

DINSMORE DICK, one of Indiana county's progressive farmers, is a member of one of the oldest families of Wheatfield township. The founder of the family in Indiana county was James Dick, who was a native of County Antrim, Ireland. With his wife, who before her marriage was Mary Dinsmore, and several children, Mr. Dick left his home in Ireland in the spring of 1811 and crossed the Atlantic in a sailing vessel. When in sight of New York their vessel was captured by the English and taken to Halifax, N.S., three of the sons, John, Robert and William, being pressed into the naval service by the British. There were for six weeks on the "Guerriere" before they were released, and in the spring of 1812 the family made their way to Indiana county, Pa., locating in what is now Centerville, West Wheatfield township. Mr. Dick became interested in agricultural pursuits and the remainder of his life was spent in work on the farm. Here he and his wife passed away. Their children were: John, born in 1787, who married Sarah Griffith; Robert, born in 1789, who married Jane Lapsley; William, who married Isabell Nelson; Thomas, who married Margaret Hice; Jane, who married William Moffatt and (second) John Southwell; James, who married Anna Graham and (second) Mary Stewart; Jeanett, who married Thomas Love; and Alexander B.

Alexander B. Dick, son of James and Mary (Dinsmore) Dick, was born in February, 1810, and was but an infant when his parents brought him to America. He grew to manhood on the farm of his father, attending the schools which in those days were supported by subscription and were open only a few months each year. In spite of these limited chances for an education, he became a well-read man and well informed on many subjects by close reading, being of a studious mind and applying himself to his studies. He made farming his occupation, in 1850 moving to Brushvalley township and locating south of Mechanicsburg. Here he farmed for several years, in 1876 buying what is now the Charles Hileman farm, where he spent the remainder of his life. His death occurred July 4, 1897, at the age of eighty-seven years, five months, and he was buried in the Mechanicsburg cemetery. He was a member of the United Presbyterian Church, was elder for twenty-seven years, superintendent of the Sunday school for some years, and served in township offices. He filled the position of deputy sheriff under Sheriff Truby. In politics he supported the Republican party.

Mr. Dick married Mary Kelly, daughter of John and Mary (Griffith) Kelly, and she died in 1899 and was buried in the United Presbyterian Church cemetery at Mechanicsburg. She was a member of that church. Children as follows were born to them: Agnes married Andrew Simpson (she is now deceased); Elizabeth is the widow of John Hood and resides in Homer City; James K., retired farmer and ex-county commissioner, resides in Homer City; Thompson is deceased; John, an undertaker resides in Huntingdon, Pa.; Albert is a resident of Indiana; Dinsmore is mentioned below; Robert Nelson is deceased; Harriet married Joseph Alexander, of Black Lick; Sarah Jane married Robert Phillips, of Blairsville; Margaret resides at Homer City; and Annie married William Kissinger and resides in Indiana.

Dinsmore Dick, son of Alexander B. and Mary (Kelly) Dick, was born Sept 16, 1851, in Brushvalley township, where his boyhood days were spent and where he attended the public schools. He continued to live under the parental roof until he reached manhood. He spent some time as an employee of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, until 1877, when he took up farming in Brushvalley, and his place is known as the Cherry Valley farm. Here he has been engaged in farming since, devoting his time principally to stock raising. He has made extensive improvements on the property, the present barn being built in 1904. Mr. Dick is a progressive and enterprising farmer as well as a successful one, and he has spent the best part of his life in developing and improving his place. A staunch republican in political principle, he has filled the public offices of school director and overseer of the poor in his township. He is a member of the United Presbyterian Church.

On March 9, 1877, Mr. Dick married Millisia Mack, daughter of George Mack, and to this union have been born the following children: George W., living at Latrobe, Pa; Alexander, a school teacher for nine years, residing with his parents; and Myrtle, wife of Leo Fiola, a train dispatcher, of Duluth, Minnesota.