

Mr. Pepin will signalize himself by many feats. He will sit on a chair, jump over the hoop, through a hat and terminate by the great leap through a hog's head. The whole to conclude by the farcical scene of

THE BROTHER MILLERS.

How long the circus exhibited in the borough, or how many performances were given, is not definitely known. The Lancaster Journal of Friday, June 7th, contains a short advertisement of the circus. A fair was held in Lancaster about this time. Messrs. Pepin and Breschard informed the public that during the fair they would perform their astonishing feats of horsemanship twice a day, beginning at 11 o'clock in the morning and 5 in the evening.

June 18th, 1811, Pepin and Breschard returned to New York city with their circus.

In a work entitled, "The Circus, Its Origin and Growth Prior to 1835," by Isaac J. Greenwood, on page 87, it is stated that "John Breschard was a native Frenchman, but Victor Pepin, though descended from a French neutral of Acadia, was born in Philadelphia."

Greenwood quotes from Clapp's "Records of the Boston Stage" as follows:

"The number and splendor and training of their stud, were a perpetual source of admiration and wonder; and as to their leader, Pepin, whether on foot or on horseback, he showed the part of a king. No Pepin of France that ever rode in Paris with his doughty Austrasians, could have claimed greater homage than our martial equestrian as he brought up the rear of his glittering troop, he himself in the costume of a Gallic field-marshal."

A Great Political Meeting in Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON Tuesday, October 14th, 1800, the citizens of Lancaster who enjoyed the right of suffrage, assembled at the polls and voted for a President and a Vice-President of the United States. Owing to the primitive methods of communication, the results of the general election were not definitely known until late in December of that year.

The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Wednesday, January 7th, 1801, contains the following:

"On New Year's day, the Democratic Republicans of this state at the seat of government [Lancaster] celebrated the success

of the Republican cause in the election, by a majority of the people, of Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr to be President and Vice-President of the United States.

"They assembled in Franklin college, where an entertainment was provided under the direction of Mr. Slaymaker, of the borough of Lancaster, undoubtedly superior to anything of the kind ever before exhibited in the borough.

"There were present: The Governor of the Commonwealth [Thomas McKean]; the Speaker of the House of Representatives; the majority of the members of that House, and the minority of the Senate; most of the principal officers of the government; Major General Irwin; officers of the militia; officers and corps of the Lancaster Light Infantry; and citizens of the vicinity. Over the chair at the head of the table, was placed the portrait of Thomas Jefferson, and the walls were very handsomely decorated with evergreens.

"The company being seated at the table, the gentlemen appointed to officiate as President and Vice-President on the fourth of July last, were placed in their chairs precisely at two o'clock."

After dinner, sixteen toasts were drunk "in the true spirit of liberty and with a display of that enthusiasm, tempered with moderation, which marks the character of true Republicans."

Following the toasts, a "volunteer" was given by the Governor. The Governor having retired, a "volunteer" was given to "Thomas McKean, the patriot." Fourteen more "volunteers" were given by the President, Vice-President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Major General Irwin, the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the Secretary of the Land Office, the Surveyor General, and others.

The Lancaster Light Infantry, in full uniform, paraded at the state house in Penn square at 12 o'clock noon. After paying their respects to the Governor, they marched to Franklin college, near which they fired sixteen volleys in honor of the day. They were then dismissed and shortly thereafter joined their fellow citizens at the festive board.

The venerable building in which this great political banquet was held 128 years ago, is still standing in the fifth block of North Queen street, on the west side. It was known as the store house, and was built by the State of Pennsylvania, at an early period of the Revolutionary War, for the housing of military supplies. On February 27th, 1788, an act was passed by the Legislature of Pennsylvania "vesting the public store house and two lots of ground in the borough of Lancaster to the trustees of Franklin College for the use of the said institution." The college occupied the building for nearly fifty years. On September 17th, 1840, the

building was sold to John S. Gable. Subsequently it was converted into six dwelling houses, Nos. 438-48 North Queen street. They are occupied as such at the present time.

At the time the Jefferson-Burr banquet was held in it, the Intelligencer stated that "The building stands on high ground on the north side of the borough of Lancaster, and is 100 feet in length by 36 feet in breadth. It is divided into three rooms, having large folding doors, which were thrown open so as to have the center table extend the whole length of the building. The side tables were each thirty feet in length. The whole number which dined together amounted to 250 persons."

The banquet table must have presented a fine sight. The Intelligencer describes it as follows:

"Near the head of the table, among other decorations there was placed a pyramid covered with sugar plums. On the three sides of the base were, respectively, inscribed Monarchy, Hierarchy, Aristocracy; and on the fourth side was written, 200,000 in large characters. The base rested upon round and irregular pieces of sugar cake, called jumbles. It seemed to have been designed to produce a scramble and was soon demolished—pyramid, base, foundation and all." The "200,000" doubtless represents the majority by which the successful party won the election.

The exterior of the college building was also decorated for the occasion. The Intelligencer states:

"At the south end of the building a lantern, on which was shown, in large transparent letters, the words 'Liberty and the Constitution,' was erected eighty feet high, and lighted in the evening."

The citizens retired from the scene of the banquet at 6 o'clock in the evening, preceded by music and an octagon lantern, 5 feet 4 inches in diameter and 7½ feet high. It represented the "Temple of Liberty," founded on the cardinal virtues, and was supported on the shoulders of four citizens. At a short distance from the temple was seen the southern star, in full brilliancy, rising and shining on the temple. The Intelligencer states: "The effect of this little temple was really elegant and did honor to the gentlemen who designed it; the star rising in the south added to the effect and excited great attention."

After parading the principal streets of the borough, and complimenting the Governor and some of the leading Democrats, as they passed their dwellings, each one departed for his home. The newspaper of the day reminds us, "Throughout the whole, the utmost decorum was observed. No accident of any kind happened, and before 8 o'clock in the evening all was perfectly quiet as if nothing unusual had happened."