



JOHN FLEMING (1828-19xx)

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.]

JOHN FLEMING. Among the most successful and highly esteemed residents of Haverford township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, is to be named John Fleming, whose life of industry and usefulness and whose record for integrity have given him a firm hold upon the regard and confidence of the community. He is now retired from active business pursuits, and enjoys a comfortable competency which is the result of his well directed efforts along business lines. He was born in county Tyrone, Ireland, November 28, 1828, the son of Andrew and Catherine (Patten) Fleming.

Mr. Fleming enjoyed the educational advantages afforded by the common schools of his native county, after which he served four years as all apprentice learning the trade of shoemaker, which he followed, with a certain amount of success, up to the year 1850. Then having decided that there were better opportunities for a successful business career in the United States, he took passage in a sailing vessel which was four weeks making the journey across the Atlantic Ocean. He located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he remained for six months, and then removed to Upper Darby, where he was engaged at his trade four years, being an employe of Mr. George Richards. In May, 1855, Mr. Fleming returned to Ireland, and October 23, of the same year, was united in marriage to Miss Jane Blakely, a daughter of George Blakely, of county Tyrone. Mr. Fleming returned to this country, accompanied by his wife, and established a shoemaker's business on his own account opposite the Eagle Hotel in Haverford township, where he conducted a successful trade for ten years. After making two or three changes in his business address, in 1896 Mr. Fleming purchased his present farm in Haverford township, and turned his attention to the milk business, which proved a profitable source of income, owing to the fact that he was thoroughly reliable and honorable in all his trade transactions, and in this manner won the confidence as well as the patronage of the public. Of late years he has been succeeded in the business by his son. In his political views Mr. Fleming is an Independent, and although of foreign birth is a loyal American citizen, true to the institutions of his adopted land. In 1896 Mr. Fleming made another trip to his native country, and owing to the wonderful improvements that have been made in the mode of travel in recent years, the journey was performed in five days.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Fleming were:

1. Emiline Fleming, wife of Charles Hanley;
2. Melvina Fleming, wife of Leighton Sorason;
3. Kate Fleming, who became the wife of Samuel Hughes; she died April 29, 1895;
4. George B. Fleming, died November 12, 1895, was engaged in the milk business;
5. John Fleming, died September 10, 1896;
6. William Fleming, who resides with his parents and is now conducting the milk business;

7. Benjamin F. E. Fleming.

The family are active and consistent members of the Presbyterian church of Haverford township, Pennsylvania.

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