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THE CITY OF
PAST AND PRESENT

BY GEORGE R. PERIN

ILLUSTRATED

YORK, PENNSYLVANIA



THE CITY OF YORK
PAST AND PRESENT

BY GEORGE R. PROWELL

ILLUSTRATED

YORK, PENNSYLVANIA, 1904.

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York
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The following pages are intended to contain a story of the City of York, from the time it was founded, in 1741, down to the present century. It describes in brief the rise and growth of one of the most prosperous and influential cities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This story is arranged in topical form for the convenience of the reader and gives in detail the important events of the early settlements and the period of the Revolution, in which the town and county of York took a very conspicuous part.

1880
1880
1880





The First County Court House and Adjournment of Continental Congress at York, Pa., November, 1777, on the Reception of the News of Burgoyne's Surrender. From a Drawing by Horace Bonham, Esq.

The City of York, Past and Present.

AS EARLY as April, 1722, Sir William Keith, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, and a famous Scotch nobleman, made the first survey of land west of the Susquehanna river. Its area was 2,000 acres, and it was named Keith's Newberry Tract, upon part of which the borough of Wrightsville was afterward built. The right to make settlements west of the river had not yet been obtained from the Indians or from the authorities of Pennsylvania.

In June, 1722, Governor Keith met three tribes of Indians at the mouth of the Conestoga creek on the Lancaster county side and made a treaty with them. A few days later by the authority of John, Thomas and Richard Penn, then the proprietors of the Province, he crossed the Susquehanna and had a survey made of 75,000 acres, afterward known as Springettsbury Manor, which when resurveyed in 1768, was limited to 64,000 acres. It was set apart for the benefit of Springett Penn, the favorite grandson of William Penn, who had died in England in 1718. Springettsbury

Manor extended from the Susquehanna about fifteen miles westward. Twelve miles west from the river in a direct line was the site of the future city of York on the banks of the Codorus. The beautiful Manor of Springettsbury, about nine miles in width, was then a virgin forest, and had been occupied from time unknown by wandering tribes of Indians.

COOKSON'S PLAN OF YORK.

It was in 1741 that Thomas Cookson, a noted surveyor for the Penns, was sent across the river from Lancaster where he resided, to lay out a town on the banks of the Codorus, within the Manor of Springettsbury. He surveyed 102 acres of unoccupied lands on the east bank of the creek into 256 lots, each 240 feet long and 60 feet wide. "Cookson's plan of the town of York," so far as is known, was not returned to the land office at Philadelphia, but descriptions of it state that the leading streets were named High or Market, George, King, Prince, Queen, Water and Philadelphia. The purchasers of lots were required to build within a

year, a dwelling house whose dimensions should not be less than sixteen feet square, though they might be as large as the owner desired.

It was required that every house should contain a chimney of brick or stone. York, thus laid out in 1741 by Thomas Cookson, was the first town west of the Susquehanna, and was named in honor of the ancient city of York, for a time the seat of the English Government, and to-day, ecclesiastically, the second city of the British Empire.

At the time York was founded, there were only 2,000 people within the present area of York county. Scattered bands of peaceful Indians were the neighbors of these sturdy pioneers from the fatherland, who built their first cabins in the new town on the Codorus. It was situated upon the Monocacy road laid out in 1739, which extended from the present site of Wrightsville across the country to western Maryland. This road was the first highway laid out west of the Susquehanna and for many years was the main line of travel to the south and southwest. The early settlers at York, desiring to carry on trade relations with settlers about fifty miles to the south, a road was opened in 1741 to Patapsco, the present site of Baltimore.

VISIT OF JAMES LOGAN.

In 1743, James Logan, who came to America with William Penn, as his private secretary, and who became a noted friend of the Indians, visited York to aid in advancing its growth and development. He was then the secretary and afterward Chief Justice of the Province. In a letter to the Honorable Thomas Penn, he states that York then contained eleven houses, all erected on Market Street west of the Square. The settlers were in need of a saw mill, so he laid plans for the erection of such a mill on a small stream one mile south of town along the Patapsco road. Several dwellings were then in course of construction.

The Lutherans under the leadership of Pastor Stoever, were erecting a building of logs for a house of worship on the present site of Christ Lutheran Church. The German Reformed settlers were building a log church on West Market Street where Zion Reformed Church now stands. Logan further describes the difficulties these early settlers had to contend with in their frontier homes.

BECOMES THE COUNTY SEAT.

The first permits for emigrants to settle west of the

Susquehanna were granted in 1733, but as the Indians were peaceable, by 1749 there were 6,000 people within the present area of York county. It was in that year that the county of York was laid out by authority of the Provincial Assembly, and the new town on the banks of the Codorus was selected as the county seat.

George Stevenson, an educated Englishman, came here in 1749 as the agent of the Penns to take charge of the Court Records. Five years later he addressed a letter to the Honorable Richard Peters, Secretary of the Province, stating that the new seat of justice then contained 210 dwelling houses and thirty in course of erection, the town then having a population of about 1,000. All of the houses in York, except five, at this time, had been built of logs prepared at the Logan saw mill south of town. Three were built of brick and two of stone. The county Court House in Centre Square was being constructed of bricks by William Willis, a noted Quaker, who lived near town, while Henry Clark, of Warrington township, who had a saw mill on Beaver Creek was furnishing the woodwork.

A stone jail was in process of construction at the northeast corner of George and King Streets. The early sessions of the courts were held in the houses of

the provincial justices until the Court House in Centre Square had been completed in 1756. These justices were appointed by the provincial authorities, from three to five of them sitting at each session of the court. They administered the laws of the King of England, from whom William Penn had obtained a grant for the Province of Pennsylvania. These justices were not lawyers by profession, but representative men among the early settlers. This plan of holding courts continued in York and other seats of justice in Pennsylvania until the Constitution of 1790 was adopted. It was then that the courts were first presided over by men learned in the law.

In front of the colonial Court House in Centre Square, stocks and the pillory were erected for the punishment of criminals in accordance with the old English law. Behind the jail, offenders, convicted of certain crimes, were often taken to the whipping post and given twenty or more lashes on the bare back, as a mode of punishment. A cat-o'-nine-tails used in colonial days at York is still in existence. At certain intervals the Justice of the Supreme Court of the Province came here to try important cases. Among the learned men who came on this mission before the Revolution,

were the distinguished jurists, Benjamin Chew and James Logan, who, as has been stated, was sent to York two years after it was founded.

THE FOUNDING OF CHURCHES.

Immediately after permits were granted to purchase lands west of the Susquehanna, in 1731, numerous German emigrants located on what are now the fertile limestone lands of the valley, extending from the Susquehanna westward to the vicinity of Hanover. With them came some English Quakers and Episcopalians, but the vast body of them were Germans—Lutherans, Reformed and Moravians. These people brought with them the principles taught in the Fatherland, from whence most of them had lately come, and in September, 1733, the Lutherans took steps for the organization of a congregation, the first one of this denomination west of the Susquehanna, holding their meetings originally in the homes of early settlers.

The contributors to the purchase of the first record book for the members of this congregation, in September, 1733, together with the times of the arrival of some of them to America, were recorded in the first pages of this historic book now in the possession of the vestry of Christ Lutheran Church.

When Congress sat in York during the Revolution some of the members were entertained at the home of the pastor, Rev. Nicholas Kurtz. These members as well as other delegates to Congress often attended the religious services of this church.

For nearly a century religious services were conducted by this congregation in the German language. Meantime the old log church was replaced by a stone building. In 1813 the present church edifice was erected. English services were occasionally held in 1826, and ten years later St. Paul's Lutheran Church was founded for the purpose of conducting religious services entirely in the English language.

Members of the Reformed Church held religious services under the direction of the renowned missionary, Rev. Michael Schlatter, in their homes in the vicinity of York before the town had been laid out, and in 1743, Zion Reformed Church, on West Market Street, was founded. The congregation grew rapidly under the leadership of the Rev. Jacob Lischy, an educated German whose eloquence attracted the attention of all his hearers. It was in the second church building owned by this congregation that members of Continental Congress frequently attended service while the

sessions of that body were held in York during the dark days of the Revolution; and were addressed at different times by Bishop White and Rev. Dr. George Duffield, chaplains. The pastor of the congregation during the eventful period was Rev. Daniel Wagner. The remains of Philip Livingston, a distinguished patriot from the State of New York and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, were buried in 1778 in the yard in the rear of this church. In 1856 they were removed to Prospect Hill Cemetery where they now rest. A beautiful marble shaft marks this historic spot. In 1791, George Washington, while visiting York on his return to Philadelphia, the National Capital, after making a tour of the Southern States, listened to a sermon in this church. This sermon was preached by the pastor of the congregation, in the German language, and the distinguished soldier who was then President of the United States, says in his diary: "There was no danger of the preacher making a proselyte of me by the eloquence of his speech, not a word of which I understood." The President further states in his diary that there were no services on that day in the Episcopal Church which he regularly attended, and hence he went to the German

Reformed Church. There was a special reason why the first President of the United States should bow his head in reverence to Almighty God in this house of worship, for within its sacred walls the illustrious patriot, Robert Morris, at a special session of Congress, representing the sentiment of the Commander-in-Chief at Valley Forge, declared in eloquent words that the American Congress would accept no overtures of peace from the English government without the withdrawal of the British Army and the acknowledgment of our Independence.

Among the earliest settlers at York were a few members of the Church of England, who were occasionally visited by missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, before the Revolution. The exact date when St. John's Church was organized cannot be given, but in June, 1765, Rev. Thomas Barton, who had just returned from England, whither he went to be ordained, instituted stated worship. No record remains of the place where such services were held. For nearly a decade he was a zealous missionary at York, Carlisle and York Springs, and with large hearted charity even sought the conversion of the Indians. His letters to the Society are full

of this truly missionary work among the aborigines of the soil. To his office of priest he added that of soldier, for in the troublesome times with the French and hostile Indians, he organized his people for defense against their allied foes; and so much did he distinguish himself in this patriotic service that his conduct was spoken of in a letter from Philadelphia to John Penn, proprietor of Pennsylvania.

The Scotch Presbyterians were the first settlers to take up lands in the southeastern and extreme western sections of York county, arriving there ten years before York was founded. Their first church was built at the union of Scott's Run and Muddy Creek in Peach Bottom township. Soon afterward another Presbyterian congregation was organized in the Marsh Creek district. While the Scotch-Irish took a prominent part in the affairs in York county, they had no church organization in York until after the Revolution.

For several years a little band of Presbyterians, without any formal church organization, were ministered to by the Rev. Mr. Hanna, of the Presbytery of Carlisle. In 1785; George Erwin, William Scott and Archibald McLean purchased the lot on the corner of Market and Queen Streets, "in trust for the use of the

Religious Society of English Presbyterians." On this lot in 1790, the first house of worship was erected, a plain brick building. In March, 1793, this congregation was united with the Round Hill Church, in Hopewell township, in a call to the Rev. Robert Cathcart of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, which was accepted. This venerable clergyman continued as pastor for the long period of thirty years.

Among the first Germans who purchased lots in 1741, at the laying out of the town of York, were a number of Moravians. Services were held in this county by Moravian missionaries as early as 1744. Sometime before this, missionaries of this denomination conducted services among the Indians and the first settlers. Before there were any permanent settlements there was a trail or route for the devoted missionaries of this church from their famous settlement at Bethlehem, founded by Count Zinzendorf, across York county to western Maryland and Virginia. In 1751, Rev. John Philip Meurer was the first regular pastor, and during that year organized a congregation, which worshiped in private houses until 1755, when a stone church was built at the corner of Princess and Water Streets.

Rev. John Roth, pastor of this church during the



VIEW OF YORK IN 1850. FROM A PHOTOGRAPH MADE BY JOHN T. WILLIAMS.

Revolution, kept a diary of events which transpired while Continental Congress was in session here. Several of the members of Congress lodged at his house and enjoyed his hospitality. In one entry of his diary he laments the fact that some delegates to Congress were wicked enough to attend a ball.

In the early history of the settlement of York county, nearly all the emigrants who located north of the Conewago creek, were members of the Society of Friends. Some came from England, but the vast number of them from New Castle and Chester counties. As early as 1738, what are termed "indulged meetings," were organized in the townships of Newberry and Warrington. Inasmuch as the Province of Pennsylvania was largely at this time under Quaker rule, when the county was organized, three of the five persons appointed as commissioners to make the division, were members of the Society of Friends. John Wright, of Wright's Ferry, was one of them; Thomas Cox, of Warrington, another, and Nathan Hussey, of Newberry, the third. When the county seat was located at York, and the courts organized, they manifested their importance in the management of the county affairs. As the courts were held by justices appointed for that purpose,

the name of John Day, who resided then (1749) at his "mill property," twelve and a half miles north of York, was first on the list. In consequence he became the first presiding court justice. He was a member of the Newberry meeting. John Blackburn, one of his successors, was a member of the Warrington meeting. Business brought them to York, and a number of them soon purchased property in the town and vicinity. Prominent among the first was Nathan Hussey, who had settled in Newberry in 1735, coming from New Castle county, Delaware. Nathan Hussey, William Willis and a few others located in the vicinity of York about 1750. In 1754 they obtained permission of the Warrington monthly meeting to hold an "indulged meeting" in York. The original meeting house which is yet standing is located on West Philadelphia, between Beaver and Water Streets.

The first religious services of the Methodist Episcopal Church were conducted by Rev. Freeborn Garretson, January 24, 1781, at the farmhouse of James Worley, now owned by Jacob Loucks, on West York Avenue, extended. This noted apostle of Methodism afterward preached the Gospel in all the states from Nova Scotia to the Gulf of Mexico, and during the

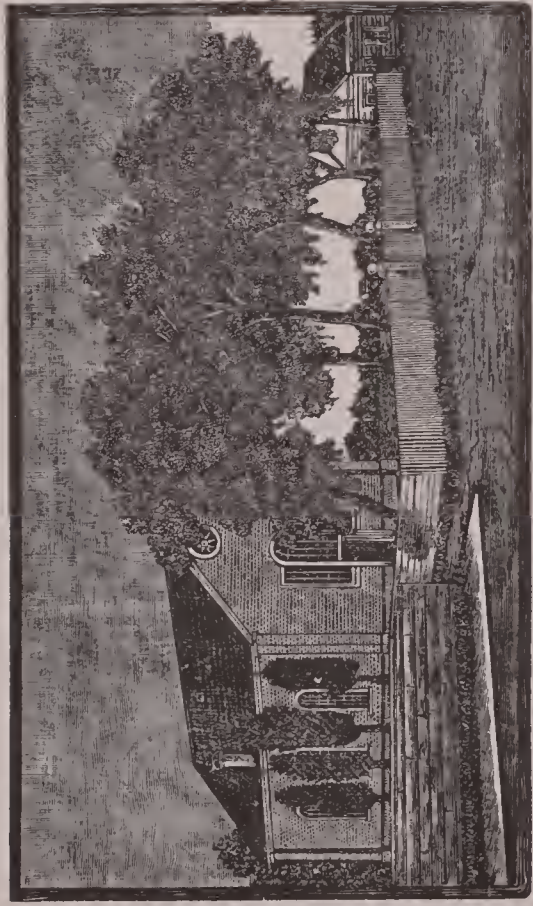
later years of his life, his labors were confined to the city of New York. James Worley, at whose residence the first Methodist services were held, while on a visit to Baltimore, was deeply impressed with the fervent eloquence of Freeborn Garretson and invited him to come to York, which invitation was accepted. A large audience assembled. The next day he left for Carlisle, stopping on his way and preaching at Lewisberry, which was then composed of but half a dozen houses. The people in and around York were confused with his new doctrines and his sermon called forth excited debates. He was invited to return. In James Worley's farmhouse he preached several sermons. Being a man of great force of character and eloquence, his preaching resulted in securing Mr. Worley and his family and many others to adopt his faith. Under these circumstances the first Methodist congregation was organized in the limits of York county. A building was soon afterward erected in York on the present site of the First United Brethren Church.

In 1840 the Mission Society of the Otterbein Church of the United Brethren in Christ, of Baltimore, established a mission in York and sent Rev. Christian S. Crider to begin the work. He organized a congregation

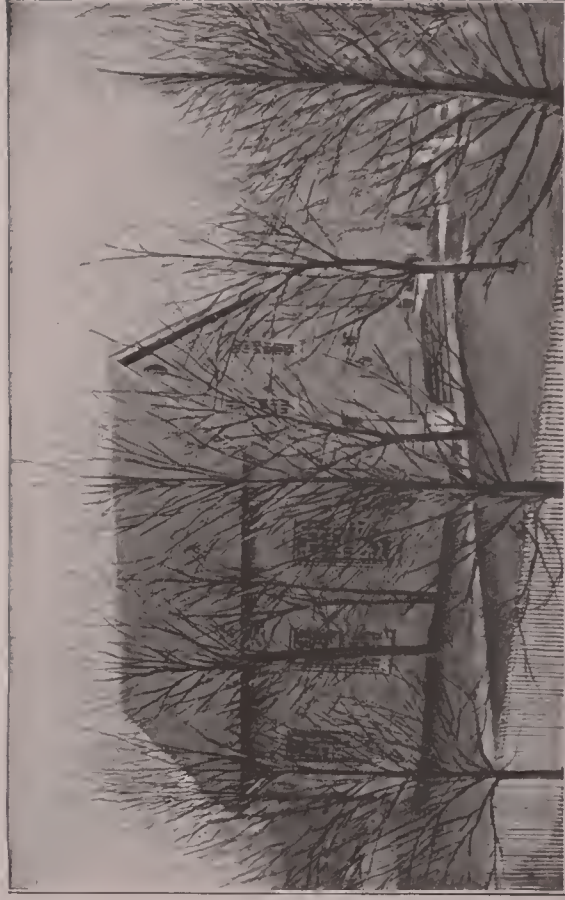
which purchased the Methodist meeting-house at the northwest corner of Philadelphia and Newberry Streets, where the First United Brethren Church now stands.

The Evangelical Association originated in Pennsylvania in 1800. A few years later, its founder, the Rev. Jacob Albright, conducted services at York, preaching at the open meetings in front of the Continental Court House in Centre Square. The first house of worship erected by this church body in York county was situated near Shrewsbury, in 1822. The first congregation in York was organized in 1842, under the leadership of Dr. George Brickley, a physician, who also introduced into the borough of York the practice of homeopathy.

The German Baptists came to York county with the earliest emigrants from the Fatherland, settling along the Bermudian Creek and in the vicinity of Hanover. The members of this church body were the first Germans to settle in Pennsylvania, coming to Germantown, by invitation of William Penn, founder of the Province, a few years after his arrival. The Sauer Press of Germantown and the Ephrata Press, in Lancaster county, published more books before the Revolution than all the other presses in America. Both these presses were owned by the German Baptists.



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN 1770.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN YORK, BUILT 1790.

John Digges, an Irish nobleman, of Prince George's county, Md., obtained the right from Lord Baltimore for a tract of 10,000 acres, on part of which the borough of Hanover was afterward built. Some of the first settlers coming there as early as 1730, were members of the Catholic Church. A few years later a congregation was organized which was ministered to by traveling missionaries. The first Catholic Church in York, a stone building situated on the present site of St. Patrick's Church on South Beaver Street, was dedicated and consecrated in 1776, the year the Declaration of Independence was signed.

HOME LIFE OF OUR ANCESTORS.

The earliest inhabitants of York and vicinity lived on peaceable terms with the Indians of the Western frontier for a period of twenty years after they took up the lands of this region. These industrious settlers engaged in clearing the land, building their cabins and raising small crops of wheat, rye, corn, flax and potatoes. Saw-mills and grist-mills were built along the streams as well as fulling and carding mills for the manufacture of woolen goods for clothing; the flax brake and the spinning wheel were in every home, for

linen goods and towcloth were often used in making garments for summer wear. In the town of York various mechanics plied their trades, and the gunsmith, shoemaker, hatter, clockmaker and tailor came with the first settlers. So long as the Indians remained quiet and peaceable along the eastern slopes of the Alleghany Mountains, this life of our forefathers was almost ideal. The forests were abundant with game, the streams were well supplied with the choicest fish; the native soil yielded large crops, while the hickory and chestnut forests produced great quantities of nuts, and wild fruits were found everywhere.

FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.

But there was a storm brewing in Western Pennsylvania. Insidious French settlers were laying claim to the Ohio valley, and in order to effect their purpose, they had incited the Delawares and other tribes of Indians to be unfriendly toward the English and German settlers in Eastern Pennsylvania. In fact the Indians became allies with the French in erecting forts and other defenses in Western Pennsylvania. Benjamin Franklin and two associates in 1754 had a conference with Indian chiefs at the Croghan Fort above the site

of Harrisburg and at the new town of Carlisle in the Cumberland valley. They succeeded in part in reconciling the Indians, but the French had erected Fort Duquesne, where Pittsburg now stands, and two other forts some distance to the north. Sir William Pitt, then the Premier of England, persuaded the King to send General Edward Braddock, an officer of distinction in the English Army, with two regiments of troops to this country for the purpose of driving the French from our Western frontier. Braddock landed in Virginia where he met George Washington, then a young man, who volunteered to join Braddock as an aide on his staff. Two thousand provincial troops were ordered to be raised from Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia.

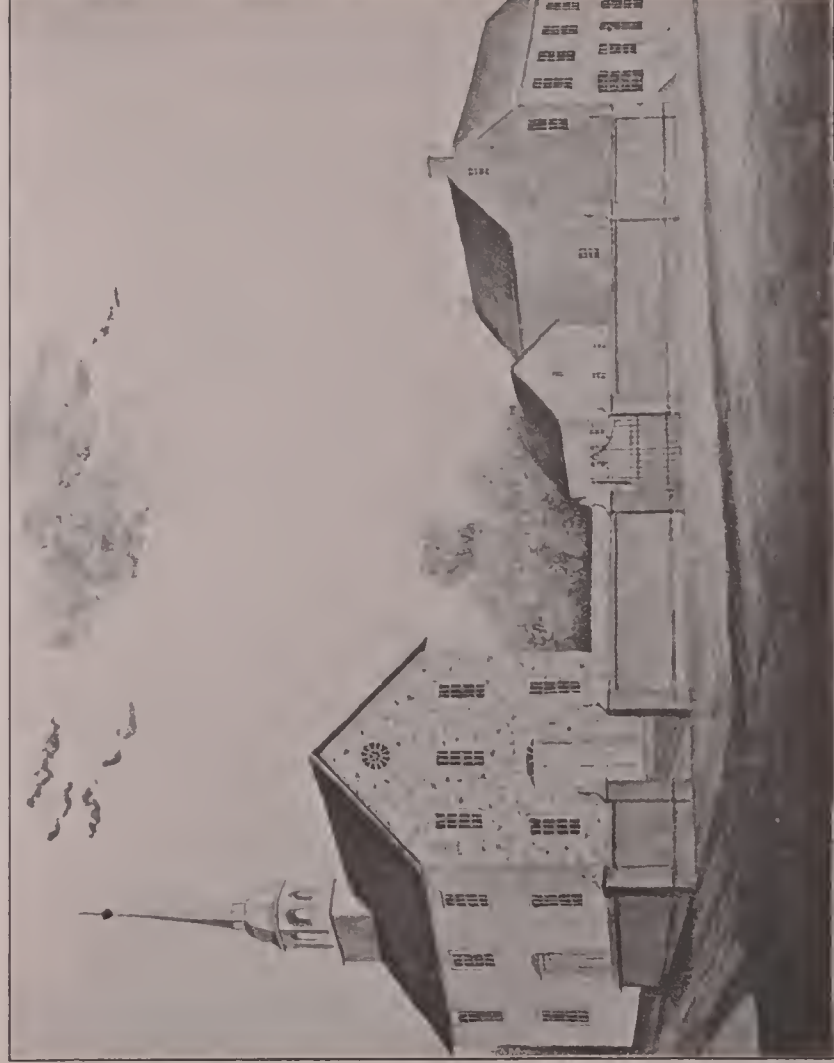
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN AT YORK.

Benjamin Franklin, then a leading spirit in the Pennsylvania assembly, came to York in the summer of 1755 and soon afterward met General Braddock at Frederick, Md. He found that this English officer had only twenty-five wagons to transport his stores and baggage across the Alleghany Mountains. He needed 150 wagons and Franklin returned to York and Lancaster and sent his son, Richard, to Carlisle, offering 15 shil-

lings a day for a wagon with a driver and four horses, 2 shillings a day for each horse with a pack saddle or other saddle, and 18 pence for a horse without a saddle. By pledging his own property as security, and paying for each team partly in advance, he secured the 150 wagons. Soon afterward Sir John St. Clair, a Scotch baronet, quarter-master of the Braddock expedition, came to York and Carlisle to secure 1,200 barrels of flour for this expedition. He obtained the flour from the grist-mills in these counties. Then, returning to Braddock's Army, composed of nearly 3,000 men, St. Clair with 800 picked men cut the new road across the mountains towards Fort Duquesne. Against the judgment of the youthful Washington, General Braddock advanced too hastily and was met a few miles east of the present site of Pittsburg, where he was defeated, losing sixty officers, himself being among the killed. It was an inglorious defeat to the British Army. In this battle Washington had two horses shot under him and four balls passed through his clothing. Only 400 men came out of the fight unharmed. The provincial troops served with more valor than the English regulars, and Colonel Dunbar commanding the survivors marched to Philadelphia. The triumphs of the Indians in defeating



YORK FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE.



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, PARSONAGE AND SCHOOL HOUSE, 1760-1812.

Braddock incited them to hostility against all the settlers of Pennsylvania. They began at once to make depredations on the frontier parts of the Province east of the mountains, and most of the settlers fled across the Susquehanna. Men, women and children came in large numbers through York to cross the river at Wrights' Ferry.

George Stevenson, the agent of the Penns at York, wrote a letter to Richard Peters, secretary of the Province at Philadelphia, stating that the condition of affairs at York was alarming in the highest degree, for he expected the town would soon be visited by hostile Indians with the firebrand and the scalping knife. James Smith, afterward a signer of the Declaration of Independence, John Adlum, Herman Updegraff and Thomas Armour, Court Justices of York county, addressed letters to the Governor asking for arms and ammunition for companies about to be raised for defence, stating that one company, armed and equipped, commanded by Hance Hamilton, the first sheriff of York county, had already gone to the frontier. They further stated that hostile Indians were within one day's march of Harris' Ferry, and two days' march of York. Recruiting began at once at York and throughout the county and five companies were raised. Rev. Thomas

Barton, missionary for the Episcopal Church at York, Carlisle and York Springs, commanded one company; Rev. John Bay, Presbyterian clergyman, raised another. All ministers of the Gospel were urged by the Provincial authorities to rouse their members to prepare for defensive operations. Captain Hance Hamilton with sixty Scotch-Irishmen, marched to Fort Littleton, a defense in the present region of Fulton county. Captain David Jameson, a physician of York, went with a company to Fort Augusta, on the present site of Sunbury. A line of fortifications and blockhouses had been built from the Delaware River along the eastern slope of the Alleghany Mountains to the Maryland line.

It was determined now to send an expedition to defeat the Indians who were behind strong fortifications at Kitanning along the Alleghany River, forty miles north-east of Pittsburg. Colonel John Armstrong, of Carlisle, was in command. Captain Hance Hamilton, with his sixty men from York county, did valiant service in this expedition, which resulted in the complete rout of the Indians. This occurred in 1756.

FORBES' EXPEDITION.

The Provincial soldiers being successful with this affair, it was determined by Sir William Pitt, the next

year, to organize an expedition for the conquest of the French and Indians at Fort Duquesne. General Forbes, a trained soldier from England, and with more sagacity than Braddock, was placed in charge of this expedition. He had under his command an army of 1,200 Highlanders, 350 royal Americans, and about 5,000 Provincial soldiers from Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, including 2,000 Virginians under the command of Colonel George Washington. Many of these troops passed through York. General Forbes then rendezvoused at Carlisle. The Pennsylvania troops, about 2,000 in number, were under the command of Colonel Bouquet, a Swiss patriot who had an experience of several years in European wars. The Forbes expedition was a brilliant success and ended the French and Indian War, so far as Pennsylvania was concerned. The French were driven from Fort Duquesne down the Ohio River, and their Indian allies fled in dismay to the north and west. A new defense was built on the same site, which was named Fort Pitt, in honor of Sir William Pitt, the great English statesman, who had projected this expedition. Dr. David Jameson of York was major of the 2nd Battalion, commanded by Colonel James Burd; James Ewing, then living a few miles east of

York and who became a brigadier-general in the Revolution, was adjutant of the 3d Battalion, commanded by Colonel Hugh Mercer, the bosom friend of Washington. Archibald McGrew, Robert McPherson and Thomas Hamilton, from York county, were captains in Mercer's Battalion. That brilliant soldier, Hance Hamilton, was major of Armstrong's Battalion.

YORK IN THE REVOLUTION.

The inhabitants of York and vicinity after the defeat of the French at Fort Duquesne were never endangered by incursions from the Indians. They turned their attention to the arts of peace. The little town on the Codorus received a new impetus of life. Many new houses were built so that the population was soon increased to 1,500. But there was trouble ahead for these honest burghers of York and the tillers of the soil in the surrounding country and all over the thirteen American colonies, which had been founded and settled by the authority of the English Government. It was charged by the American colonists that the mother country was enforcing tyrannical laws which encroached upon the civil rights of American subjects. What is known to history as the Boston Port Bill caused dis-

sension from New Hampshire to Georgia. Meetings were held in opposition to the laws which were being enforced by the King and Parliament. They were held in all the centres of population. One of these was convened at York in 1774, being presided over by Michael Swope, afterward a colonel in the Revolution. At this meeting it was decided by a unanimous vote that the inhabitants of York would support their brethren in Philadelphia and other parts of the colonies in asking for redress, and relief for the distressed condition of the inhabitants of Boston. Delegates were appointed to attend the first Provincial Conference at Philadelphia. James Smith attended this conference and, soon after his return home, organized at York in 1774, the first military company in America to oppose British oppression and to defend the rights of the colonists. The following year Smith was made a colonel of the militia for the Province of Pennsylvania.

YORK TROOPS AT BOSTON.

The tocsin of war was sounded by the speech of Patrick Henry before the Virginia assembly at Richmond, which was soon followed by the attack on the Provincial forces of Massachusetts at Concord and

Lexington. The patriotic ardor of the citizens of York and vicinity had now been aroused to the highest pitch when they heard that a great battle had been fought at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. Thirteen days after this event a company of York soldiers, under the command of Michael Doudel, with Henry Miller and John Clark as lieutenants, began the march to Boston, where they arrived July 25, being the first troops west of the Hudson and south of Long Island to join the American forces near that city. Although tired and worn by their long march of 500 miles, with undaunted courage, they offered their services to General Washington immediately after their arrival, and asked that they be permitted to capture a British transport on the Charles River. The commander-in-chief commended them for their patriotism, but thought the proposition inexpedient at that time. A few days later Washington detailed them to capture some British sentinels, in order that he might learn from them the enemy's purpose in erecting certain earthworks in front of the American encampment. This daring feat was accomplished by Captain Doudel's company with the loss of one man, Corporal Cruise, a gallant soldier, who lingered for several months in a British prison in London. The trained

riflemen from York succeeded in killing several of the enemy and bringing prisoners to the headquarters of Washington at Cambridge.

The martial spirit was now rife in the town and county of York, for in the fall of 1775 five battalions of militia were organized, commanded respectively by Colonel James Smith of York, Robert McPherson of Marsh Creek, Richard McAllister of Hanover, Colonel Wm. Smith of Chanceford, and Wm. Rankin of Newberry township. These battalions were under regular drill and discipline for several months. Near the close of 1775, one company was selected from each battalion and a regiment of "Minute Men" organized, with Richard McAllister, Colonel; Thomas Hartley, Lieutenant-Colonel, and David Grier, Major. Soon afterward a part of this command joined the first expedition for the conquest of Canada.

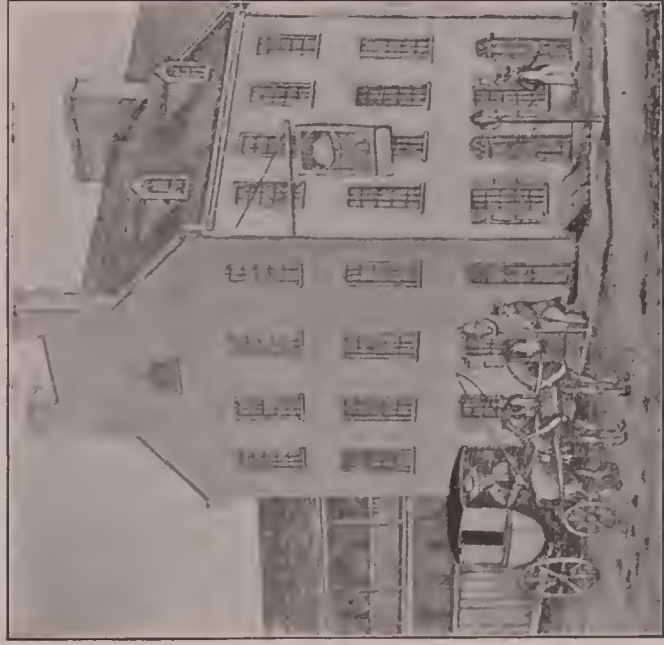
During this year and the remainder of the Revolution, the spirit of war was constantly impressed upon the people of York by the passage of troops from the southern states to join Washington's Army, and often British prisoners were brought here, or escorted to Frederick, Md., Winchester and other points in Virginia.

On the 26th of March, 1777, commissioners from

the six middle states met at York for the purpose of regulating the price of labor, manufactured goods and internal produce. Lewis Burwell, of Virginia, presided and Caesar Rodney was one of the delegates. They sat more than two months and the result of their labors was a recommendation adopted November 22, 1777, that several states should become creditors of the United States, by raising for the Continental treasury \$5,000,000 in quarterly installments.

PATRIOTISM AND VALOR OF YORK SOLDIERS.

In this brief story of historic York, it is impossible to give the details of the part taken by the patriotic men of the town and county in the Revolution. Let it suffice to say that they showed a valor and patriotism unexcelled in any part of the thirteen original states. In the early part of 1776, there were four armed and equipped companies in the town of York, and about 3,000 militia throughout the county, then including Adams, ready to march to the front if their services were wanted. Many of these soldiers took part in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown, and in subsequent campaigns under Washington. Colonel Swope's regiment from York and vicinity won distinction at



The Globe Inn, where Lafayette was entertained in 1825.



COL. THOMAS HARTLEY.



MRS. HARTLEY.

Long Island and Fort Washington; James Ewing took command of the famous Flying Camp in 1776, and rose to the rank of a Brigadier-General; Colonel Thomas Hartley, a man of high intellect as well as patriotic valor, led his men to victory on several fields of battle; General Henry Miller, a bold and dashing soldier, received the commendations of the commander-in-chief for saving the left wing of the army from defeat at the Battle of Princeton; Colonel Richard McAllister, after organizing the militia of York county, marched with the regiment, which was conspicuous for its bravery at Long Island and at White Plains; Colonel John Hay, who succeeded him as sub-lieutenant of York county and Colonel Matthew Dill, his associate, also won a reputation for bravery in the field; Major John Clark received the highest praise for his success at Long Island, and at the request of Washington, was placed on the staff of General Greene, next to the commander-in-chief, the greatest American soldier of that period; Colonel David Grier, a hero of the campaign to Canada received two serious wounds at the famous Battle of Paoli, under General Wayne; and Major Joseph Prowell, with a battalion of 400 men, led the advance of Sullivan's expedition into the Wyoming Valley to

drive out the hostile Indians. The achievements of these sons of York county, and the gallant soldiers who fought under them, have added lustre to the pages of American history. They won a record for military achievement, worthy of being handed down to future generations.

James Smith, a practicing lawyer at York, became one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. His remains now lie in the Presbyterian Church yard on East Market Street. His speeches, while a member of Congress, show that he possessed ability of a high order. He died at the advanced age of 92.

Colonel Hartley, famed as a soldier, also represented York county in Congress for nearly twelve years, and was the first Pennsylvania lawyer to be admitted to the Supreme Court of the United States.

It was shortly after the defeat of the American Army at Brandywine, in September, 1777, that Continental Congress adjourned from Independence Hall in Philadelphia, to meet in Lancaster, Pa.

YORK, THE NATION'S CAPITAL.

To avoid being captured by the British, the government documents and the small amount of money then

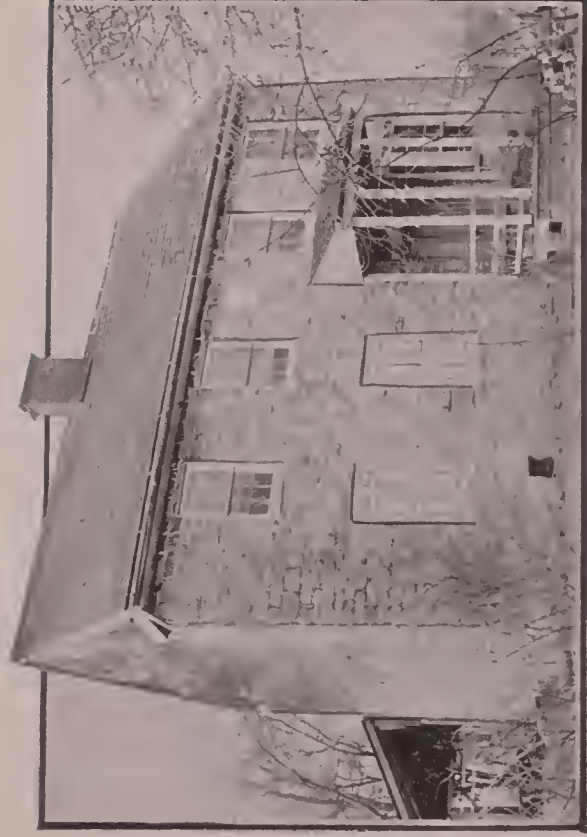
in the treasury, were sent to Bethlehem in wagons, carefully guarded by two regiments of troops. The members of Congress, themselves, from the thirteen original states, started on horseback for Bethlehem, where they spent Sunday, and attended services at the Moravian Church. The following day they proceeded toward Lancaster, where the State Legislature of Pennsylvania was then in session. Only one day's session was held in Lancaster when it was decided that "the Susquehanna should flow between Congress and the enemy," and it adjourned to York, which then contained 286 houses and about 1,500 inhabitants.

Coming up the road from Wright's Ferry on one calm September afternoon of the eventful year of 1777, were these illustrious men, whose acts and deeds during this dark period of the Revolution have given lustre to the pages of American History.

Among this band of patriots whose intelligence and foresight astonished the nations of the world, were John Hancock, Samuel Adams and John Adams, of Massachusetts; James Duane, William Duer and Gouverneur Morris, of New York; Roger Sherman and Charles Marchant, of Connecticut; Robert Morris, General Roberdeau and James Smith, of Pennsylvania;

Charles Carroll, of Maryland; Richard Henry Lee, Benjamin Harrison (ancestor of two presidents) and Francis Lightfoot Lee, of Virginia; Dr. Witherspoon, of New Jersey, and Henry Laurens, of South Carolina. These men were eminent as statesmen, and twenty-six of them the year before, had appended their names to that immortal document, the Declaration of Independence. When Congress assembled in York on the first day of October, 1777, in the historic old Court House, which stood in Centre Square, it beheld the chief cities of the country in the hands of the enemy and a shattered and dispirited army retreating before a conquering foe. The battle of Brandywine had just ended in favor of the invading British army, whose numbers were nearly double those of the Americans. In the meantime, Washington was reinvested by Congress, with extraordinary powers, for sixty days, and soon afterward took up his winter quarters at Valley Forge.

The little band of patriots, which assembled daily in the Court House in York, had increased its membership, by the arrival of newly elected delegates in October. It sat with closed doors. None but the members of Congress and occasionally a few government officials, were allowed to hear the debates on the



The House Where Thomas Paine Wrote His "Fifth Crisis" During the Revolution.



RESIDENCE OF BALTZER SPANGLER, BUILT 1760.

momentous questions that engaged their attention. In a building at one corner of Centre Square, Michael Hillegas, Treasurer of the United States, kept the accounts of the government; a short distance away, John Adams presided over the Board of War, whose duty it was to administer to the wants of the army, the same as the War Department of to-day. The President of Congress was John Hancock, of Massachusetts, who was then the wealthiest man in the United States. He rented the largest house obtainable in York and some of the other members lodged at his residence. As the executive head of the nation he lived in considerable style, and his household expenses were paid by the government. All the other members were required to pay their own expenses and received a small annual salary paid by the States they represented. Early in November John Hancock resigned as President of Congress, and Henry Laurens, of South Carolina, was chosen his successor.

Of the members of Continental Congress during the entire period of the Revolution, none were more zealous in legislating for the prosecution of the war than Samuel Adams, of Massachusetts. He was a man of lofty patriotism and unbounded energy. The

English Government blamed John Hancock and Samuel Adams more than any others for the origin of the war, and a reward of \$25,000 was offered for the capture of either of them. Both Hancock and Adams, if ever captured, were to be denied pardon for their alleged treason to the mother country. With Adams as the leader of Congress while in York, the struggle for liberty was simply a matter of life or death. Success in establishing freedom would send him down to posterity, honored by all future generations; failure pointed to the prison cell and the ignominy of a rebel doomed to the scaffold. Everything seemed dark and gloomy during the early days of October, 1777, and some of the members of Congress were almost ready to give up the struggle in despair and accept the overtures of peace offered by the British Government.

Washington had not yet loomed up as the dominant personality of the Revolution. About this time John Adams made the following entry in his diary:

“The prospect is chilling on every side, gloomy, dark, melancholy and dispiriting. When and where will light come from? Shall we have good news from Europe? Shall we hear of a blow struck by Gates against Burgoyne? Is there a possibility that Wash-

ington may yet defeat Howe? Is there a possibility that McDougall and Dickinson shall destroy the British detachment in New Jersey? If Philadelphia is lost, is the cause of Independence lost?" Then he continues: "No, the cause is not lost. Heaven grant us one great soul. One leading mind would extricate the best cause from the ruins that seem to await it. We have as good a cause as ever was fought for. One active, masterly capacity would bring order out of this confusion and save our country."

SAMUEL ADAMS' GREAT SPEECH.

The affairs of the new born nation for a time were controlled by a few men, who met regularly in a caucus at the home of General Roberdeau, of Pennsylvania, who lived in a rented house nearly opposite Christ Lutheran church, on South George street. Many of the leaders in Congress, including Henry Laurens, Benjamin Harrison, Dr. Witherspoon, Richard Henry Lee, Elbridge Gerry and John and Samuel Adams lodged in this house. It was here on one October night of 1777, that Samuel Adams called a caucus. After obtaining the views of the different members, some of whom were very despondent, Samuel Adams

rose and delivered one of the most eloquent and impressive speeches in American history, as follows:

"Gentlemen: Your spirits seem oppressed with the weight of public calamities, and your sadness of countenance reveals your disquietude. A patriot may grieve at the disasters of his country, but he will never despair of the commonwealth. Our affairs are said to be desperate, but we are not without hope and not without courage. The eyes of the people of this country are upon us here, and the tone of their feeling is regulated by ours. If we as delegates in Congress give up in despair, and grow desperate, public confidence will be destroyed and American liberty will be no more.

"But we are not driven to such straits. Though fortune has been unpropitious, our conditions are not desperate; our burdens though grievous, can still be borne; our losses though great, can be retrieved. Through the darkness that shrouds our prosperity, the ark of safety is visible.

"Despondency, gentlemen, becomes not the dignity of our cause, nor the character of the Nation's Representatives in Congress. Let us then be aroused and evince a spirit of patriotism that shall inspire the people with confidence in us, in themselves and in the



Oldest House in York, Built in 1745.



West Market Street, East of Codorus Creek, in 1844.

cause of our Country. Let us show a spirit that will induce them to persevere in this struggle, until our rights shall be established and our liberty secured.

“We have proclaimed to the world our determination to die free men, rather than live slaves; we have appealed to Heaven for the justice of our cause and in the God of battle have we placed our trust. We have looked to Providence for help and protection in the past; we must appeal to the same source in the future, for the Almighty Powers from above will sustain us in this struggle for independence.

“There have been times since the opening of this war when we were reduced almost to distress, but the great arm of Omnipotence has raised us up. Let us still rely for assistance upon Him who is mighty to save. We shall not be abandoned by the Powers above so long as we act worthy of aid and protection. The darkest hour is just before the dawn. Good news may soon reach us from the army and from across the sea.”

The patriotic fervor of the speaker on this occasion thrilled the small audience and gave them renewed energy in the passage of legislation to aid in carrying on the war.

It was not long after this event that a relative of

General Israel Putnam, one of the heroes of the Revolution, brought to Congress the glad news of the defeat of the British at Saratoga by General Gates and the surrender of the entire army under General Burgoyne. A few days later the official account of this brilliant victory and conquest was brought to Congress by Colonel Wilkinson, a member of General Gates' staff. He spent one day before Congress explaining the details of the battle and surrender. The next day was given to a general rejoicing in the town of York. This victory at Saratoga was the Gettysburg of the Revolution, for it turned the tide of affairs in favor of the American cause.

FIRST NATIONAL THANKSGIVING.

President Laurens appointed Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, Samuel Adams, of Massachusetts, and General Roberdeau, of Pennsylvania, a committee of Congress to draft a national proclamation of Thanksgiving, the first in the history of the American Republic. This historic document was written by that eminent Virginian, Richard Henry Lee, who less than two years before had moved in Congress at Philadelphia, that “these United States are and of right ought to be free

and independent States,” and himself became one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The proclamation is remarkable in language and thought. Besides breathing forth a spirit of lofty patriotism, it also contains a deep and fervent religious sentiment.

The following is the proclamation in full :

“Forasmuch as it is the indispensable duty of all men to adore the superintending providence of Almighty God, to acknowledge with gratitude their obligations for benefits received, and to implore such further blessings as they stand in need of ; and it having pleased Him in His abundant mercy, not only to continue to us the innumerable bounties of His common Providence, but also to smile upon us in the prosecution of a just and necessary war for the defense and establishment of our inalienable rights and liberties ; particularly in that He has been pleased in so great a measure to prosper the means used for the support of our troops and to crown our arms with most signal success. It is therefore recommended to the legislature or executive powers of these United States to set apart Thursday, the 18th of December next, for solemn Thanksgiving and praise ; that with one heart and one voice, the people of this country may express the grateful feelings of

their hearts and consecrate themselves to the service of their Divine Benefactor ; and that together with their sincere acknowledgments, they may join in a penitent confession of their manifold sins, whereby they had forfeited every favor ; and their humble and earnest supplication may be that it may please God, through the merits of Jesus Christ mercifully to forgive and blot them out of remembrance ; that it may please Him graciously, to grant His blessings on the governments of these States respectively and prosper the Public Council of the whole United States ; to inspire our commanders, both by land and sea, and all under them, with that wisdom and fortitude, which may render them fit instruments under the Providence of Almighty God to secure for these United States, the greatest of all blessings, independence and peace ; that it may please Him to prosper the trade and manufactures of the people, and the labor of the husbandman, that our land may yield its increase ; to take the schools and seminaries of education, so necessary for cultivating the principles of true liberty, virtue and piety, under His nurturing hand, and to prosper the means of religion, for promotion and enlargement of that Kingdom, which consists of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.

It is further recommended that servile labor and such recreation as at other times innocent, may be unbecoming the purpose of this appointment on so solemn occasion."

This proclamation was adopted by Congress October 30th, and two days later the President of Congress wrote the following letter to each of the Governors of the thirteen States then in the Union :

York in Pennsylvania, November 1, 1777.

Sir :—The arms of the United States of America having been blessed in the present campaign with remarkable success, Congress has resolved to recommend that Thursday, December 18th next be set apart to be observed by all inhabitants throughout the United States for a general Thanksgiving to Almighty God, and I hereby transmit to you the enclosed extract from the minutes of Congress for that purpose.

Your Excellency will be pleased to take the necessary measures for carrying this resolve into effect in the State in which you reside. You will likewise find enclosed certified copy of the minutes which will show your Excellency the authority under which I have the honor of addressing you.

I am with great esteem and regard, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant.

HENRY LAURENS,

President of Congress.

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION PASSED.

Attention was now called in Congress to the Articles of Confederation which had first been proposed by Benjamin Franklin, introduced by John Dickinson, and heartily endorsed by Jefferson one year before. Franklin was now a commissioner of the government in France, Dickinson was in command of a brigade in New Jersey, Jefferson was a member of the Virginia Legislature and was operating with Patrick Henry, then Governor of that state, in the passage of important measures by that body. Meantime John Adams resigned his seat in Congress, and while on his horse in front of the Roberdeau house on South George Street preparing to ride to Boston, was informed by his colleague, Elbridge Gerry, of Massachusetts, that Congress in the court house, a few yards away, had appointed him a special commissioner to go as soon as convenient from Boston to Paris, and aid Benjamin Franklin and the other American commissioners there in securing a

much needed treaty of alliance with the French government.

The account of the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga had been sent to France some time before in the swift sailing ship Mercury from Boston. When the news was received, Paris was thrown into transports of joy. The relations between France and England were already in a strained condition, and on December 12, 1777, Vergennes, the distinguished French statesman, told Franklin that "the alliance we are about to form with America I trust will last as long as human institutions shall endure." Five days later the youthful King Louis XVI, in council, determined not only to acknowledge the independence of the United States, but to support their cause. Franklin quickly responded, "The French nation will find in us a firm and faithful ally, and we hope the amity between the two nations may last forever." February 3, 1778, on his twenty-fourth birthday, the king signed and promulgated the treaty of amity and commerce, which eventually became a defensive alliance between France and the United States, and sent to his new ally three million livres, about six hundred thousand dollars. On March 13th the rescript was left by the French ambassador at London, with the

British Secretary of State, announcing that "the United States of North America are now in full possession of independence, which they had declared on July 4th, 1776."

The king received Franklin and his associates at court, for the first time, on March 20, 1778, at the palace built by Louis XIV at Versailles, and upon their departure he said :

"I wish the Congress of the United States to be assured of my friendship."

The commissioners then paid a visit to the youthful wife of Lafayette and were next introduced to Queen Marie Antoinette, who from that time forward made the support of America the fashion of the French court. The news of the alliance soon spread all over Europe. It was received with special satisfaction at St. Petersburg, and with public favor at the court of Frederick the Great, of Prussia.

Lord North of England, hastened a representative to Paris to seek from the American commissioners some alliance, but Franklin, with great reserve and calm dignity, replied, "Tell Lord North and the English government that America enjoys independence already."

On the 25th of April, 1778, Washington wrote to Henry Laurens, President of Congress :

“Nothing short of independence can possibly do. Peace on any other terms, would be peace with war to follow. Our character as men and our importance as a nation, are opposed to coalition with England now.” The following day Congress assembled in special session in the Reformed Church of York, on West Market Street, and resolved “to hold no conference or treaty with any commissioners on the part of England, unless the government shall either withdraw its fleet and armies, or in positive and expressed terms acknowledge the independence of the United States.” At this meeting Robert Morris said, “No offer ought to have a hearing for one moment unless preceded with an acknowledgment of our independence.”

But there was good news on the way from Boston, having arrived there from across the ocean. These glad tidings, brought to York by a swift messenger on horse back, told of the alliance with France and the decision of that government to send a fleet and an army to aid the Americans in their struggle for freedom. The next day was one of rejoicing on the part of Congress, and all the inhabitants in

the little capital of the nation, on the banks of the Codorus.

CONWAY CABAL.

Another event of the greatest moment took place at York while Congress was in session here. Soon after General Gates won his brilliant victory at Saratoga, he was invited to York, where he was received with great demonstrations by most of the members of Continental Congress. He became the popular hero of the hour and a faction in Congress made an effort to have Gates supplant Washington in command of the American army. In order to aid in the accomplishment of this purpose, Gates was made president of the Board of War to succeed John Adams who had been sent as a special commissioner to the Court of France. The entire membership of the Board of War was then opposed to Washington. This gave rise to what is known in history as the “Conway Cabal.” This so-called conspiracy was originated in the fall of 1777 by Thomas Conway, an Irishman who had served in the French army. It rose to considerable importance in January, 1778, and entirely collapsed at York the following month. It was during the month of February that General Lafayette,

whom Congress had recently made a major general in the army, was invited to York. Soon after he arrived here he became the guest of General Gates at a banquet. General Conway was present on this occasion. The plans were here arranged for Lafayette to take command of an expedition against Canada. Conway was to be second in command. At this banquet there were present many of the supporters of Gates who were opposed to Washington. Numerous toasts were given at this banquet, but the name of the illustrious hero who finally brought the Revolution to a successful close was not mentioned. It was a sagacious plan to win over to their support the young French hero who had volunteered to serve in the American army without pay.

“But,” says Lafayette, in his “Memoirs,” “at this juncture, feeling my friendship and loyalty to Washington, I arose from my chair and without request offered a toast to the Commander-in-Chief of the American army. I then looked around the banquet table and saw the faces of the guests redden with shame.”

Thus ended a famous episode in American history. About the same time several new delegates to Congress arrived, including Gouveneur Morris, of New York, friends of Washington. Their arrival prevented an

affirmative vote in Congress appointing a committee, opposed to the Commander-in-Chief, to go and inspect the army at Valley Forge. Lafayette returned to his command under Washington, remaining during the whole war one of the closest friends of his commander.

Some of the historical associations of York during the Revolution have thus been shown in a brief way. Congress assembled here in October, 1777, when everything was dark and gloomy, when many of the members felt as though there was no longer any hope of Independence. It remained in session here for the period of nine months, and when it adjourned to Philadelphia in June, 1778, the condition of affairs had entirely changed.

IMPORTANT TRANSACTIONS OF CONGRESS.

Congress had passed while in session at York the Articles of Confederation which, when adopted by the sufficient number of states, made the Declaration of Independence a reality; received the news of the great and decisive battle of Saratoga; commissioned Lafayette a major-general in the army; received Baron Steuben, the military chieftain from the Court of Frederick the Great, made him a major-general and sent him to the

headquarters of the army to drill the American troops in the improved tactics of that day; received the news from Benjamin Franklin at Paris that the King of France and his country had agreed to help us in our struggle for Independence; received the first of several contributions of money from the French Government to carry on the war and received the news of the arrival of the first French troops and fleet that came to our assistance. These are a few, but not all, of the important transactions of Congress while in session at York.

At no other place during the Revolution, except Philadelphia, was there any legislation by Congress in any way comparable to that transacted while in session at York. It is a fact, however, that sessions of this body were held for one day in Lancaster, Pa.; a short time at Princeton, N. J.; about two months in Baltimore and a brief period at Annapolis, Md. At none of these places do the journals of Congress record the passage of any legislation or the transaction of any business for the prosecution of the war in any degree commensurate with that done at York during the winter of 1777 and 1778.

DELEGATES TO CONGRESS AT YORK.

The following is a list of the patriots of the Revo-

lution who represented the different states of the Union while Congress was in session here:

New Hampshire—Nathaniel Folsom, George Frost, John Wentworth, Dr. Josiah Bartlett.

Massachusetts—Samuel Adams, Elbridge Gerry, James Lovell, John Adams, Francis Dana, John Hancock, Dr. Samuel Holten.

Connecticut—William Williams, Eliphalet Dyer, Richard Law, Titus Homer, Roger Sherman, Samuel Huntington, Dr. Oliver Wolcott.

Rhode Island—Henry Marchant, William Ellery, John Collins.

New York—James Duane, William Duer, Francis Lewis, Gouverneur Morris, Philip Livingston.

New Jersey—John Witherspoon, Dr. Jonathan Elmer, Abraham Clark, Dr. Nathaniel Scudder.

Pennsylvania—Robert Morris, General Daniel Roberdeau, James Smith, Jonathan Bayard Smith, William Clingan, Joseph Reed.

Delaware—Thomas McKean.

Maryland—Charles Carroll, Samuel Chase, Benjamin Rumsey, George Plater, William Smith, James Forbes, John Henry, Jr.

Virginia—Francis Lightfoot Lee, Richard Henry

Lee, John Harvie, Benjamin Harrison, Dr. Joseph Jones, Thomas Adams, John Bannister.

North Carolina—John Penn, Cornelius Harnett, Dr. Thomas Burke.

South Carolina—Henry Laurens, Thomas Heyward, Jr., Arthur Middleton, John Matthews, Richard Hutson, William Henry Drayton.

Georgia—Edward Langworthy, John Walton, Dr. Nathan Brownson, Joseph Wood.

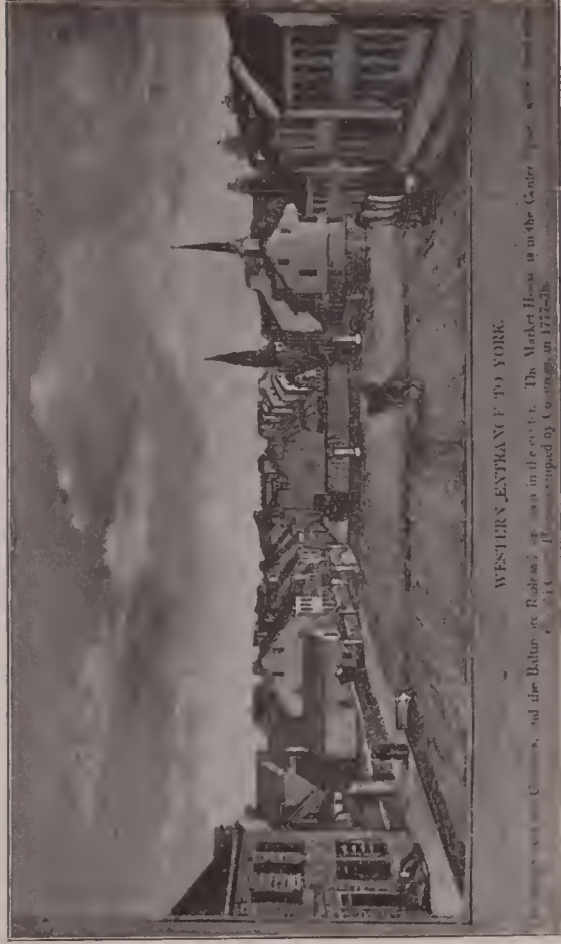
WAR OF 1812.

During the early part of the second war with England, a number of men from York enlisted in the army and took part in the engagements along the Niagara frontier. In 1814, after an invading British army had destroyed the Capitol and other public buildings at Washington, the common at York became the place of rendezvous for Pennsylvania troops. There were about 10,000 soldiers encamped there at the time the British attacked Baltimore. Sometime before, a company of volunteers from York, commanded by Captain Michael H. Spangler, marched to Baltimore and took part in the battle of North Point, at which Henry Miller of York served as Brigadier General. Soon after the defeat of

the British at Baltimore, the Pennsylvania troops at York returned to their homes and the war soon closed.

YORK IN THE CIVIL WAR.

The bombardment of Fort Sumpter, April 2, 1861, was followed three days later by the proclamation of President Lincoln, calling for 75,000 troops. This aroused the patriotic ardor of the people all over the North. When Governor Curtin made a requisition for the organized military of the state, two companies from York, the Worth Infantry, under command of Captain Thomas A. Ziegler, and the York Rifles, under Captain George Hay, immediately responded. On Saturday evening, April 20, they received orders, and at 11 o'clock at night left on a special train toward Baltimore. They were at first stationed in squads at various bridges along the railroad as far south as Cockeyville, Maryland. In the meantime the First, Second and Third Regiments of Pennsylvania volunteers for the three months' service from various cities and towns of the state passed through York and encamped at Cockeyville. On April 26 two Pittsburg regiments arrived in York, and Camp Scott was organized, which by May 7 had nearly 6,000 men. The York Rifles became Company K of the Second reg-



WEST MARKET STREET, YORK, 1842.



CENTRE SQUARE, YORK, 1820.

iment, which was organized April 21. Worth Infantry became Company A of the Sixteenth Pennsylvania regiment. Three other York county companies were assigned to this regiment. They were the Marion Rifles of Hanover, Captain H. G. Myers; the Hanover Infantry, Captain Cyrus Diller, and the York Voltiguers, Captain Theodore D. Cochran. When the regiment was organized, May 3, Thomas A. Ziegle was chosen colonel. The Sixteenth regiment afterward went to the front as part of Colonel Miles' brigade, and the Second regiment was in a brigade of the Second division of Patterson's army in the Shenandoah Valley.

Thus, it will be seen, that York county promptly responded to her country's call in time of peril with the same patriotic ardor she had shown in the Revolution and in the War of 1812. The Eighty-seventh regiment in the three years' service was composed almost entirely of York county men. Numerous other regiments had a large representation in their ranks, including the First and Twelfth Pennsylvania reserves, the Seventy-sixth, Ninety-first, Ninety-third, One Hundred and Seventh, One Hundred and Third, One Hundred and Thirtieth, One Hundred and Sixty-sixth, One Hundred and Eighty-seventh, One Hundred and Ninety-fourth, Two Hun-

dredth, Two Hundred and Seventh, Two Hundred and Ninth regiments and the Eleventh and Twelfth Pennsylvania cavalry. These regiments all took an active part in the war and served gallantly in many hard-fought battles.

The great battle of Gettysburg, which decided the destiny of the republic and the perpetuation of the Union, was fought on soil for half a century part of York county, and the rumble and the roar of cannonading were heard by the citizens of York. The extreme right of Lee's army, a division of Ewell's corps, under command of General Early, entered the present limits of this county June 27, 1863, and encamped for the night in the beautiful Paradise Valley, ten miles west of York. General Early and his staff slept at a house in Paradise township, afterward owned by George W. Trimmer, about three and one-half miles east from East Berlin. General John B. Gordon, of Georgia, commanding a brigade which led the advance, encamped about four miles south of Early at Farmer's postoffice, along the Gettysburg turnpike. He slept at the house of Jacob S. Altland. At this place he was visited by Chief Burgess David Small, A. B. Farquhar, W. L. Small, General George Hay and Thomas White, who were authorized

by the Committee of Safety to enter into terms for the Confederate occupation of York. There were then only about 300 Federal troops in the town, and as they could make no defense were ordered to retreat to Wrightsville. An agreement was entered into by which no private property was to be destroyed. General Early called at Gordon's headquarters later in the evening, confirmed the agreement made by his subordinate and gave Gordon orders how to enter the town.

CONFEDERATE FORCES IN YORK.

It was Sunday morning, June 28, at 10 o'clock, just as the church bells were ringing, that Gordon's brigade of 2,500 men came up West Market street, and took down the American flag floating in Centre Square and passed on through town toward Wrightsville. The entire Confederate forces comprising the brigades under Generals Gordon, Hays, Smith and Avery, numbered about 9,000 men. General Early took up his headquarters in the sheriff's office in the court house and on the following day, June 29, he made a requisition for provisions and articles of clothing and one hundred thousand dollars. Prominent business men raised \$28,000 and turned it over to the Confederate chieftain.

It was not easy to raise the entire amount at once, as the bank deposits had been taken to Philadelphia some days before. Early then threatened to burn the car shops, and the depot building unless the balance of the money was forthcoming. The local railroads were then in the hands of the government, and some of the car shops were making cars for transportation of troops and munitions of war. General Early, therefore sent a squad of North Carolina troops to apply the torch to them. Early and the chief burgess, who was importuning him not to destroy the buildings, went to the depot. They were followed by a delegation of prominent citizens. Upon arriving there Philip Small stepped up to the Confederate chieftain and said: "General, if you will not burn these shops and this depot, I will give you my draft on New York tomorrow, for \$50,000."

At this juncture, General Early saw a Confederate courier galloping toward him. He walked from the crowd and received the message, which was from his corps commander, General Ewell, then at Carlisle. It ordered him to retreat to Gettysburg as the Potomac army was moving toward that town. He returned to the depot, told the delegation of citizens that he would consider Mr. Small's proposition until the following



YORK COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.



YORK HIGH SCHOOL.

morning, well-knowing that he would be out of town early the next day. He returned to his headquarters and issued the following proclamation:

YORK, PA., June 30, 1863.

To the Citizens of York:—

I have abstained from burning the railroad buildings and car shops of your town because, after examination I am satisfied the safety of the town would be endangered; and, acting in the spirit of humanity, which has ever characterized my government and its military authorities, I do not desire to involve the innocent in the same punishment with the guilty. Had I applied the torch without regard to consequences I would have pursued a course that would have been fully vindicated as an act of just retaliation for the many authorized acts of barbarity perpetrated by your own army upon our soil. But we do not war upon women and children, and I trust the treatment you have met with at the hands of my soldiers will open your eyes to the monstrous iniquity of the war waged by your government upon the people of the Confederate states, and that you will make an effort to shake off the revolt-

ing tyranny under which it is apparent to all you are yourselves groaning.

J. A. EARLY,
Major General C. S. A.

The nearest approach to New York and Philadelphia that any part of the Southern army reached was on the evening of June 28, 1863, when Gordon's brigade arrived at Wrightsville and exchanged a few shots with the New York and Pennsylvania militia, and the famous City Troop of Philadelphia, under Honorable Samuel J. Randall. Gordon was sent there to seize the railroad bridge which was set on fire by the Union troops, so it would not fall into the hands of the enemy. Wrightsville was the high water mark of the Southern Confederacy.

On the morning of June 30, while Early with his division was marching out the Paradise valley toward Gettysburg, there was a fierce cavalry engagement on the streets of Hanover, between 6,000 Confederate troops under General J. E. B. Stuart, and 5,000 cavalymen under General Kilpatrick, who defeated the enemy.

VISITS FROM DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

It was during the dark days of the Revolution that

Baron Steuben, a Prussian nobleman, and an aide on the staff of Frederick the Great in the Seven Years' War, came to York while Congress was in session here. He was induced by St. Germain, the French Minister of War at Paris, to unite with the Americans in fighting for independence. Steuben arrived at Portsmouth, N. H., in December, 1777, proceeded at once to Boston, where he received a letter from Washington, handed him by John Hancock, who had lately arrived from York. After an enthusiastic reception by the citizens of Portsmouth and Boston, accompanied by Duponceau, a learned Frenchman, and two aides, Steuben started for York, arriving here in February, the day after Lafayette had left York for Valley Forge. He stopped at the house of Elizabeth, wife of Colonel Swope, who was then in the army. John Hancock occupied the same building when he was President of Congress. Steuben was met the day after his arrival by a committee of Congress, of which Dr. Witherspoon, of New Jersey, was chairman. He appeared before Congress and proposed to serve in the American Army without pay, if the colonies failed to establish their independence. He was then made a major-general in the American Army and sent to the encampment at Valley

Forge, where he began his successful experience in training the American soldiers in the military tactics used in European armies.

Thomas Paine, the noted patriot, who wrote many political documents which commanded the greatest attention during the Revolution, spent a short time in York as a clerk to the Congressional Committee on Foreign Relations. While here he wrote a part of the "Fifth Crisis" which he published at Lancaster.

During the winter of 1777-8, Martha Washington passed through York. She was met here by one of Washington's aides and with other attendants proceeded to the headquarters of the army at Valley Forge, where she remained for several months. Mrs. Washington also passed through York on her way from the army to Virginia in the year 1779.

General Washington never came here during the nine months that York was the seat of government of the United States. He remained during this whole period with his army near Philadelphia and at the military encampment at Valley Forge. He visited York during his early manhood when he was a surveyor, on his way to the land office at Philadelphia. In 1791, shortly after the session of Congress had



MONUMENT TO JAMES SMITH,
First Presbyterian Church Yard.



SOLDIERS' MONUMENT,
Prospect Hill.



MONUMENT TO PHILIP LIVINGSTON,
Prospect Hill.

closed at Philadelphia, Washington began a tour of the Southern States, going as far south as Charleston. Upon his return, after spending several weeks at Mt. Vernon, he started for Philadelphia, passing through Frederick and Hanover, arriving in York at 2 p. m., of July second.

A delegation of York citizens went several miles west to meet him and escort him into town. Rev. Mr. Roth, pastor of the Moravian church of York, made the following interesting entry in his diary: "Upon the arrival of the President all the bells in the town rang in honor of the event, as if the voices of the arch-angels were sounding in harmony and commanding attention. I could not repress my tears at the thought of all this. Indeed, I cried aloud, not from a sense of sadness, but from a feeling of joyfulness. In the evening there was a general illumination, and at the Court House in each pane was a light, forty-nine pounds of candles being used. The Independent Light Infantry, commanded by Captain Hay, paraded, and, being drawn up in front of his Excellency's stopping place, fired fifteen rounds in honor of the fifteen states now in the Union."

The following morning Washington was called upon by a deputation of citizens including Colonel Hartley,

then a member of Congress, who delivered a lengthy address in the course of which he said: "The citizens of York cordially join in the general satisfaction and joy, which all the people of America feel in seeing you, the nation's chief executive. We feel that there is a universal sentiment of regard, esteem and veneration for you. May the Supreme Governor of the universe long continue a life, so eminently distinguished in securing and preserving the best rights and happiness of the citizens of this highly favored country."

The President afterward handed the committee the following response:

"To the Citizens of York:

GENTLEMEN:—I receive your congratulations with pleasure and I reply to your flattering and affectionate expressions of esteem with sincere and grateful regard. The satisfaction which you derive from the congeniality of freedom with good government which is clearly shown in the happiness of our highly favored country at once rewards the patriotism that achieved her liberty, and gives an assurance of its duration. That your individual prosperity may long continue among the proofs that attest the national welfare, is my earnest

wish." Washington made this entry in his diary: "After receiving and answering an address from the inhabitants of York, I decided to go to church. There being no Episcopal minister in the place, I went to hear morning service in the Dutch Reformed Church, which being in the German language, I did not understand a word. There was no danger of the eloquence of the preacher causing a proselyte of me. After service, accompanied by Colonel Hartley and half a dozen other gentlemen, I set out for Lancaster, and the following day, July 4, was present in that borough at the celebration of the fifteenth anniversary of American Independence."

There is no record of any other visit of Washington to York except that he dined in the town in 1794, on his way to Philadelphia upon his return from Western Pennsylvania. The boat with which he then crossed the Susquehanna River at Wrightsville caught in the rocks and remained there two hours.

In 1825, Lafayette, who was making a tour of this country as the "Guest of the Nation," arrived in York from Baltimore, February 29. He proceeded to Harrisburg accompanied by Dr. Adam King, who the next year was elected to Congress from York county; Colonel

M. H. Spangler, who so gallantly commanded the York Volunteers at the battle of North Point in 1814, and Jacob Spangler, then Surveyor-General of Pennsylvania. They returned to York on Wednesday, January 2, and upon their arrival at the turnpike gate at 4 P. M., were met by a battalion of volunteers composed of Captain Nes' artillery, Captains Smith's rifle company, four other companies under Captains Small, Barnitz, Freysinger and Stuck, and a vast multitude of people from the town and county. The tour of Lafayette of all the twenty-four states then in the Union had caused a wave of patriotism to pass over the entire land such as had never before been known, and the enterprising editor of the York Gazette, in the issue of February 8, 1825, says:

"The people of York county poured forth overflowing hearts of gratitude and welcome to him whose name is a passport to the heart of every American."

General Lafayette entered York in a barouche drawn by four gray horses, and as the procession passed through the principal streets, all the bells of the town were ringing and all the sidewalks, windows, doors and porticoes were filled with people, shouting their "Welcome, thrice welcome, Lafayette." The general and

his suite stopped over night at McGrath's Inn, where he held a reception, after which 100 persons sat down to a sumptuous banquet. Among the many toasts was the following :

"Lafayette: We love him as a man, hail him as a deliverer, revere him as a champion of freedom and welcome him as a guest."

To which he responded: "The town of York, the seat of our American Union in our most gloomy time. May her citizens enjoy a proportionate share of American prosperity."

The next day he reviewed the military and left for Baltimore. Some of the old soldiers of the Revolution "could not receive the last adieu of the aged general without testifying their emotions in tears."

John Adams, who was one of the leading spirits of Congress while its sessions were held in our colonial Court House, visited York in June, 1800, while he was President of the United States. He was met on his approach by the cavalry commanded by Lieutenant John Fisher and Captain Philip Gossler's Light Infantry, and escorted to town, where he was received by the inhabitants with ringing of bells and other demonstrations of respect. He remained here over night and the

following day the Borough authorities waited upon him and presented him with an address of welcome. President Adams responded with the following address :

"To the Corporation and Inhabitants of the Borough of York:

"FELLOW CITIZENS:—I received with much satisfaction this friendly address. In revisiting the great counties of Lancaster and York, after an interval of three and twenty years, I have not only received great pleasure from the civilities of people, which have deserved my grateful acknowledgments, but a much higher delight from the various evidences of their happiness and prosperity. The multiplication of inhabitants, the increase of buildings for utility, commerce and ornament, and the extensive improvements of the soil have everywhere given to the appearances around us a polish in some measure resembling those countries where art, skill and industry have been exhausted in giving the highest finishing and the cultivation of the lands for many hundred years.

"In return for your kind wishes, I pray for the confirmation and extension to you and your posterity of every blessing you enjoy.

"JOHN ADAMS."

Shortly afterwards the President proceeded on his journey, escorted by the same military corps which met him on his arrival.

General Andrew Jackson, accompanied by several officers of the army, arrived here in February, 1819, stopping one hour for supper at Hammersly's Hotel. The same evening the party proceeded to Lancaster and the following day started for the United States Military Academy at West Point. The general and his associates had been appointed by President Monroe to visit that institution.

General Zachary Taylor, the hero of Buena Vista, came to York August 10, 1849, arriving here from Baltimore on a train which stopped at West Market and Water Streets. He was enthusiastically received by the people of all political parties and escorted by the Worth Infantry, commanded by Captain Thomas A. Ziegler, a soldier of the Mexican War, and a delegation of citizens in carriages, passed up Market Street to the Washington Hotel. After taking dinner at this noted hostelry, he held a reception and made a brief speech. He then proceeded on his journey to Philadelphia. General Taylor made his visit to York about six months after his inauguration as President of the United States.

Among the other men of fame and distinction who honored York with a visit were Charles Dickens, the English novelist; Black Hawk, the famous Indian chief; Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, Lewis Cass, James Buchanan and General Ulysses S. Grant. There were many incidents relating to the visits of these distinguished men which cannot be told in this brief story of historic York.

Though Abraham Lincoln was never a visitor at York, he passed across the county from Hanover Junction to Gettysburg in November, 1863. While the train stopped for a few minutes at Hanover, President Lincoln walked to the platform of the rear car, and in response to enthusiastic calls for a speech, addressed a large assemblage of people for about three minutes. It was the following day that he made his great speech at Gettysburg during the ceremonies when the battlefield was consecrated.

Two interesting and important facts of history can only be referred to in this brief story. The first iron steamboat designed in America was made at the shops of Davis and Gardner, at York, in 1826. It was the invention of John Elgar, of York, who afterward won distinction as an inventor in the employ of Ross



PENN PARK.

Winans, of Baltimore. At the same shops in the year 1831, Davis and Gardner made the first locomotive in America that burned anthracite coal. It was put into successful operation on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad and won a prize of \$3,500. The inventor of this locomotive, called "The York," was Phineas Davis, a noted citizen of York, who afterwards moved to Baltimore.

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

The Centennial of our existence as a nation was celebrated amid great enthusiasm in York, July 4, 1876. There was a pæan of all the bells in town from midnight till 1 o'clock A. M. Then followed huge bon-fires and a brilliant display of fireworks and the roar of guns and cannon. The streets were thronged with people and at daybreak music filled the air. The town was handsomely decorated and the fire companies excelled all former displays in tasteful and elaborate decorations. At 6 A. M. a vast concourse of people witnessed the raising of a large American flag on a pole erected in Centre Square. In the forenoon a parade of military companies, firemen and various orders, in all 5,000 men, passed through the leading streets escorted by many bands discoursing patriotic music. Captain

Frank Geise was chief marshal and his aids were Major H. S. McNair, George W. Heiges, John Blackford and Horace Keeseey.

Following the parade commemorative exercises were held in Centre Square, on the site of the Court House in which Congress met during the Revolution. Rev. Dr. Lochman delivered the opening prayer; the Haydn Quartet, composed of Prof. H. Gipe, M. L. Van Baman, Henry C. Pentz and B. F. Thomas, sang "A Hundred Years Ago;" Fitz James Evans read the Declaration of Independence, and Hon. John Gibson read an historical sketch of York County. In the evening the people again assembled in Centre Square and listened to a grand chorus, led by Prof. Gipe; the reading of a poem, "One Hundredth Birthday," by E. Norman Gunnison, and an oration by George W. McElroy. A splendid exhibition of fireworks on the fair grounds ended the day's celebration.

YORK BOROUGH CENTENNIAL.

An event of special interest and importance was the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of York, celebrated September 24 and 25, 1887, with imposing ceremonies. On that occasion 30,000 visitors

were in attendance. The town was filled with people. Public buildings, stores and private houses were decorated with flags, evergreens and bunting, and the anniversary day was ushered in by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannon. During the forenoon 3,000 school children marched in procession through the principal streets. The boys wore uniform caps and the girls were dressed in white. They were reviewed from a stand in Centre Square by Governor James A. Beaver, who at the close of the parade delivered an address. He was followed by Deputy Superintendent of Schools Henry Houck and Prof. W. H. Shelley. Five hundred young ladies on a large platform sang several patriotic selections. During the noon hour the chimes of Trinity Church played national airs as well as sacred music.

In the afternoon there was a parade of the military, Grand Army of the Republic, firemen and secret orders. In all there were 2,000 men in line, while thirty bands and drum corps furnished the music. Colonel Levi Maish was chief marshal. His aids were Major Ruhl, Captains Fahs, Greenewald and Reynolds, Dr. McKinnon, Thornton Hendrickson, Daniel Fishel and Stephen Wilson. After the parade the Governor held a recep-

tion in the Opera House and in the evening there was a brilliant display of fireworks on the Public Common. The succeeding day there was a parade of Odd Fellows, Red Men, American Mechanics and a long succession of floats representing business houses and manufacturing establishments, followed by an illustration of farming as it was conducted 100 years ago and today. When the parade ended Hon. Chauncey F. Black delivered an oration in the Opera House, and then Judge Gibson read an historical sketch of the town. The exercises closed by a grand chorus singing "A Hundred Years Ago," and "A Hundred Years to Come."

SESQUI-CENTENNIAL OF YORK COUNTY.

The celebration in 1899, of the Sesqui-Centennial, or the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the erection of York county, was one of the most interesting events in the history of York. The plan originated with the York Board of Trade, and at a meeting of citizens held May 13, 1899, a general committee was appointed, composed of Milton B. Gibson, President; Geo. S. Billmeyer, Treasurer; Houston E. Landis, Secretary, and M. L. Van Baman, Issac Rudisll, J.



THE SECOND COURT HOUSE.

Frank Gable, S. M. Manifold, Captain W. H. Lanius, Grier Hersh, John Garrety, H. E. Powell, Dr. E. T. Jeffers, H. C. Niles, R. F. Gibson, George W. Gross, and Wm. A. Froelich. This committee decided to hold a four days' demonstration in the City of York on September 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th. The ceremonies opened with a meeting held in the auditorium of the York High School on Sunday, September 3rd, presided over by Rev. H. E. Niles, D. D., when the religious history of the county was discussed by Rev. James Drummond and Rev. W. S. Freas, D. D.

The celebration was formally inaugurated in an address of welcome by M. B. Gibson, chairman of the General Committee, on the morning of September 4th, at the York Opera House. The purpose of this meeting was to listen to an historical review of the city and county. Dr. E. T. Jeffers, President of the York Collegiate Institute, presided. Addresses were delivered relating to the three classes of people who composed the original settlers of York. Hon. John W. Bittenger spoke of the Germans; Robert C. Bair, of the Scotch-Irish; and George R. Prowell, of the Friends or Quakers. This part of the exercises was followed by an address on the early history of York by H. C. Niles,

and an original poem by William M. Gamble. In the afternoon of the same day the people witnessed an impressive pageant composed of nearly 5,000 school children, marching to a flag raising in honor of the dedication of the magnificent High School which had just been completed. Addresses were delivered by Hon. E. D. Ziegler, member of Congress from York county; Charles H. Stallman, President of the School Board, and Captain Frank Geise, Mayor of York.

The greatest concourse of people ever assembled in York, possibly not less than 100,000, witnessed the industrial parade on the second day of the celebration. This included one hundred and sixty-eight floats, besides the large number of men representing the industrial establishments and large corporations. The civic parade on the succeeding day was no less imposing, about one hundred and twenty-five companies and secret organizations of various kinds being in line. The people of York, and particularly those who had assumed the arduous task of preparing for the four days demonstration, could justly congratulate themselves upon the successful outcome of their labors.

YORK AS A BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL CENTRE.

It is not to historic York alone that the attention of

the reader is directed. This story would not be complete without a graphic portrayal of the business activity and industrial development of modern York and its possibilities of future growth and prosperity. When the city was incorporated in 1887, it received an impulse of energy and enterprise which has moved forward with commendable progress until York at present, with many large mercantile establishments and 500 or more busy hives of industry, has taken high rank as a business and manufacturing centre in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Could those sturdy settlers, who were the first to populate the town on the Codorus, now look upon the industry and energy that have asserted their power, in the rumble of ponderous machinery, the whistle of the high-spirited iron horse, the hum and whir of revolving wheels, the stately magnificence of some of the public institutions, and the improvements in modes of life and living, they would feel gratified that their descendants are so bountifully favored in this land of freedom and independence of which they were the hardy pioneers.

The original area of York, as laid out in 1741, contained 102 acres. This area has been increased by various additions until at present there are within the

city limits 2,250 acres and a population of 40,000. The entire valuation of real property is nearly \$30,000,000.

The 500 manufacturing establishments which are the bone and sinew of prosperous York to-day are distributed through different sections of the city. Their combined capital invested is \$13,000,000, and the number of employees 16,000. The interesting feature of this industrial progress is its wide diversity of manufactured goods and the aggregate amount of shipments. It can justly be said, that York ranks third in the state of Pennsylvania in the variety of her industrial products and in the aggregate amount of their shipments.

WHAT THE BANKS HAVE DONE.

This modern progress of the business and industrial development of York is the result of the enterprise and forethought of our own citizens. All the financial institutions within recent years have given substantial encouragement to persons wishing to establish new enterprises. If such individuals have in their possession a creditable investment to make of their own, the banks have always exercised wise discretion and encouraging support to advance the interests of such an



PRESENT COURT HOUSE.

establishment, when it was found that the projectors had business ability and the proper energy. In fact, within recent years, our financial institutions in the hands of men of wide experience and superior executive abilities, have materially aided in causing the development of York and making it what it now is, a prosperous city with remarkable opportunities for a continual increased development in future years. What that future will be is evidenced by the great advancement during the last ten years. It is not claimed that York has ever had a boom of industry, but a gradual and certain growth into a condition of prosperity that by well directed effort in succeeding years, will advance her interests into achievements which will be universally recognized in this great age of material progress, never before known in the history of the world. Instead of sending the bank deposits to other cities for investment, as had been done in years gone by, the entire bank deposits of York and the other towns in this county to-day are invested at home, in the business and industrial establishments that have given this substantial condition.

The eleven banking institutions of York having an aggregate deposit of \$7,500,000, are the following :

The York National Bank, founded as a state institution in 1810, has a capital of \$500,000 with \$250,000 surplus; Grier Hersh, President; Henry Nes, Vice President; John J. Frick, Cashier.

The York County National Bank, founded in 1864, has a capital of \$300,000, with a surplus of \$240,000; James A. Dale, President; Jere Carl, Vice President; Wm. R. Horner, Cashier.

First National Bank, incorporated in 1864, has a capital of \$300,000, with a surplus of \$100,000; Jacob D. Schall, President; R. H. Shindel, Cashier.

Farmers' National Bank, incorporated in 1875, has a capital of \$200,000; Horace Keesey, President; Edward P. Stair, Cashier.

Western National Bank, organized in 1875, has a capital of \$150,000, and a surplus of \$75,000; John Fahs, President; Edward A. Rice, Cashier.

Drovers and Mechanics Bank, incorporated in 1883, has a capital of \$100,000, with a surplus of \$30,000; Samuel Lichtenberger, President; James G. Glessner, Vice President; W. F. Weiser, Cashier.

City Bank of York, founded in 1887, has a capital of \$100,000, with a surplus of \$75,000; Charles H.

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Stallman, President; Geoffrey P. Yost, Vice President; C. T. Kraft, Cashier.

York Trust Company, incorporated in 1890, has a capital of \$150,000 and a surplus of \$50,000. Wm. H. Lanus, President; Smyser Williams, Vice President and Trust Officer; Ellis S. Lewis, Treasurer.

Security, Title and Trust Company, organized in 1893, has a capital of \$250,000 and a surplus of \$132,000. Daniel F. Lafean, President; Charles C. Frick, Vice President; George E. Neff, Trust Officer; Ralph S. Cannon, Secretary and Treasurer.

Guardian Trust Company, incorporated in 1903, has a capital of \$250,000. Milton D. Martin, President; Jacob A. Mayer, Vice President; James W. Kilgore, Secretary and Treasurer.

The growth of the business interests of York are shown in the statistics of the City Post Office. During the year 1895, when the present Federal building was first occupied, the postal business was conducted by twenty-one persons and postal supplies were sold to the amount of \$43,384. During the past twelve months the sale of postal supplies amounted to \$76,000. There are now fifty employees connected with the City Post Office. The rapid increase in the postal business at

York seems to demand larger facilities. A bill has been introduced into Congress by Hon. Daniel F. Lafean, asking for a government appropriation for the erection of a new Federal building of such size and dimensions as will meet the demands of modern progress.

The Merchants' Association of York, an enterprising and progressive body of men, of which Wm. A. Froelich is President and Clarence A. Geesey, Secretary, has taken an active interest in advocating the erection of a new Federal building.

The Internal Revenue Office at York during the past twelve months has received \$1,300,000 for the sale of revenue stamps on cigars, tobacco and beer, manufactured in this district.

While the city of York has made rapid strides in its material progress, during the last decade, its future prospects are abundant with great possibilities. Electrical power is now a giant in advancing the material development of any community and our city will soon be connected with a large establishment which will furnish the power to move the wheels of industry, already here and thousands of others that will soon be erected.

The York Haven Water & Power Company, situated on the Susquehanna at York Haven, is almost ready for operation. This plant has been erected along the site of the first canal built in America west of the Hudson, opened in 1793 in the presence of Governor Mifflin and a large representation from the Legislature of Pennsylvania. The electrical plant at York Haven will utilize the immense water power of the falls of the river. On the main floor of the large building of this plant are twenty 750 Kilo-watt generators 1,000 horse-power each. Every one of these is connected by gearing to two vertical shaft water wheels of 550 horse-power capacity under a normal head of eighteen feet. On this floor are two 240 Kilo-watt direct current generators, 321 horse-power, for excitors, each of which will be sufficient capacity to excite the fields of the twenty generators. The governors for controlling the water wheels are also on this floor. The water wheel equipment is below the floor line.

The main switch board, where all the power from the generators is controlled and distributed is on the second floor, from which point the governors to the water wheels are controlled. From this point also the power is conducted to another building about 150 feet

away, called the transforming house, through large lead covered cables at a pressure of 2,400 volts. The power is stopped up to 24,000 volts through twelve raising transformers of 1,400 Kilo-watt capacity, 1,800 horse-power each, and then conducted through the necessary switching devices to the main line. From thence it is carried to the sub-station at York, a distance of 10.7 miles. The main line is a single pole line carrying two circuits, each capable of transmitting 5,000 horse-power. This pole line also carries the telephone and signal system. At the sub-station or distributing station in York, the power is stopped down to 2,400 volts through six lowering transformers of 800 Kilo-watt, each 1,000 horse-power, and there conducted to a switch-board where it is distributed for general power purposes, operating street railways, furnishing power for manufacturers and for lighting. There are now installed in this plant at York Haven six 1,000 horse-power generators with the necessary water wheel and electrical equipment. Other apparatus will be added as occasion demands. Already arrangements have been made by different manufacturing establishments at York to utilize electrical power as a motor as soon as the York Haven plant is ready for operations. With these

prospects before us, it would seem that the industrial development of York is still in its infancy. The erection and equipment of the York Haven plant has been financed by Hon. W. F. Bay Stewart of York, a gentleman of rare executive and administrative abilities.

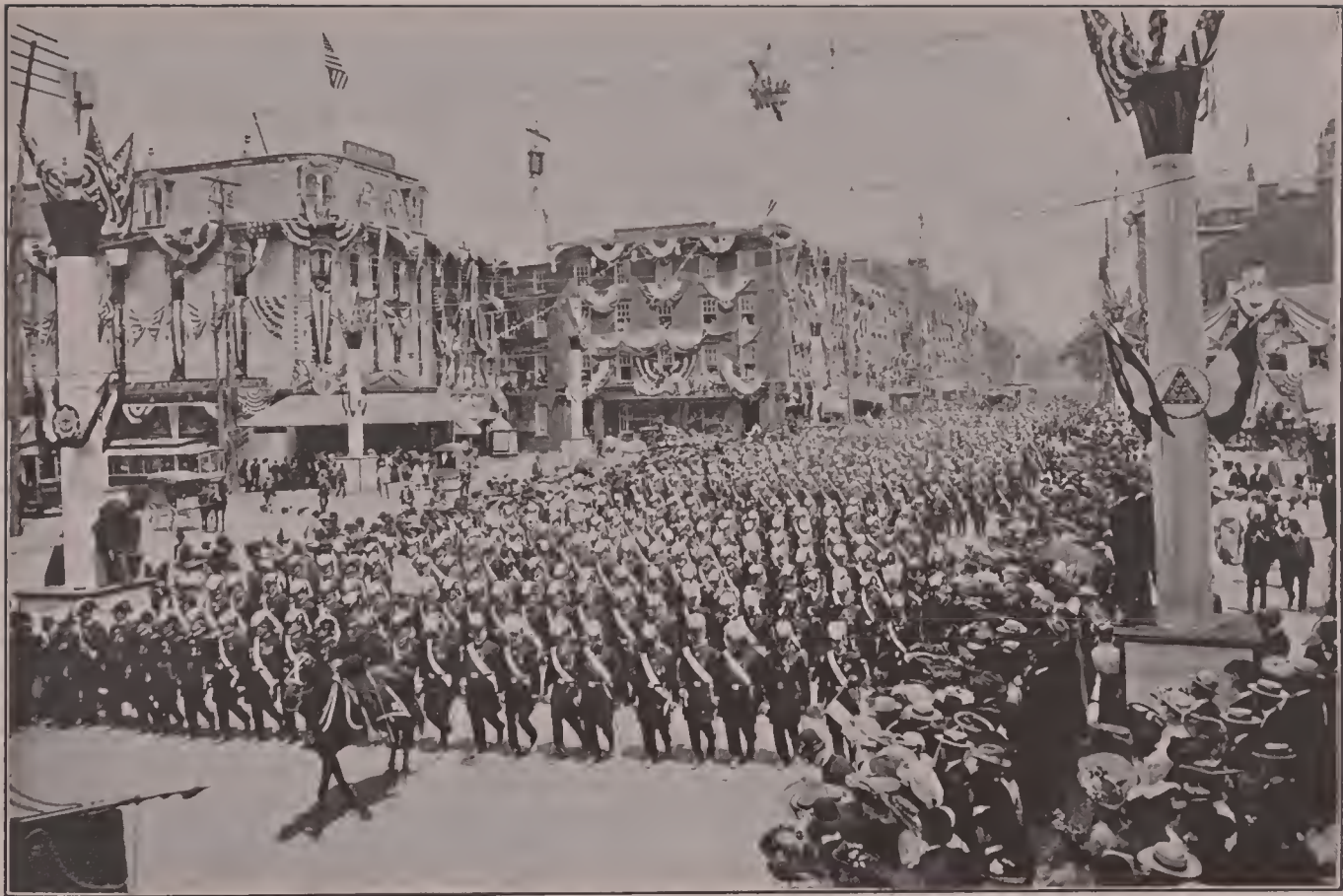
The York County Traction Company, which owns and operates the York Street Railway, has become a very important factor in advancing the interests of modern York. Tracks have been laid through the principal streets of the city, and lines are being extended to all the populous centres of York county. Captain W. H. Lanius is President; George S. Schmidt, Secretary; Ellis Lewis, Treasurer. The directors are William H. Lanius, George S. Billmeyer, George P. Smyser, Grier Hersh, J. W. Steacy, W. F. Bay Stewart and Wm. A. Himes. The gentlemen who direct and manage this enterprise possess the keenest foresight and mature judgment. They are connected with many other successful business enterprises and financial institutions of York.

COURT HOUSES, PAST AND PRESENT.

The colonial Court House erected by authority of the Penns in 1754-6 in Centre Square was torn down

in 1841. The second Court House, built upon the site of the present one, was completed in 1840, at a cost of about \$100,000 by County Commissioners, William Nicholas, John Reiman, and John Beck. This building being poorly ventilated, and no longer adapted to the increased demands of Court business, was replaced in 1898-1900 by the present elegant structure, one of the most ornamental temples of justice in the State of Pennsylvania, or any where in this country. The Commissioners of York county at the time of the erection of this Court House were George W. Atticks, Robert S. McDonald, and Andrew K. Straley. This beautiful building with an imposing front, supported by six granite columns of Ionic architecture, is a graceful ornament to the city of York. It is surmounted by three domes, the middle one rising to a height of 155 feet. The interior of the building is a model of architectural beauty, and every department is admirably adapted for the purposes designed. The materials used in the construction of this Court House are of excellent quality which makes it both attractive and durable. This Court House may stand for hundreds of years. The architect who designed and planned it was J. A. Dempwolf of York.

The judges who presided over the courts of York



GRAND PAGEANT OF COMMANDERIES EN MASSE ON MARKET STREET, MAY, 1904.

County in the order of succession since 1790, were the following: William Augustus Atlee, John Joseph Henry, Walter Franklin, Ebenezer G. Bradford, Daniel Durkee, Robert J. Fisher, Pere L. Wickes, John Gibson, James W. Latimer, John W. Bittenger and W. F. Bay Stewart.

James Ross, for thirty years the leader of the Pittsburg Bar and nine years United States Senator, was born at Delta, and Jeremiah S. Black, the great jurist and statesman, spent the last twenty years of his life as a resident of York.

THE SCHOOLS OF YORK.

The City of York is noted for its superior educational advantages, large and commodious public school buildings and excellent private institutions of learning. Soon after the town was founded there were parochial schools connected with all the churches. Bartholomew Moul, one of the first settlers, taught the school belonging to Christ's Lutheran Church and Ludwig Kraft had charge of the school connected with Zion Reformed Church. For nearly a century thereafter the boys and girls of the town of York obtained their education in private or church schools. The Act of the Pennsyl-

vania Assembly for the year 1834 established the free school system in the State.

At a meeting of delegates from a number of the townships and boroughs held in the county Court House in the fall of 1834, Godlove Kane and Jacob Emmitt represented York, and voted in favor of the introduction of the new system. The first public school buildings owned by the town were erected in 1838. From 1854 to 1871 the York schools were under the supervision of the county superintendent. In 1871, William H. Shelley was chosen the first borough superintendent. With the aid and advice of an active and efficient Board of Education, of which Dr. Samuel J. Rouse was secretary, he soon established a thorough graded system of schools and founded the High School. During this period, many of the old school buildings were replaced by new ones which were fitted up with modern school desks and apparatus. The erection of school buildings has been continued with commendable activity, and at present (1904) there are 24 school buildings containing all the modern improvements of school architecture and equipment. The aggregate valuation of the school property in York for 1904 is \$740,000. The valuation of school property in 1876 was \$125,000.

In 1898, the School Board purchased a site facing Penn Park and upon it erected for the City High School a building of modern architecture. It is one of the most imposing buildings of its kind in this country, costing \$170,000. The large auditorium has a seating capacity of 1600 persons. B. F. Willis, of York, was the architect. C. B. Pennypacker has been principal of the High School since 1903. The number of teachers in all the public schools is 147; number of pupils enrolled for 1904 is 6014. A. Wanner has been superintendent of schools since 1890.

THE YORK COUNTY ACADEMY.

The York County Academy, founded in 1785, through the efforts of Rev. John Campbell, rector of St. John's Episcopal Church of York, for three-fourths of a century was the only institution of learning in York where the higher branches of an education were taught. A charter of incorporation was obtained from the State of Pennsylvania in 1787, the year that York was made a borough. The original board of directors was composed of the following distinguished men: Colonel Thomas Hartley, President; General Henry Miller, Hon. James Smith, Colonel David Grier, Wil-

liam Harris, Robert Hettrick and Rev. Mr. Henderson. In 1799 this institution was transferred to a board of trustees as a "school or academy for the education of the youth, in the learned and foreign languages, in the useful arts, sciences and literature." The York County Academy is one of the land marks of education west of the Susquehanna and has been in a prosperous condition since it was founded, 119 years ago. Among the notable men who have been instructors in this institution, were Rev. John Andrews, afterward Provost of the University of Pennsylvania; Thaddeus Stevens, the great American statesman; Daniel Kirkwood, famed as an astronomer, and Daniel M. Ettinger, well known as an able surveyor and mathematician. D. B. Prince served forty-five years as an instructor and Rev. Stephen Boyer was principal for a quarter of a century. From 1866 to the time of his death in 1889, George W. Ruby was at the head of this institution. He was succeeded by George W. Gross. This time-honored and successful institution for the past few years has been in charge of E. E. Wentworth as principal.

THE YORK COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE.

The York Collegiate Institute was founded in 1873



EN MASSE FORMATION PASSING THROUGH CENTRE SQUARE, MAY, 1904.

by the late Samuel Small, Sr. Under his direction a three-story building with mansard roof was erected, and fitted up with the best of school appliances. Mr. Small conveyed the whole property to a Board of Trustees forever, and provided a liberal endowment. This endowment was afterward increased by his widow, Mrs. Isabel Cassat Small, who also presented the institution with a library, which was named in honor of her father, David Cassat, a noted lawyer of York.

The original building was destroyed by fire in December, 1885, within five months after the death of the founder, and the year following a new building was erected and completely furnished and equipped by his nephews, George Small, W. Latimer Small and Samuel Small, as a memorial to their lamented uncle. Rev. Dr. E. T. Jeffers has been President of this institution since 1893.

The Historical Society of York county was organized March 26, 1895, and became vigorously active in 1902. Since that date the Society has occupied a large room on the third floor of the new Court House, where an interesting and valuable collection of souvenirs, mementoes, documents, portraits, views and books has been classified and arranged. This society has become

a potent factor in developing the intellectual activity of the city and county and now has nearly 300 members. The presidents in the order of succession have been the following: Rev. Henry E. Niles, D. D., Jere Carl, Hon. John W. Bittenger and Michael B. Spahr. The officials of the society for the year 1904 are: Michael B. Spahr, President; A. B. Carner, Vice President; A. Wanner, Treasurer; Miss Mary L. Fisher, Corresponding Secretary; Charles A. Hawkins, Recording Secretary; Rev. T. T. Everett, D. D., Captain W. H. Lanius, George P. Smyser, J. W. Steacy, Rev. E. T. Jeffers, D. D., and Rev. C. E. Walter, D. D., Trustees, and George R. Prowell, Curator and Librarian.

The 51st Annual Conclave, Pennsylvania Knights Templar, held in York, May 23-25, 1904, was one of the most imposing ceremonies ever witnessed in this city. Gethsemane Commandery, No. 75, and York Commandery, No. 21, received and entertained about 2000 visiting Knights, many of whom were accompanied by their wives and daughters. The ball in the Main Building at the Fair Grounds, the parade through the leading streets of York and the installation of Grand Officers in the Auditorium of the High School, were the leading features of this Conclave and will long be remembered by every person who saw them.

The author is under obligations to E. W. Spangler, Esq., and McElhinny, Susong & Co., for the illustrations in this book.

Wherein York Was First.

York was the first town laid out west of the Susquehanna River.

First military company in Pennsylvania for the purpose of resisting the encroachments of Great Britain was organized at York in 1774, with James Smith, a future signer of the Declaration of Independence, as captain.

First military company from west of the Hudson to join the American army at Boston, after the battle of Bunker Hill, went from York.

First armed and equipped company in Pennsylvania to answer President Lincoln's first call for troops, went from York.

First National Thanksgiving Proclamation was issued at York.

The Articles of Confederation were passed in Continental Congress at York.

The first money sent by the King of France to aid the cause of Independence was received by Congress while in session at York.

First discussion in Congress relating to pensions for American soldiers took place at York.

First discussion in Congress on the slavery question took place at York.

First Pennsylvania lawyer admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States was a member of the York County Bar.

First Lutheran, as well as the first Protestant Church west of the Susquehanna was organized at York.

The first synodical meeting west of the Susquehanna was held in the house of Jacob Westhaeffer of Kreutz Creek.

First pipe organ west of the Susquehanna was made in York.

First Classical School west of the Susquehanna was founded at York.

First printing press west of the Susquehanna was erected at York.

First canal west of the Hudson River was opened near York.

First iron steamboat in America was built at York.

First locomotive in America to burn anthracite coal was built at York.

First steel springs used in America were placed on the above mentioned locomotive.

The inventor of railway switches and turntables was a citizen of York.



SEAL SHOWING THE DAVIS ENGINE.



FIGURE OF JUSTICE IN FIRST COURT HOUSE.

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