

Andrew Jackson in Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

IN Vol. 1, page 742, of the admirable history of York County, Pa., prepared by the late George R. Prowell, and published in 1907, appears the following:

"On Saturday morning, February 13th, 1819, General Andrew Jackson, then the head of the American army, left Washington for Baltimore. He arrived in Baltimore in the evening of the same day and remained in that city over night. Early the following morning, he and his party left for York, traveling in a carriage and in an open barouche.

"Jackson had won undying fame as a soldier in the war against the Seminole Indians in Florida and Georgia; and in the great victory he had gained over the British army during the War of 1812 in New Orleans. He was the idol of the nation, honored everywhere for his military achievements and recognized as the greatest soldier of his day in America."

Major General Jackson, who was on his way to West Point, N. Y., arrived in York on Sunday, February 14th, at 7 o'clock. His suite consisted of Colonel Butler, Dr. Bronaugh, Captain Young, Captain Huston, Captain Gall, General Owens, General Bryan, Colonel Pervaul and Colonel Mason. They remained in York for an hour, then continued on their journey to Lancaster.

The Lancaster Journal of Tuesday, February 16th, 1819, contains the following:

"General Jackson with his suite, arrived in this city [Lancaster] yesterday [Monday] morning at 3 o'clock, from the South, and started in about an hour after for Philadelphia."

The Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser of Saturday, February 20th, 1819, states:

"The Hero of New Orleans and suite passed through this city last Monday morning; and, on Thursday last, the citizens of Philadelphia expressed their approbation of the General's conduct by giving him a public dinner. Many of our citizens regret that the General's time would not permit him to receive, from them, a similar mark of respect and affection."

Andrew Jackson was expected to visit Lancaster a second time. At a meeting of the Select and Common Councils of Lancaster on Tuesday, March 1st, 1825, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, we have reasons to believe, from late information, that this city will, in a few days, be honored with the presence of Major General Andrew Jackson, the Hero of New Orleans,

"Therefore, Resolved, By the citizens of Lancaster in Select and Common Councils assembled, That it be and is hereby recommended to illuminate on the evening of the day on which Andrew Jackson may arrive, as a testimonial of the high respect and deep sense which is entertained for the distinguished and invaluable services he has rendered to our country as a statesman and general.

"Resolved, That the mayor be requested to give the earliest notice of the time of his arrival. Extract from the minutes.

"Daniel Fuller, Clerk, Common Council

"Daniel Carpenter, Clerk, Select Council."

Owing to his wife's illness, General Jackson was not able to visit Lancaster, as at first planned. The Lancaster Journal of Friday, March 11th, 1825, contains the following:

"General Jackson, in consequence of the indisposition of his lady, is obliged to return home by the shortest route. We shall, therefore, be deprived of the pleasure which we should receive from a visit of this distinguished hero and statesman to our city at this time."

Lancaster's Contribution to Savannah in the Fire of 1820

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ON the morning of Tuesday, January 11th, 1820, a fire started in Savannah, Georgia, and in less than twelve hours the principal part of the city was in ruins. Thousands of inhabitants lost their homes; and were left without the common necessities of life. At that time, this was the most destructive conflagration that had ever visited the United States.

Collections of money, food and clothing for the relief of the sufferers were made in many cities and towns of the country. The legislature of Pennsylvania appropriated ten thousand dollars.

A meeting of the citizens of Lancaster was held at the court house on Saturday evening, February 5th, 1820, for the purpose of securing relief for the sufferers. John Passmore, mayor of the city of Lancaster, was appointed chairman, and George B. Porter, secretary.

Mr. Passmore laid before the meeting a circular which had been addressed to him by the Committee of Correspondence and Superintendence in the city of Philadelphia, in which it was stated that "Between twelve and one o'clock on the morning of January 11th, the fire commenced, and in twelve hours time the principal part of the city was reduced to ashes. The number of habitations (exclusive of the public buildings) thus rapidly destroyed is stated to be 464, so that at the moderate estimate of five persons to each