

In the Lancaster Journal of Friday, November 7th, 1817, there appeared an announcement that an adjourned meeting of the stockholders of the Manufacturing Company of Lancaster would be held at the house of William Cooper [The Red Lion tavern] on Monday, November 17th, 1817, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

In the Lancaster Journal of Friday, December 19th, 1817, appeared a notice of a public sale to be held on Wednesday afternoon, January 7th, 1818, at the tavern of George Haverstick, near the Lancaster cotton mill. Twenty-five acres of land within the borough of Lancaster, eight dwelling houses, a dye house, with four copper boilers and nineteen dyeing vats, a three-story stone warping and ware house, a wash house, calendering and dry house, together with all the apparatus and machinery necessary to carry on the business of spinning cotton yarn, were listed for sale. Also the unexpired leases on a number of dwelling houses and factory buildings were to be offered for sale. The cause of the financial failure of the Manufacturing Company is not stated in the papers.

The stockholders were earnestly requested to meet at the tavern of William Cooper, on Monday afternoon, January 5th, two days before the sale.<sup>1</sup> The stockholders who might neglect to attend the meeting were warned that "they ought not hereafter to regret if their shares in the establishment should be forfeited."

The last references to the Manufacturing Company appeared in the Lancaster Journal of Wednesday, January 7th, 1818. The stockholders were notified that an election would be held at the house of William Cooper, in the borough of Lancaster, on Tuesday, January 27th, 1818, for the purpose of choosing fifteen directors for the ensuing year. John Swar signed the notice, as president. The sale of the company's property, advertised to take place on January 7th, was postponed to a future day.

<sup>1</sup> Lancaster Journal, Friday, January 2nd, 1818.

## **Lancaster Volunteer Companies March to the Defense of Elkton**

By WILLIAM FREDERIC WORNER

**I**N the spring of 1813, Sir John Borlase Warren, commander of the British fleet in Lynhaven Bay, despatched a frigate, two brigs and four prize schooners, to ravage the shores of the Chesapeake. Rear-Admiral Sir George Cockburn, commanding this fleet, sailed for the head of the bay, spreading consternation as he went. At Annapolis the drums beat to arms, the signal gun was fired, and the citizens were called out, at three in the morning. A few hours later, Cockburn's vessels were sighted from the steeple of the state house, and the inhabitants, sure that they

would shortly be bombarded, began the removal of records and public papers. The enemy, however, passed on up the bay, and after having thrown Baltimore into a state of intense excitement, sailed to the mouth of the Susquehanna river.

The presence so far inland of a British force numbering scarcely five hundred men, soldiers, sailors and marines all told, does not seem to be creditable to the men of Maryland and Virginia; but, as stated in the Lancaster Journal, quoted below, doubtless many were away from their homes in the performance of "military duty." Cockburn and his force were allowed to take possession of Spesutia Island at the mouth of the river, not far from Havre de Grace, to live at free quarters on the farmers, and to harry the country at their pleasure. At Elkton, the inhabitants emptied their stores and concealed the merchandise in the country. The specie was taken to Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

The Lancaster Journal of Thursday, May 13th, 1813, stated, in an editorial, that "Cockburn threatens to destroy Elkton, if it should cost him a thousand men. Our troops are now collecting there in considerable numbers. Their force is now about eight hundred. A French letter of marque (a schooner) mounting twelve guns, lays at Elk landing. They have two breastworks erected, which have a good command of the channel; and while this force is kept up in proper order we think the British will not attack it. The people in that neighborhood have suffered much from being compelled to desert their farms and perform military duty.

"Companies are fast arriving from Chester county, and the lower end of Lancaster county, to relieve them. Captain Ash, from Little Britain, has marched there with a small detachment."

On Thursday, May 13th, 1813, the infantry company known as the Lancaster Phalanx, commanded by Captain James Humes, and the rifle corps called the Lancaster Yagers, commanded by Lieutenant Doll, in the absence of Captain Henry Shippen, marched from this borough to Elkton, Maryland, having volunteered their services for thirty days at Elkton to assist in repelling the attacks of the enemy. They consisted of nearly one hundred men, and made a very handsome appearance. They were escorted to Abraham Witmer's bridge (over Conestoga river, east of Lancaster borough on turnpike to Philadelphia, now Lincoln Highway) by the Committee of Safety, joined with the Corporation of the borough of Lancaster, who, on arriving at the bridge, opened their ranks, let the volunteers pass through and gave twice three cheers. A few miles below Strasburg they were joined by the Pequea Rangers, commanded by Captain John Slaymaker, Jr., who also have volunteered their services at Elkton.

The Lancaster Journal of Thursday, May 20th, 1813, stated:

"The journey of the volunteers to Elkton was rugged and wet, but they bore it well. The fine bullock, which Mr. Benjamin Kauffman of Manor township, Lancaster county, Pa., generously made them a present of, was marched along and is now living in clover, near Elkton.

"The Phalanx, the Lancaster Yagers and the Pequea Rangers are all quartered in a very convenient house,<sup>1</sup> close to Elkton. Their intention is to stay about three weeks, at all events, when if no danger appears, they will return; but if necessity should require it, they will stay longer."

The Lancaster Journal of Thursday, June 10th, 1813, stated:

"It will be gratifying to the citizens of Lancaster to know that the volunteers from this place and from Pequea have during their short campaign [in Elkton] conducted themselves with strict propriety."

The citizens of Elkton, in order to express their gratitude to the volunteers from Lancaster county, gave them an excellent dinner at the house of a Mr. Alexander on Saturday, May 22nd, 1813. Brigadier General Forman presided, attended by his aide and other officers. The volunteers were conducted there by the general and his aide, and welcomed by two rounds of cannon.

The signal of rising was the firing of a third cannon, after which Brigadier General Forman of the militia of that district delivered an address, which ended as follows:

"To you, gentlemen, officers and soldiers of the Pennsylvania militia, in the name of the inhabitants of Elkton, I offer their warmest and most grateful acknowledgments. You flew to their aid at a moment of great anxiety and apparent danger, when their own state, threatened at so many points, could afford them but little assistance. Your presence restored confidence to every breast; and, aided by you, they have little to fear. The citizens will ever remember the strict propriety of your deportment at Elkton; for it has not come to their knowledge that any member of your corps has been guilty of excess, irregularity or unsoldier-like behavior.

"I must express my own high approbation of your conduct; and how much I have been pleased with your excellent discipline.

"You are now about to return to your homes. We most sincerely wish you a pleasant march; that you may meet your friends happy and in health; and that you may long enjoy every earthly blessing."

The patriotic volunteers arrived in Lancaster on Thursday, May 27th, after an absence of two weeks, having been honorably discharged when their services were no longer considered necessary.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> It must have been a *large* house.

<sup>2</sup> *Intelligencer & Weekly Advertiser*, Saturday, May 29th, 1813.