

tants of the borough and the adjacent country. During the late war, in the year 1775, a company of riflemen formed from the back woodsmen of Virginia, were quartered here for some time: two of them alternately held a board only nine inches square between his knees, while his comrade fired a ball through it from a distance of one hundred paces! The board is still preserved; and I am assured by several who were present, that it [the marksmanship] was performed without any manner of deception.

“Lancaster was, originally, a German settlement; the inhabitants were so desirous of perpetuating their language that they established German schools for the education of the rising generation; but their descendants, finding the inconvenience of being without a knowledge of English, now send their children first to the German, and afterward to the English schools; by which means they acquire a tolerable idea of both languages. They still retain many characteristics of their ancestors; such as frugality, plainness in dress, etc.

“At our first concert, three clownish-looking fellows came into the room, and, after sitting a few minutes, (the weather being warm, not to say hot) very composedly took off their coats; they were in the usual summer dress of farmers’ servants in this part of the country;—that is to say, without either stockings or breeches, a loose pair of trowsers being the only succedaneum. As we fixed our admission at a dollar each, (here seven shillings and sixpence) we expected this circumstance would be sufficient to exclude such characters; but, on inquiry, I found (to my very great surprise!) our three *sans culottes* were German gentlemen of considerable property in the neighborhood!

“They manage these matters better at Hanover (a settlement of Germans about forty miles hence). One of the articles of their dancing assembly is in these words: ‘No gentleman to enter the ball-room without breeches, or to be allowed to dance without his coat.’

“We returned to Philadelphia, not overloaded with cash, but with more than sufficient for our expenses, which, owing to several excursions from Lancaster, were not trifling.”

Indian Chiefs In Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

THE following interesting news items appeared in The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Wednesday, February 4th, 1801: “On Friday evening last [January 30th] arrived in this place [Lancaster] on their way to the City of Washington, five Indian chiefs, viz. Red Jacket and three others, of the Seneca

Nation, and Saucorea, of the Tuscarora tribe, accompanied by Mr. Jasper Parish, their interpreter. The main object of their visit to Congress is, we understand, to obtain satisfaction for the death of two Indians, who were shot last August, in cold blood, by some white men. There is some other difference to be adjusted respecting the conduct of the surveyor employed by the Holland Land company; who, it appears, in running the line, has taken in land which was not ceded to the company. They left town early yesterday morning."

Red Jacket was one of the most notorious Indian chiefs of the country. He received his English name because of the pride he took in a military coat of scarlet which had been given to him by a British officer. Sad to relate, he became addicted to drink. He is said to have been unrivaled among the Senecas as an orator, and had great influence around the Indian council fires. He was the last of the great chiefs of the Seneca tribe. For a time, he was in favor of the education of his people but subsequently became a bitter opponent of education and Christianity. During the Revolutionary War, he fought on the side of the English, but seems to have become reconciled, for during the war on the frontier in 1811-14, he was of valuable assistance to our United States troops. He was born about 1751 and died in 1830. He was fifty years of age when he visited Lancaster in 1801.

Lancaster's Contribution to Portsmouth in the Fire of 1802

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON SUNDAY, December 19th, 1802, a fire occurred in Portsmouth, N. H., which destroyed about one hundred buildings in the business district, and occasioned a loss estimated at, approximately, half a million dollars. This was the most disastrous conflagration which, to this time, had occurred in the United States.

In The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Tuesday, January 11th, 1803, appeared a communication, over the signature of "Humanity," addressed to the editor, William Dickson. It was, in part, as follows:

"Who can sufficiently depict the sufferings of our Northern brethren on this occasion? Destitute of houses, clothing, or any of the necessaries which render this inclement season of the year comfortable, they rely on the assistance of their humane fellow-citizens throughout the United States to alleviate, in some measure, this deplorable calamity. In many places, already, voluntary sub-