

JOSEPH DIXON DICKIE, a prominent citizen and well-known agriculturist of Center township, Indiana county, was born on the family homestead, in that township, June 21, 1840.

William H. Dickie, the founder of the Dickie family in this region, was of Scotch-Irish extraction. Coming to Indiana county at an early period he located in center township, on a farm about six miles from Indiana, now known as the Kauffman farm. There he continued to engage in farming for a number of years. Later he removed to Jacksonville, Indiana county, where he remained several years, and finally to the home of his son George on a farm in White township, spending the remainder of his life with him and dying there in 1865-66, at the age of eighty-five years, eight days. Mr. Dickie was a Whig and republican in political sentiment but not particularly active in party affairs. He served as school director, however, after the establishment of the public schools. A member of the M. E. Church, he served many years as class leader and was also chorister for a long period. In fact he was widely known in the latter connection in this region, having taught singing for many years.

Mr. Dickie married Jane Allison, a native of Center township, daughter of Andrew and Sally (Barr) Allison, the former of whom served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war under General Washington. Mrs. Dickie died aged ninety-one years, at the home of her daughter Mrs. Kauffman, and was buried in Oakland cemetery, at Indiana, beside her husband. Ten children were born to this couple: George is mentioned below; Hannah married Thomas B. Allison, of Marchand, Indiana county, who served as associate judge; Jane married Rev. J. Gordon, a minister of the M. E. Church; Ebenezer died at Rock Island, Ill.; Nancy married James Ayers, of Marion center, Pa.; John died in Ohio; Mary (Polly) married Samuel Ray, of Crete, this county; Lavina married Jacob Kauffman; Elizabeth married John McMullen, of Center township, and later removed to Illinois; Ursula Toledo married John F. Henderson, and died in Illinois.

George Dickie, eldest son of William H. Dickie, was born Sept. 27, 1809, on the farm in White township, and obtained his education at the subscription school held in a near-by log house. He grew up on the farm and from his earliest boyhood was familiar with agricultural work, which he followed all his life, and in which he became very prosperous. He acquired over six hundred acres of land. He built a substantial brick house to replace the first one of logs, and made many other improvements on his property, which became quite valuable under his intelligent and energetic management. In addition to general farming he engaged somewhat extensively in stock raising, and drove to the eastern markets for many years. He made a specialty of the raising of fine sheep, his large acreage enabling him to keep great numbers. He died March 5, 1901, in his ninety-second year, after a busy and useful career, and was buried in Oakland cemetery. He was a life-long member of the M. E. Church at Homer City, and served as steward. In political opinion he was a Republican and held the offices of supervisor and school director in White township.

On May 14, 1835, Mr. Dickie married Jane Dixon, who was born Sept. 8, 1811, daughter of Joseph Dixon, whose family sketch may be found elsewhere, and they had a married life of over half a century, her death occurring Dec. 224,

1885. She, too, is buried in Oakland cemetery. They had a family of six children: Mary Jane, born April 19, 1836, died Jan. 2, 1838; William H., born Dec. 11, 1838, is a farmer in Blacklick township, this county; Joseph Dixon is mentioned below; Nancy H., born Dec. 4, 1843, is the widow of Capt. G. h. Ogden, of Homer City; Elizabeth, born May 7, 1846, married Frank Broskey, who died in Indiana; George C., born June 12, 1850, lived at Indiana, and died Feb. 24, 1912.

Joseph Dixon Dickie attended a school located one and a quarter miles from his home, but his opportunities were comparatively limited, and he has become well informed through his own efforts, reading and observation taking the place of early instruction. He remained under the parental roof until he reached the age of twenty-three years, when his father settled him upon the William Bruce farm and let him start out on his own account. There he has continued to reside to the present. By persistent work and systematic methods he has become one of the foremost farmers of Center township. He has made many improvements upon his farm, building a modern house and doing many other things to enhance the value of the property, and his progressive spirit is evidenced in all the work he undertakes. For some time he was engaged in shipping live stock to Philadelphia, being associated in this business with James Johnston, a neighbor. Mr. Dickie has been a leading member of the Indiana Agricultural Society, having been one of its managers for thirty years, still serving in that capacity; the educational facilities of his locality have always possessed special interest for him and received his best attention, as shown in his service of fifteen years as member of the township school board, of which he was president for part of that time. He is a Republican on political issues. He holds membership in the M. E. Church and has served as trustee. In fact, he is known as a supporter of all desirable local enterprises.

On Jan. 14, 1864, Mr. Dickie married Martha Jane Harold, who was born Sept. 28, 1841, daughter of Peter and Sarah (Gibson) Harold, and died June 17, 1874. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Three children were born to this marriage: Laura Jane, born Oct. 18, 1864, died Feb. 16, 1885; Sarah May, born May 16, 1870, is the wife of E. G. Campbell; Anna Edith, born April 25, 1873, died in infancy. On June 7, 1876, Mr. Dickie married (second) Geneva Campbell, who was born Jan. 9, 1856, in Fairview township, Butler Co., Pa., daughter of John B. and Esther (Keller) Campbell, of White township, Indiana county. By this marriage there are also three children: Elizabeth Pearl married Hon. James T. Henry, of Blairsville, Pa.; Nannie Mabel, a graduate of the normal school at Indiana, Pa., class of 1899, married Clarence R. Smith; and Esther Josephine, who graduated from the conservatory of music of the Indiana normal school, and was engaged as instructor of music in the public schools of Vandergrift, Pa., married Sept. 11, 1912, Arthur D. Hunger, and they reside in Philadelphia.