



Haverford Township Historical Society



JOHN LEEDOM (1768-1842)
JOSEPH B. LEEDOM (1796-1864)
JOSEPH LEEDOM (1827- 1914)
JOSEPH B. LEEDOM (1858-1915)

Compiled by Richard D. Kerr

[The following is excerpted and adapted from A History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania and Its People, John W. Jordan, editor, published by Lewis Historical Publishing Company, New York in 1914.]

The Leedom family were among the pioneer settlers of the State in various sections, and their energy contributed greatly to its prosperity.

(I) JOHN LEEDOM, who was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, settled in Merion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, where he was engaged in farming, and there his death occurred in [March 2] 1842. Two of his brothers, Daniel and Edmund, settled in Delaware County, in the same state, and founded the homestead in Upper Darby. [Their parents were Samual Leedom (son of John Leedom and Susanna Lancaster), born in 1737, probably in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, died in Haverford before April 8, 1816; and Hannah (Staats) Leedom born October 7, 1739 and died before February 23, 1831. Samuel and Hannah were married October 28, 1762 in Southampton, Bucks County.] John Leedom married Elizabeth [actually Rachel] Bond [1766-1828] [on December 2, 1791], and had children:

1. Charles Leedom;
2. Joseph B. Leedom, see forward;
3. John Leedom;
4. Elizabeth Leedom;
5. Samuel Leedom [see separate biography];
6. Esther Leedom;
7. Ruth Anna Leedom.

(II) JOSEPH B. LEEDOM, son of John Leedom and Elizabeth (Bond) Leedom, was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, in March [8], 1796, died in March [28], 1864. He was brought up on a farm, and engaged in farming operations until the year 1828, at which time he became identified with the milling industry, operating a saw and grist mill on Darby creek, in Haverford township. Political matters interested him to a certain degree, and he was a fairly influential factor in the local councils of the Whig party, and later in those of the Republican party. His religious affiliations were with the Society of Friends, to which his ancestors had also belonged, and he was an elder in the Hicksite [Old Haverford Friends] meeting house. Mr. Leedom married [in 1821] Mary Maris Worrall [born June 17, 1787], who died in August [26] 1865 [1866], at the age of seventy-nine years, a daughter of Elisha Worrall [and Mary Maris], of Springfield township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania. [Both Joseph and Mary died in Haverford and were buried in Old Haverford Friends Burial Ground.] Children, all deceased except Joseph:

1. Myra (or Mira) W. Leedom, married on April 16, 1867 Charles M. Worrall, the son of Elisha Worrall and Mary Sharples (Minshall) Worrall, and grandson of Joseph Morrall and Mary (Dutton) Worrall;
2. John [W.] Leedom, married Hannah Worrall [see separate biography];
3. Maris W. Leedom, married Elvira Clark [see separate biography];
4. Joseph Leedom, see forward.

(III) **JOSEPH [B.] LEEDOM**, son of Joseph B. Leedom and Mary Maris (Worrall) Leedom, was born in Haverford township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, January 2, 1827. His early years were spent on the homestead farm, his elementary education being acquired in the public schools, this being supplemented by attendance at the Friends' School conducted by Joseph Faulk, in Montgomery county. He learned the milling trade under the personal supervision and direction of his father, succeeding him in this business and becoming associated with his brothers in a partnership. Later he operated the grist mill independently. He purchased a farm near Manoa, Haverford township, in 1868, and up to the present time has been engaged in farming. He has been a staunch upholder of the principles of the Republican party and, while of a modest and retiring disposition, has had a number of public offices thrust upon him. For a period of twenty years he served as a member of the school board; was Treasurer of the West Chester turnpike for twenty years and director of the poor, thirteen years. He and his wife are members of the Hicksite Friends' Church, the [Old] Haverford Meeting House, which William Penn was accustomed to attend when he came out from Philadelphia. He married, in 1852, Emily Pyle, daughter of Jonathan Pyle and Naomi (Parsons) Pyle. Mrs. Emily Leedom was born August 30, 1826, and is still in the enjoyment of excellent health. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Leedom had children:

1. Amanda R. Leedom, who died unmarried at the age of twenty-one years;
2. William P. Leedom, is a farmer in Haverford, and married Louisa Enoch, and had two sons, Harry T. Leedom and Elwood B. Leedom, the latter deceased;
3. Joseph B. Leedom, see forward;
4. George Truman Leedom, died at the age of sixteen years;
5. John L. [or B.] Leedom, is a farmer in Upper Darby, and married Elizabeth Hart;
6. Walter L. [or Lewis Walter] Leedom, deceased, married Zaidee Thornberry, and had Emily Prudence Leedom, Mary T. Leedom, and Dorothy Leedom.

(IV) **JOSEPH B. LEEDOM**, son of Joseph Leedom and Emily (Pyle) Leedom, was born in Haverford township, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, April 25, 1858 [died in 1915]. He attended the public schools in his native township, and resided there until he had attained the age of thirty-five years. Upon the completion of his education he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade, and from that branched out into the contracting line in which he was engaged in Haverford from 1886 until 1892. In the latter year he came to Media, having been appointed to the office of clerk in the office of the recorder of deeds, John H. Kerkin, then served in the same capacity under Dr. Young. From 1898 until 1904 Mr. Leedom was assistant postmaster of Media, Harriet Gault being postmistress. In 1904, under A. J. Dalton, he entered upon his office as deputy prothonotary, an office he is still filling in a very efficient and capable manner. He has always been a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and his religious faith is that of the Baptist denomination. He is a member of the following organizations: Cassia Lodge. Free and Accepted Masons, of Ardmore, Pennsylvania; Media Republican Club; Media Fire and Hook and Ladder Company, of which he has been the Treasurer for a long period of time. Mr. Leedom married, October 14, 1885, L. Emma Tyson, born February 11, 1863, daughter of Charles B. Tyson and Mary (Haskins) Tyson, of Newtown township. The former, who is a farmer, was born in Middletown township, while his wife was a native of Chester county. [. . .] Mr. and Mrs. Leedom have had children:

1. Mary Ethel Leedom, born August 14, 1886;
2. Joseph Leedom, Jr., born April 12, 1888;

3. Ira T. Leedom, born in November, 1891, died June 1, 1896;
4. Anna W. Tyson, born November 22, 1904.

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