



# Haverford Township Historical Society



## POWELL DICKINSON (1839-1918) AND FAMILY

Compiled by Richard D. Kerr

*[The following is excerpted from Historic Homes and Institutions and Genealogical and Personal Memoirs of Chester and Delaware Counties, Pennsylvania, by Gilbert Cope and Henry Graham Ashmead, published by The Lewis Company, New York and Chicago in 1904.]*

**POWELL DICKINSON**, a leading farmer of Delaware county, traces his descent from **WILLIAM DICKINSON**, who was a resident of the county prior to 1797, and was a prominent man in the community. He owned a small part of what is known as the Dickinson homestead, engaged in teaching, and served in the local offices of the township. He married Prudence [or Patience] Powell [born 1773], and they were the parents of three children:

1. John Dickinson;
2. Lizzie Dickinson, who became the wife of Alexander Pratt
3. George P. Dickinson [see below].

**GEORGE P. DICKINSON** [December 3, 1798-December 22, 1876] was brought up on the paternal farm and learned the carpenter's trade, but on reaching maturity turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, in which he was highly successful and accumulated a large property. His specialty was buttermaking for the Philadelphia market, and the excellent quality of his production gained for him a wide reputation. He was an active member of the Society of Friends. He married Hannah Leedom [March 16, 1802-May 9, 1888], daughter of Daniel Leedom, of Bucks county [and Elizabeth Worrall]. [George P. and Hannah were both buried at the Old Haverford Friends Burial Ground.] Their children were:

1. Charles Dickinson, born December 31, 1819 [died 1863, buried at Old Haverford Friends Burial Ground];
2. Emily Dickinson, born October 23, 1821;
3. George Dickinson, born October 19, 1825 [died August 2, 1900, buried at Old Haverford Friends Burial Ground. His wife was Margaret P. Dickinson (about 1835-September 25, 1885), and they had a son, J. Owen Dickinson (March 1, 1871-September 19, 1909). All three were buried at Old Haverford.];
4. Elias H. Dickinson, born October 7 [or July 10], 1834 [died February 25, 1869, buried at Old Haverford];
5. Powell Dickinson, mentioned at length hereinafter;
6. Hannah Dickinson, born November 11 [or 8], 1843 [died April 25, 1847, age 3, at Old Haverford].

Though extremely unassuming both in character and demeanor, the painstaking industry and honorable dealing of Mr. Dickinson, together with his many quiet and unobtrusive virtues, won for him the respect and confidence of all who knew him. He died in 1876, and his wife survived until 1890 [or 1888].

**POWELL DICKINSON**, son of George P. and Hannah (Leedom) Dickinson, was born October 1, 1839, in Haverford township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, and received his education in his native place and

at London Grove, Chester County. He settled on the homestead, and has devoted his life to agricultural pursuits, on which he is a recognized authority. His political principles are those advocated and upheld by the Republican party. He and his family are members of the Society of Friends.

Mr. Dickinson married, January 3, 1866, Ellen, daughter of John V. and Elizabeth (Worrell) Morton, and a descendant of John Morton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Four children who compose the family of Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson:

1. John Morton Dickinson, born February 5, 1869, was educated at Haverford College and Palm's Business College, of which latter institution he is a graduate, and now occupies a clerical position with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company;
2. Joseph E. Dickinson, born August 6, 1872, was educated at Swarthmore College and Palm's Business College, and is now proprietor of the Berkshire Inn at Atlantic City, New Jersey;
3. Florence Elizabeth Dickinson, who was born September 15, 1876, and was educated at the Race Street Friends' College, Philadelphia;
4. Laura Blanche Dickinson, born December 3, 1879, and also received her education at the above mentioned institution.

©2016-2018 by Haverford Township Historical Society. Personal non-commercial use permitted; all other rights reserved.