

foreign power or resort to arms for the defense of all that can be held dear to freemen, the officers of the militia of Lancaster county,—feeling themselves happy under the influence of a government of their own choice, mild and equal in its operation, and perfectly satisfied that it has been, and continues to be, administered with prudence, moderation and wisdom,—beg leave to assure you, Sir, that should the insolence and rapacity of the French Republic, or any other foreign power, render an appeal to arms the dernier resort, they will be always ready to support, to the utmost of their ability, the rights of the American people and the honor and dignity of their government.

“We pray the Almighty Disposer of all Events to aid your councils and preserve your health.”

It is to be regretted that The Lancaster Journal of Saturday, November 12th, 1803, from which this information was obtained does not contain the names of the officers who unanimously adopted and signed this address to the President. It seems somewhat singular that a meeting held on the 21st of June, 1798, was not reported in a local paper until November 12th, 1803—five years and a half later; and long after Adams had been succeeded in the presidency by Thomas Jefferson. The “momentous” period to which the address refers, was the difficulty with France, to which country the Jay treaty had been very distasteful, as the French declared that it favored Great Britain and denied certain rights to them. Happily, war was finally avoided.

The Dispensary of St. James’s Church, Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON Sunday evening, September 18th, 1825, after divine service, a number of ladies and gentlemen met in Saint James’s Protestant Episcopal church, Lancaster, and formed an organization for the laudable purpose of affording medical relief to the needy.¹ At this meeting a constitution was unanimously adopted as follows:

Article 1. This society shall be called The Dispensary of Saint James’s Church, Lancaster.

Article 2. The object of the society shall be to afford medical relief to the indigent.

Article 3. All contributors of one dollar, annually, shall be members of the society.

Article 4. The business of the society shall be transacted by a committee, to be chosen annually, which shall appoint such officers as may be necessary.

The committee appointed to serve for the first year, consisted of the following: Mrs. Huffleagle, Catharine Yeates, Harriet Old, Juliana Jordan, Margaret Hand, Grace Parr Hubley, Harriet Clarkson, Letitia Montgomery and Henrietta Reigart.

As the society aimed to extend its aid to the poor of every denomination of Christians, indiscriminately, it was hoped that it would be liberally supported by the public.

How long the dispensary continued, and who comprised its officers and members, is not known, as no records of its activities remain, and subsequent issues of the local papers contain no references to it.

¹ Lancaster Journal, Friday, September 30th, 1825.

Arks and Rafts on the Susquehanna

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

IN Vol. XXIV, pp. 193-202, of the Proceedings of The Lancaster County Historical Society, for November, 1920, is an excellent article entitled, "Rafting on the Susquehanna", written by the first vice-president of the society, David F. Magee, Esq. Since that paper was published, my attention has been called to several items in old local newspapers which refer to the same general subject.

In the Lancaster Journal, of Wednesday, August 6th, 1817, appeared a communication in which it was stated that from April 1st, 1817 to July 5th, 1817, 343 arks and 989 rafts passed Blue Rock, about three miles below Columbia, on the Susquehanna. Those that passed earlier than the first of April were not accounted for; and five arks and ten or twelve rafts passed after July 5th.

The Lancaster Journal, of Friday, April 27th, 1827, contained the following:

"From the 'Pioneer', a newspaper published in Marietta, Lancaster county, Pa., we learn that 557 arks, 731 rafts and 36 boats, have passed that place [Marietta] the present season, estimated to be worth \$800,000. The lumber and produce landed at Marietta and Wrightsville, are not included."

The Political Sentinel and Lancaster Literary Gazette, of Wednesday, May 23rd, 1827, contained the following: