

"History of York County Pennsylvania From the Earliest Time to the Present"

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CONFEDERATE INVASION.

On the 28th of June, 1863, Gen. Early, while advancing on York, and when at Weiglestown, sent Col. French, with a detachment of the Seventeenth Virginia Cavalry, across Manchester Township, to the mouth of the Conewago, to burn the railroad bridges there. They halted, for a time, at Liverpool (Manchester) and Mount Wolf. They took from the stores, boots, shoes, hats, and some other clothing, paid for them in Confederate currency, which they proudly affirmed would soon be "better than your greenbacks, as we are now on our way to Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and New York, and the war will soon be over."

They cut down the telegraph poles, destroyed a number of small railroad bridges and the two large ones. They compelled Benjamin Miller, an intelligent farmer, to go with them and direct them to the bridges, which they set fire to with coal oil. In the afternoon they went to York.

About 400 Union soldiers had been encamped on Col. Hoff's farm, to guard these bridges, but they crossed over the Susquehanna during the early morning of the same day, fearing the approach of a large army. A few shots were fired at the last boat load by the Confederates.