

into consideration a proper method for removing all obstructions whatever in the river Conestoga as far as it is declared navigable by law. The members were determined to bring to justice all persons infringing on the law. Jacob Fordney, Jr., was appointed chairman, and Gustavus Stoy, secretary. At the meeting it was

“Resolved, That we form ourselves into an association for preventing all obstructions whatsoever may be erected in the river Conestoga as far as it is declared navigable by law.

“Resolved, That there shall be a committee appointed whose duty it shall be to examine and thoroughly investigate at all times whether there be any obstructions contrary as aforesaid, and shall make report to the president and secretary thereof; and (if in their opinion necessary) shall call a special meeting for the purpose of carrying into effect the intention of this association.

“Resolved, That the president and secretary shall use their utmost endeavors, by applying to the proper authorities, to have obstructions removed, if any, according to law.

“Resolved, That the said association will support the president and secretary in all measures to carry the aforesaid resolutions into effect.

“Resolved, That there shall at the next meeting be a committee appointed to form a constitution for the government of this association.”

An association was perfected, and a constitution adopted, for the government of the organization. It is to be regretted that the constitution was not published in the local papers as well as the names of the members of this most worthy organization. In the Lancaster Journal of Wednesday, September 27th, 1815, was a reference to the association, and section 15 of its constitution was printed as follows:

“Any member found guilty of destroying fences or other property belonging to any farmer, citizen or inhabitant, living or residing on or near the river Conestoga, shall not only be expelled but it shall be the incumbent duty of this association to assist the individual thus injured to bring the guilty member, or members, before legal authority in order that he, or they, so offending on the premises may be lawfully dealt with.”

The editor stated that section 15 was published merely to give some idea of the intention of the association until he was able to publish the constitution in its entirety.

Meeting of Friends of Peace in 1812

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

ON the day before Congress declared that a state of war existed between the United States and Great Britain, a large and respectable meeting of the Friends of Peace, consisting of at least four hundred farmers, was held in Lancaster borough on Wednesday evening, June 17th, 1812. The Lancaster Journal states that there was no distinction of party, for men of all parties were present and gave their assent to the proceedings.

John Haldeman, Esq., was appointed chairman, and Samuel White, secretary. James Hopkins delivered an eloquent and impressive address. A committee, consisting of James Hopkins, John Hubley, Samuel Bethel, Robert Maxwell, John Swar, Emanuel Dyer and Christian Herr (of Pequea), was appointed to draft resolutions. These resolutions, which fill nearly two columns of *The Lancaster Journal*, were unanimously agreed to at the meeting.

There was also a memorial presented, which was unanimously approved, entitled "The Memorial of the Subscribers, Inhabitants of the County of Lancaster, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania"; and was addressed to "The Honorable the Congress of the United States." The memorial, which closed with this statement, was published in the *Lancaster Journal* of Friday, June 19th, 1812:

"Relying on their justice, wisdom and patriotism, we respectfully pray that Congress will immediately abolish the embargo and restriction upon trade and prevent the calamities of war falling upon our common country."

It is also interesting to note that a meeting of the inhabitants of Manheim, Lancaster county, Pa., was held on Tuesday, June 16th, 1812, for the purpose of declaring their sentiments upon the alarming position of the country with regard to the embargo and measures of war, which had been lately adopted by the administration.

Christian Stauffer was appointed chairman, and John Eberle, secretary.

Resolutions opposing war and the embargo, were adopted. John Thome and Emanuel Deyer were appointed delegates to the meeting which was held in Lancaster on the following evening, June 17th. These delegates were instructed to "concur with the rest of our fellow citizens that may assemble in Lancaster, in all *reasonable* resolutions that might have a tendency to ward off the impending evils, and to restore freedom to our commerce and preserve peace to our citizens."

War was declared June 18th, 1812.

The Benevolent Society of Paradise

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

A COMMUNICATION, — dated Paradise, Pa., January 11th, 1817, — appeared in the *Lancaster Journal* of Friday, January 17th. It stated that owing to the scarcity of grain, and to the high prices, there was much distress among the poor and laboring classes of the community. It was feared that the farmers