettiest Parts of Pennsylvania. Performed by Peregrine Prolix." "Peregrine Prolix" was the pen name of Philip Holbrook Nicklin, a prominent citizen of Philadelphia. The work was dedicated to John Guillemard, Esquire, Fellow of the Royal Society, London, England.

On Friday, July 31st, 1835, Mr. Nicklin, started on a tour of Pennsylvania, which took him as far west as Pittsburgh.<sup>1</sup> In a letter dated "Lancaster, August 1st, 1835," he described his journey as follows:

"We sat down to breakfast [in Philadelphia] at half past seven, and were just *in medias res*, compounding in a large wine glass that 'nauseous mixture,' composed of a little chloride of sodium, or muriate of soda, or common salt, and a soft-boiled fresh egg, (one of Captain Hamilton's American horrors), when the anticipated Automedon of the omnibus, drove to the door, a bad half hour earlier than the agent had promised, causing us to swallow our coffee furious hot with haste; as there was no remedy, leaving a longing, lingering look behind at the rescued half of our breakfast, we stowed ourselves and baggage as quickly as possible.

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<sup>1</sup> In a letter dated "Philadelphia, July 30th, 1835," Mr. Nicklin stated that he had engaged passage for himself and companion on the Pioneer Line for Hollidaysburg, and the omnibus would call the next day to take them to the rail-road.