



Haverford Township Historical Society



SAMUEL LEEDOM (1797-1872) AND FAMILY

By Richard D. Kerr

[The Leedom family name pervades the history of Haverford Township, as well as surrounding areas and more distant areas. These biographies concentrate on those Leedoms who resided in, or otherwise contributed to, the township's history.]

SAMUEL LEEDOM was a son, along with Joseph B. Leedom, of John Leedom, who was born in Bucks County and died in Montgomery County, and Rachel Bond. (For more of Samuel's early family, see the separate biography of John Leedom.) Samuel was born on December 31, 1797 in Concord, Delaware County, Pennsylvania and died in 1872 in the Cobb's Creek area of Haverford Township, having been in the mill business in Haverford from before 1827. From the History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania by Henry Graham Ashmead (1884) we learn the following:

"About the year 1810, Jonathan Miller built grist and saw-mills on Cobb's Creek, just above the mill privilege, soon after utilized for the manufacture of gunpowder. A few years later David Quinn became associated with him in the business and served as manager. In 1827, Samuel Leedom took charge. For a number of years prior to that time the latter had operated Joshua Humphrey's mill, which was situated a short distance above Miller's, on the same creek. In 1844, Mr. Leedom purchased the Miller Mills, and lived there till his death, which occurred some twelve years ago. Augustus B. Leedom then became the owner, to be succeeded in a few years by one Lombert. The latter was in turn succeeded by the present owner, George Dickinson, who purchased the property in February, 1879 and came here to reside in April of the following year."

Samuel married Eliza Steel on March 18, 1824. She was the daughter of Robert Steel and Jane A. (Bishop) Steel, born in 1802 in Chester County and died on June 10, 1862 in Haverford. They resided in what is now known as the Miller/Leedom/Dickinson house, still standing at the present-day address of 570 Mill Road. Samuel and Eliza were buried at the Old Haverford Friends Burial Ground. Their children were as follows:

1. Augustus Bond Leedom (see below)
2. Emmor Steel Leedom (see below)
3. Jane Ann Leedom (born 1829, died March 2, 1862 in Haverford), married Lilburn H. Steel of Philadelphia on September 10, 1857.
4. George B. Leedom (born 1837, moved to Maryland and died there after 1900).
5. Samuel J. Leedom (born 1838, died 1922; lived in Cecil County, Maryland; buried in Media, Pennsylvania).

AUGUSTUS BOND LEEDOM was born on September 26, 1824 in the Cobb's Creek area of Haverford and died on December 18, 1902. He was a miller (see above quotation) and farmer. On June 6, 1850 he married Hannah Margaret Hoopes, daughter of Daniel Hoopes and Hannah Steele, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Hannah was born on May 25, 1826 in Newtown Township, Delaware County and died on December 17, 1903. They settled at the Lawrence Mills on Darby Creek near West Chester Pike in

Haverford, then about 1862 moved to Samuel's Cobb's Creek mill, which he operated for about 10 years. Samuel and Eliza were buried at the Old Haverford Friends Burial Ground. Their children were as follows:

1. Samuel Winfield Scott Leedom (born January 4, 1852 in Philadelphia, died January 29, 1902 in Middlesex, Massachusetts, buried at Old Haverford Friends Burial Ground with his wife Mary Elia (Conroy) Leedom (1857-1927)
2. Ella Hoopes Leedom (born March 1, 1853, died June 2, 1895 in Haddington, Philadelphia), buried at Old Haverford Friends Meeting with her husband Nathan Jones Leger (born 1855, died before 1910)
3. George Howard Leedom (born March 20, 1857, died April 24, 1940), He owned a grist mill near Media; married Rebe Crans Adler (1862-1938) in Philadelphia. George and Rebe had no children, and were buried at the Old Haverford Friends Burial Ground.

EMMOR STEEL LEEDOM was born on February 19, 1827 and died on January 26, 1908. His work took him out of Haverford Township, as a schoolmaster at Ward, Delaware County and at a flour mill in Concord, Pennsylvania. He served as the first president of the school board in Aldan, Pennsylvania. He married Joanna W. Williams (born May 16, 1834, died February 5, 1920) on December 15, 1853. Emmor and Joanna were both buried at the Old Haverford Friends Burial Ground. Their children were as follows:

1. Elizabeth W. Leedom (born 1854, died January 23, 1921), never married, buried at Old Haverford B.G.
2. Augustus John Leedom (born 1857, died July 18, 1939), never married.
3. Eliza Jane Leedom (born 1863, died July 22, 1929), 1st Aldan school teacher 1896, never married.
4. Charles W. Leedom (born 1864, died July 3, 1865 in Concord, Pa., aged 9 months).
5. Mary Williams Leedom (born 1866, died 1956), teacher, lived to age 90 in Aldan, never married.

[For more genealogical information on the descendants of Samuel Leedom and Hannah Staats, see "Scott and Kathryn (Leedom) Ives Genealogy" (Samuel Leedom and Hannah Staats page) on Rootsweb at http://homepages.ancestry.com/~ski/katie/family_pages/john_leedom_3samuel.html#c11424.]

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