



Another

—went their separate ways, she built and gave to the Orthodox branch the meeting house on East Front Street, Plainfield, to be theirs “forever.” Happily, differences have at long last been resolved and all Quakers now unite in a common fellowship at the historic meeting house on Watchung Avenue.

When her husband died, Jemima Shotwell went to live with her granddaughter, Caroline, wife of Charles Newell Flanders, in his family homestead, across the street from the cottage. Mrs. William Buckley, who was born and reared in this neighborhood,

says it's true that Caroline was not very kind to her grandmother. When Jemima was in her last sickness, she complained to Grandmother Martha Parse, a near neighbor, that Caroline had taken away her goose feather bed and given her “this horrid hen feather bed.” She wept bitterly. “I'll see about that,” said Martha, and forthwith demanded an explanation of Caroline. “What difference does it make, she's dying!” challenged the granddaughter. “It makes a lot of difference,” replied Martha Parse. “She's got a right to die in her own bed.” And she did.



1815

Excerpts From The New Jersey Journal

1815

Plainfield, July 5th.—The inhabitants of the Township of Westfield and surrounding neighborhood, met at Samuel Manning's tavern, at Plainfield, to celebrate the anniversary of independence. Between 11 and 12 o'clock the procession was formed—in which were about sixty of the venerable actors in the perilous days of '76. The company was likewise gratified and the procession adorned by about 400 ladies, sixty dressed in white under the charge of William Lever, music master. . . . Capt. Benjamin Laing carried the eagles and Col. R. Stanbury the standard; Capt. Allen was officer of the day. . . . The procession moved to the academy in the village—1200 in all—to attend the exercises of the day. There were prayers by Rev. Robert F. Randolph; reading of the Declaration of Independence by Rev. Thomas Brown; an appropriate ovation by Mr. Jacob F. Randolph, and a concluding prayer by Rev. Gideon Wooden. . . . Then, the young ladies were conducted to a bower where about 140 of them partook of an entertainment; . . . 220 or more married ladies repaired to a separate bower and sat down to a comfortable dish of tea; . . . the citi-

zens then sat down to a good and plentiful table spread for them by Mr. S. Manning. . . . Finally, toasts were drunk to The Day, The President, Washington, Jefferson, Monroe, the Army and Navy, Independence; to Kingly Government — “given to mankind by the Almighty in his wrath—may he in his mercy abolish them speedily!” To Republican Government—“The people (under Heaven) the only legitimate sovereigns—may all nations be convinced of this truth

Respecting Meat Law Enforcement

The Town of Elizabeth is incorporated, yet those who officiate as its officers do not appear to enforce the laws. . . . For instance, they passed a law . . . which makes it necessary that the inhabitants should buy their meat at the market. Why is this law not enforced? What use in making laws if they are winked at? . . . What encouragement for those who are willing to comply with the laws, to do so, when their neighbors violate them? . . . If our laws are good, let them be enforced; if not, repeal them. In a republic where virtue is necessary for the support of the state, it is an incumbent duty on all civil officers to enforce all laws