

# Town Meeting in 1810 to Patrol the Borough

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**I**N the autumn of 1810, attempts were made by incendiaries to destroy several properties in the borough of Lancaster. Late in November of that year, borough officials learned that an attempt was made to set fire to the storehouse of Jacob Frey and George Morry by the use of brimstone matches, paper, etc.

On Friday evening, November 30th, 1810, a general town meeting was held at the house of Henry Reigart, at which time the following action was taken:

“Resolved, That the following gentlemen be a committee to turn out sixteen men immediately as a patrol, and to take returns of the citizens of the borough; and to make all the necessary arrangements for concluding and continuing the same number each night until January 10th, 1811.

## North-east Ward.

John Bomberger  
Jacob Long

Peter Shindle  
James Humes

Samuel White

## North-west Ward.

William Kirkpatrick  
David R. Barton

Jacob Hatz  
William Dickson

John Eberman

## South-east Ward.

Jeremiah Mosher  
Jacob Zank

Emanuel Reigart  
Jacob Slough

## South-west Ward.

Jonas Metzgar  
Henry Witmer

Michael Barnitz  
Henry Swentzel

“Resolved, That any person incapable of serving, or neglecting to find a decent man as substitute, shall pay one dollar for each night to the corporation.

“Resolved, That it be recommended to the magistrates and peace officers within the borough to carry into execution the laws against vagrants, disorderly and suspicious persons, and against all persons whatever who keep disorderly and suspicious houses; and that it be particularly recommended to innkeepers, and inhabitants in general, to give information of all suspicious persons

who may be found within the borough. The safety and peace of the community are supposed to be materially interested in removing all vagrants and suspicious persons from amongst us.

“The citizens composing the nightly patrol are hereby authorized and enjoined to take up and confine in the common jail, for the time being, all vagrants and disorderly and suspicious persons found in the streets at an unusual hour, who cannot give a satisfactory account of themselves.

“Published<sup>1</sup> by order of the corporation and consent of the citizens.

“Adam Reigart, Jr.

“John Bausman,

“Burgesses.”

<sup>1</sup> Printed in The Lancaster Journal of Saturday, December 1st, 1810.

---

## The Ship Conestoga

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**I**T is not generally known, perhaps, that a ship named the “Conestoga”, so-called, doubtless, in honor of the famous Indian tribe for which the river in Lancaster county was named, once sailed between the old world and the new. Yet such was the case, according to an advertisement in the Lancaster Journal of Tuesday, June 15th, 1819, which was as follows:

“From Londonderry direct and back to Philadelphia. The ship Conestoga, William Marshal, master, will sail in about two weeks. For freight or passage apply to John Hemphill, 42 Walnut street, Philadelphia, Pa.”

---

## Society for the Support and Protection of Indigent Orphans

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**O**N Friday, July 19th, 1822, a number of ladies met in the Sunday-school house of Saint James’s Protestant Episcopal church for the purpose of forming a society for the support and protection of indigent orphans.<sup>1</sup>

A meeting in furtherance of this design was appointed to be held at the same place on Saturday evening, July 27th, to which all persons favorably inclined to the movement were invited.