

Rannie, who started performing in Lancaster on July 3rd, entered into an agreement with Mr. Durang and his theatrical company to appear together. It is not stated in the advertisement where the performances were given, but we assume that John Rannie continued playing in Mr. Fisher's long room.

Whether James Rannie, his brother, gave any performances in Lancaster, as stated in the announcement, is not known, as subsequent issues of local papers do not contain any information.

One of the Rannies returned to Lancaster in the spring of 1816, although we do not know whether it was James or John, according to the advertisement which appeared in the Lancaster Journal of Monday, May 20th, 1816. It was as follows:

### NEW EXHIBITION

#### LONG LOOKED FOR IS COME AT LAST.

"On Tuesday evening, the 21st instant, at the tavern of Mr. Hatz, sign of B. Franklin, Mr. Rannie, the truly celebrated performer from Philadelphia, by particular request, proposes exhibiting a grand display of various curiosities, never seen in this place before. The wonderful power of

### VENTRILOQUISM

will be done. Also the great art of imitating all kinds of birds and beasts, with upwards of one hundred curious feats of ingenuity. To begin at half past seven o'clock. Good music. Admittance 25 cents. Tickets to be had at the bar. Smoking segars not to be allowed."

He continued in Lancaster until the evening of Wednesday, May 29th, when the last performance was given, according to the announcement in the Lancaster Journal.

In looking at this apparent conflict between these two brothers, through the mists of more than a century, the indications are that, after all, there was but one performer, and that the other "brother" was simply a fictitious character invented to arouse public curiosity.

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## Dinner Tendered to Postmaster General William T. Barry by Citizens of Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**T**HE Hon. William T. Barry, the able and efficient Postmaster General of the United States, arrived in Lancaster on Monday, October 17th, 1831, and took lodgings at Graeff's hotel, corner of North Queen and West Orange streets [site of the present Young Men's Christian Association]. He was visited during

the day by a large number of citizens at the home of Hon. James Buchanan, all of whom were highly gratified with his plain republican manners and unostentatious demeanor, and with the frankness and intelligence which characterized his intercourse with them. As a tribute of respect for his integrity of character and official services, a letter was presented to him signed by Lancaster's mayor and a number of influential citizens, inviting him to partake of a public dinner.<sup>1</sup> The invitation was as follows:

"Lancaster, Pa.,  
"October 17th, 1831.

"Hon. William T. Barry,  
"Postmaster General.

"Dear Sir:

"We have heard with great pleasure of your arrival in Lancaster; and in behalf of your numerous friends in this city we offer you a public dinner as a tribute of respect both for your personal character and the distinguished services which under the auspices of our venerable President [Andrew Jackson] you have rendered your country by the able, efficient and successful manner in which you have administered the Post Office department.

"Yours respectfully,

"John Mathiot, James Buchanan, B. Champneys, Samuel Humes, Jr., Henry Keffer, William Jenkins, J. R. Montgomery, Christian Bachman, S. R. Slaymaker, Jacob Peelor, Moore Connell, John Miller, James Humes, Hugh Maxwell, Whiteman Benner, John Getz, Reah Frazer, Thomas Feran, George Musser, J. M. Sherer, Adam Diller, William C. Frazer, Cyrus S. Jacobs, Charles Gillespie, C. Hager, Henry Eicholtz, William Norris, Henry Rogers, John Reynolds, Peter Bier, George L. Mayer and George W. Barton."

Mr. Barry sent the following reply:

"Lancaster, Pa.,  
"October 18th, 1831.

"Gentlemen:

"I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday offering me a public dinner as a tribute of respect for my personal character and official services. It is truly gratifying to know that under the auspices of our venerable President I have so discharged the duties of my station as to be entitled to the good opinion of any portion of my countrymen and more especially to the approbation of the highly respectable citizens of Lancaster. I should not for light causes deny myself the gratification of accepting the invitation with which I have been thus highly honored, but considerations of public duty and the very short time I have

to remain in your city will prevent me from doing so. In making known this determination to my friends, I beg you to assure them that I shall ever cherish a fond and proud recollection of the respect and kindness they have shown me; and for the very polite manner, gentlemen, in which you have had the goodness to communicate their wishes to me, I pray you to receive the most grateful acknowledgments of your

“Obedient servant

“W. T. Barry.

“To Messrs. John Mathiot [mayor of Lancaster city], James Buchanan and other members of the committee.”

<sup>1</sup> Lancaster Journal, Friday, October 21st, 1831.

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## The Manufacturing Company of Lancaster

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**A** MEETING of citizens of Lancaster was held at the house of Hugh Wilson, in the borough of Lancaster, on Wednesday evening, August 22nd, 1810. John Swar was appointed chairman, and Samuel White secretary. The object of the meeting was to plan for the establishment of a manufacturing society. A committee, consisting of John Swar, Samuel White, William Hamilton (miller), Jacob Miller, William Dickson, Joseph Lefever and John Light, was appointed to ascertain where and on what terms a suitable site could be secured for erecting the necessary water works and machinery. The committee was also authorized to ascertain whether suitable persons could be obtained to superintend the work; and to present an approximate estimate of the capital necessary to commence a manufactory on a liberal scale. The committee was to report the result of its inquiry at a meeting to be held at the house of George Weaver, in the borough of Lancaster, on Monday, September 17th, 1810.

If a meeting was held, as appointed, no report of its proceedings appeared in the local papers. The establishment of a manufacturing company seems to have been abandoned, for the time being.