

It was not until 1850 that Millard Fillmore, then President of the United States, had the first bathtub installed in the White House. It was made in Philadelphia, of thin cast iron.

It is interesting to note that nine years before Adam Thompson introduced the first bathtub into this country, Lancaster boasted of a bathing establishment, operated for the benefit of the public, and had on sale "bathing machines," as is evident from the following advertisement, which appeared in the Lancaster Journal of Friday, April 5th, 1833:

"BATHING ROOMS.

"The subscriber respectfully informs the public in general, that he has removed to the corner of South Duke and Vine streets, in the city of Lancaster, opposite Mr. Luke Brown's coach manufactory and near the German Lutheran school house, where he has prepared suitable bathing rooms, on his newly-invented plan of using cold or warm baths, whereby the body is agreeably refreshed, without being too suddenly effected. Those wishing to favor him with their visits will find very good accommodations at any time of the day.

"A supply of his newly-invented and patented bathing machines will be constantly kept for sale and are respectfully recommended as a most useful article.

"Henry Bachman."

What this "machine" was like, is not now known. A writer in the Lancaster Journal of Friday, July 5th, 1833, called the attention of his fellow-citizens to its merits, stating that were its advantages known it would be considered an indispensable article in every household; and that its operation and efficacy could be tested by calling at Mr. Bachman's establishment, where for twelve and one-half cents, a most delightful bath might be had, warm or cold, at any moment.

Agricultural Societies in Lancaster County

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

THE Intelligencer and Weekly Advertiser of Saturday, November 18th, 1820, contained an announcement to the effect that the inhabitants of Lancaster inclined to unite in the organization of an agricultural society, were requested to meet in the court house in Lancaster city, on Saturday morning, December 2nd. A full attendance was requested, in order that a constitution might be adopted, a society organized, and such other measures approved as would secure the provisions of the act of Legislature, passed on March 6th, 1820, "for the promotion of agriculture and domestic manufactures."

Whether an organization was perfected or not is not known, as subsequent issues of local papers do not refer to the subject.

Seven years later, citizens of Donegal and Mount Joy townships met for much the same purpose at Elizabethtown, Lancaster county, Pa. On their recommendation, and public notice having been given, a largely-attended meeting of inhabitants of Lancaster county was held in the court house in Lancaster on Wednesday, August 22nd, 1827. John Lightner was appointed chairman, and Jacob Hibshman and N. W. Sample secretaries.¹

A committee, consisting of G. B. Porter, John R. Montgomery, John Rohrer, John Hoover, John Caldwell, Nathaniel Lightner and Jeremiah Brown, reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

"Whilst the farmers of Lancaster county have ever been, and still are, willing to encourage domestic manufactures, the time has now arrived, they think, when efficient protection should also be given to agriculture. The demand from abroad for our flour has so much diminished, that the price of it will scarcely justify the cultivation of wheat. There is, however, one method by the adoption of which Congress could greatly aid the grain-growing States. Nearly five million gallons of foreign spirits are now annually imported into this country, which cost about two million dollars, clear of freight, duty and charges. If this money, instead of being sent abroad, were distributed among our farmers at home, and applied to the purchase of corn and rye, it would greatly promote the prosperity of the farmer. This can easily be effected by the substitution of whiskey for foreign spirits. The importation of foreign spirits, should, therefore, be entirely prohibited, or the duty raised to such a standard as would greatly increase the price of the article and make it a luxury. By this means the price of rye and corn would be raised, because it is well known that for every cent of increased price upon a gallon of whiskey, the distiller would be enabled to give between three and four cents more for each bushel of grain from which it is manufactured. The temptation to intemperance would be diminished rather than increased by the advanced price of whiskey, and agriculture, which is now languishing, would at once begin to flourish.

"The people of this country, the foremost agricultural country on earth, also pay to foreigners about half a million dollars annually for foreign hemp, when it has been satisfactorily ascertained that American water-retted hemp is equal in quality to any in the world.

"Should this be so? If our government shall protect us, we will, in a very short time, acquire the art of water-retting hemp—and the competition at home in cultivating that article would

¹ Lancaster Intelligencer, Tuesday, August 28th, 1827.

soon reduce its price even below the present price of Russia hemp. The half million dollars which is annually sent abroad, and goes into the pockets of the landholders of Russia, would remain at home and enrich the farmers of our country.

“Fully impressed with the importance of these truths, and knowing the great interest which the farmers of this fine agricultural county have in the question, your committee offers the following resolutions:

“Resolved, That whilst it is the opinion of this meeting that the government should afford its aid to such of our domestic manufactures as require additional protection, it is also its bounden duty, at the same time, to protect the farmers of the country against foreign competition.

“Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting the importation of foreign spirits should be either entirely prohibited or the duty upon its importation should be raised to such a standard as would insure, in a great degree, the consumption of domestic distilled spirits in its stead, and thus promote the agriculture of the country by increasing the demand for and raising the price of rye and corn.

“Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting the interest of agriculture requires that an additional duty should be imposed on the importation of foreign hemp.”

A committee, consisting of G. B. Porter, John R. Montgomery, John Rohrer, John Hoover, John Caldwell, Nathaniel F. Lightner, Jeremiah Brown, Jr., Francis Boggs, Elias Baker, George Kinzer, Samuel Keller and George Redsecker, was appointed to prepare a memorial to Congress and circulate it throughout the county for signatures.

Whether the memorial was circulated and how many signatures were obtained is not now known, as subsequent issues of local papers do not contain any references to the subject.

Collections in Aid of the Poor

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

THE Lancaster Journal of Friday, January 8th, 1830, stated that the committee appointed in the south-east ward of Lancaster during the winter for the purchase and distribution of wood among the poor, had left an account at the office of that paper of the monies collected by them, of the wood purchased, and the persons to whom it was delivered. Those interested were invited to call at the Lancaster Journal office and inspect the accounts. It is