

Gen. Ref
#693

FRIENDS OF THE JOHN DICKINSON MANSION

A commemorative ceremony at the grave of John Dickinson will be held on Friday morning, February 14, Friends Meeting Yard, Fourth and West Streets, Wilmington, at eleven o'clock.

Members of our Society and of other groups wishing to join in this remembrance of Delaware's famous son are invited to be present.

Theodore Marvin
President

February 7, 1964

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Virginia E. Shaw
Hall of Records
Dover, Del. 19900

April ye 9th, 1962.

Respected Friends:

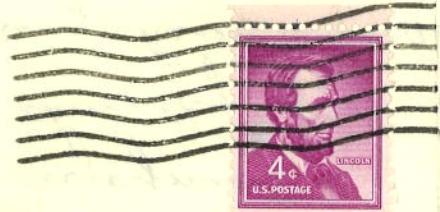
Last year on ye first day of May many of you gave us much pleasure by accepting ye invitation to meet at ye home of M^r John Dickinson, in St. Jones neck near ye town of Dover.

Again we are reliably inform'd that ye gardens will be fresh and green with blooms. On May 1st at 6 o'clock there will be a delectable buffet supper prepared for your refreshment by one of Dover's Inns. Preceding, at 5 o'clock, will be ye Annual meeting of our Society.

A fresh supply of fine tallow candles are on hand to illuminate ye mansion during a tour after supper. Visiting musicians from Chestertown, in ye County of Kent, in Maryland have kindly consented to provide appropriate music for your enjoyment.

We beg ye acceptance of thee, thy spouse and any friends thee may care to bring. Reservations are limited to 250 persons.

Your Humble Obedient Servt.
Friends of John Dickinson Mansion, Inc.



Miss Virginia E. Shaw
Hall of Records
Dover, Delaware

April ye 9th, 1962.

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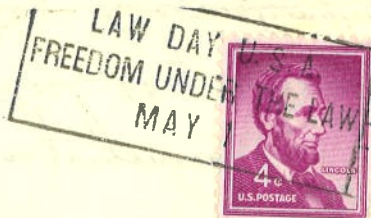
Your Humble Obedient Servt.
Friends of John Dickinson Mansion, Inc.

In answer, please detach and make ye check for \$2.00 each and send by ye post not later than April 25th, 1962 to Mrs. H. V. Holloway, 10 Kings Highway, Dover, Delaware.

Name _____

Address _____

P.O. Box 710
Dover, Del.



Mrs. Virginia E. Shaw
Hall of Records
Dover, Delaware



H E A R Y E!

On the occasion of ye 12th Annual Meeting of The Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, Inc. and in the 231st Year since the Birth of John Dickinson, there will be a Buffet Supper and Candle-Light Tour of his Mansion, Saturday, 9th of May.

Annual Meeting	-	Four-thirty o'clock
Refreshments	-	Five-thirty o'clock
Buffet Supper	-	Six o'clock
Eighteenth Century Guided Tours	-	Seven o'clock

Music in Ye Spirit of Those Days Throughout the Evening.

Post your Requests for Reservations not later than 1st of May. For information by ye Telephone, call Mrs. C. Hazel Pardee, ye John Dickinson Mansion, 734-9439.

John Dickinson Mansion
P. O. Box 710
Dover, Delaware, 19901

Enclosed is check covering _____ reservations at \$2.50 each for ye Buffet Supper and Candle-Light Tour on ye Ninth of May, 1964.

Name _____

Address _____

Mr. John Dickerson Mancin
P.O. Box 710
Dover, Del.



Miss Virginia E. Shaw
Hall of Records
Dover, Delaware

April ye 10. 1961

Respected Friends:

It is our pleasure to invite you to meet with us ye first day of May at ye home of Mr. John Dickinson in St. Jones Neck near ye town of Dover.

We are reliably inform'd that ye gardens will be fresh and green with blooms. Att. 50'clock ye Annual Meeting of our Society will be held, followed at 60'clock by a pleasant 18th Century Evening divertisement.

Young maidens of Dover will dance about ye May Pole and perform a Minuet in ye best manner. For your refreshment one of Dover's Inns has prepared a delectable buffet supper. Then for ye first time there will be a tour of ye Mansion alight with candles and visiting musicians from Chestertown, in ye County of Kent, in Maryland will kindly provide appropriate music for your enjoyment.

We beg ye acceptance of this, thy spouse and any friends thee may care to bring.

Your Humble Obediant Servt.
Friends of John Dickinson Mansion Inc.



P.O. Box 710
Dover, Del.



Miss Virginia E. Shaw
Hall of Records
Dover, Delaware



NOTICE

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, Inc., will be held on Monday, May 1, 1961, at 5:00 P. M., in the Mansion preceding "The 18th Century Evening".

The Board of Directors will meet immediately after the General Meeting to elect new officers and to note a change in the By-Laws.

Elizabeth S. Holloway,
Secretary



THE WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY
INCORPORATED IN DELAWARE
1000 MARKET STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19103
WILMINGTON, DE 19800

Go with you happiness

For the Christmas Season and the Coming Year

WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY

The gift of Friends of John
DICKINSON MANSION, INC. through
the courtesy of Mrs. George P.
Edmonds, Greenville, Del.



FRIENDS OF THE JOHN DICKINSON MANSION, INC.

Wilmington Tower, 12th & Market Streets
P. O. Box 2306
Wilmington, Delaware 19899

DIRECTORS

April 2, 1976

MRS. JOHN BIGGS, III
MR. SEWELL C. BIGGS
MRS. BENJAMIN BURTON, JR.
MR. GEORGE C. HERING, III
MR. WILLIAM INGRAM
MR. J. THOMAS ROBINSON
MR. WILLIAM C. SCOTT
MRS. N. MAXSON TERRY, JR.
MRS. JAMES M. TUNNELL, JR.

Mr. Lawrence Henry, Director
Division of Historical and
Cultural Affairs
Hall of Records
Dover, DE 19901

Dear Larry:

I think the point you raised about the future role of the "Friends" was extremely valid and some of the observations that flowed therefrom very important. I regret the lateness of the hour and the distance that many had to travel precluded us from making even a preliminary decision on what we do next.

I did mention at the meeting, however, that I would like those of you who are receiving copies of this letter to act as a group of four who might discuss this in an effort to come back with perhaps ^{more} precise, specific proposals or recommendations for future board consideration.

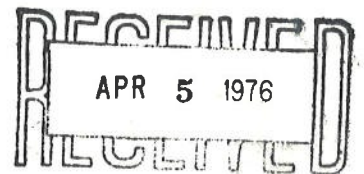
Since your chair the Division which is ultimately responsible for the Mansion, I think it appropriate that we be guided in great measure, at least initially, by your views as to how and in what form the Mansion can prove beneficial in the long run to the citizens of Delaware. Would you, therefore, be kind enough to put some of your thoughts in writing and circulate them to Messrs. Biggs, Sweeney and Wilson, hopefully followed by a gathering of the four of you to come up with thoughts or suggestions as to the role of the Friends in the future. I think it is extremely difficult to use a meeting such as the format Tuesday to discuss such a topic dispassionately, objectively and with completeness. I am not suggesting by this that we can resolve this at a few meetings, but I am of the firm conviction that guide lines and thoughts such as you expressed could be more readily evaluated if thought out by a smaller number and then presented to the Board at a later meeting.

Very truly yours,

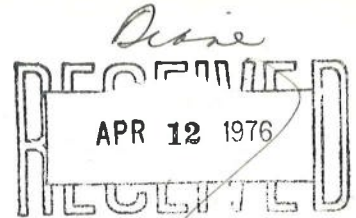
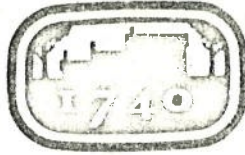
George C. Hering, III

GCH, III/dd

cc: John Sweeney
Sewell Biggs
Emmerson Wilson



Div. Historical & Cultural Affairs



FRIENDS OF THE JOHN DICKINSON MANSION, INC. Cultural Affairs

Wilmington Tower, 12th & Market Streets
P. O. Box 2306
Wilmington, Delaware 19899

for your information
DIRECTORS

- Mrs. JOHN BIGGS, III
- Mr. SEWELL C. BIGGS
- Mrs. BENJAMIN BURTON, JR.
- Mr. GEORGE C. HERING, III
- Mr. WILLIAM INGRAM
- Mr. J. THOMAS ROBINSON
- Mr. WILLIAM C. SCOTT
- Mrs. N. MAXSON TERRY, JR.
- Mrs. JAMES M. TUNNELL, JR.

TO: ALL DIRECTORS
FROM: GEORGE C. HERING, III
DATE: APRIL 8, 1976

I am enclosing a copy of the minutes of the last board meeting which were composed by Anne Biggs, our secretary.

Since that last meeting, I am happy to report that Alice Holmes has agreed to accept the responsibility as arrangements chairman for the annual dinner on June 7, 1976.

Emmerson Wilson has agreed to contact Mrs. Swenson to sing the liberty song.

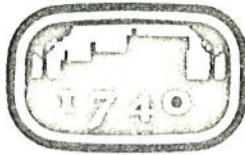
I have written a letter to Mr. Henry requesting that he set forth in writing some of his observations he made at the meeting regarding the future role of The Friends. I have further requested that he convey this to a committee composed of Messrs. Biggs, Wilson and Sweeney with the thought that such a subcommittee might report at a subsequent board meeting. This is a difficult topic and one in which we only superficially touched upon at the meeting because of the lateness of the hour

I have enclosed for each of you what I believe is a fairly accurate list of those in attendance at the November dinner meeting at the Hotel. Let's make every effort to see that these people attend the annual meeting of the Mansion.

I have also written to Lynne Carver suggesting that she give out the pamphlets: The House on Jones Neck to adult visitors, and the smaller four-page brochure to school guests.

dd

Enclosures



FRIENDS OF THE JOHN DICKINSON MANSION, INC.

Wilmington Tower, 12th & Market Streets

P. O. Box 2306

Wilmington, Delaware 19899

DIRECTORS

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MR. WILLIAM INGRAM
MR. J. THOMAS ROBINSON
MR. WILLIAM C. SCOTT
MRS. N. MAXSON TERRY, JR.
MRS. JAMES M. TUNNELL, JR.

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 30, 1976

A meeting of the Board of Directors of The Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, Inc. was held on Tuesday, March 30, 1976 at the home of Sewell C. Biggs in Summitt, Delaware. The following members were present: Mrs. Tunnell, Mrs. Burton, Mrs. Biggs and Mrs. Terry and Mr. Hering, Mr. Scott, Mr. Ingram and Mr. Biggs. Mr. Emmerson Wilson, immediate past president and editor of the Newsletter, was also present, along with John Sweeney, newly appointed Chairman of the House Committee and Lawrence Henry, Director of the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs for the State of Delaware.

The meeting commenced with Mr. Hering thanking Mr. Biggs for hosting the Board along with their spouses at a very fine cocktail party and buffet supper served in his beautiful home.

Mr. Hering announced that the annual membership meeting would be held at the Mansion, Monday, June 7. He urged all members to try to expand the interest in the organization and the membership list by contacting those who have shown only limited interest, as well as trying to achieve added new interest from anyone who might not have any

previous contact with The Friends. Mrs. Alice Holmes, a past president, has agreed to be Arrangements Chairman for the annual meeting and dinner and will be assisted by Isabelle Burton and Rebecca Terry.

Mr. Wilson indicated that he intends to have the proof of the next Newsletter finished by April 15, and in the hands of the Sussex Countian by the third week in April so as to have the Newsletter mailed the first week in May. The Sussex Countian will again do the printing because the board members felt that their product was both excellent, as well as substantially cheaper than the prior publisher. Mr. Wilson asked for anyone's contribution in the form of articles which they would like to submit.

Discussion ensued relative to having some form of formal entertainment at the bicentennial-annual membership meeting. Mr. Wilson reported that he had read the script of the "The Revolution Machine Presents the Man Who Did Not Sign", and personally found it not such as to recommend to the Board that we present it at the annual meeting. The Board concurred in this decision. It was decided, however, to invite Mrs. Swenson to sing the liberty song at the annual meeting. Mr. Wilson will make the contact with Mrs. Swenson.

John Sweeney, Chairman of the newly created House Committee and one who was singularly instrumental in furnishing the Mansion approximately twenty years ago, reported that he and Mr. Henry had agreed on a procedure to inventory the furnishings in the Mansion. Mr. Henry expects to have at his disposal a summer intern who he anticipates assigning to this particular inventory. The inventory will cover such aspects as donor, date of gift, period, authenticity, and current value (wherever ascertainable) for insurance purposes. It was suggested that a publication

in the form of a catalog on the various furnishings and the house might be appropriate for The Friends to undertake as a project culminating its 25 years of existence, which will occur in 1977. Both Mr. Sweeney and Mr. Henry strongly felt that it was premature for such publication until (a) the inventory was complete and (b) The Friends had identified what their overall future purpose should be. Mr. Henry expressed the feeling that in his judgment from his position as the State Director, the house should not merely be a physical facility with furnishings in it, but rather the basis for an educational program which would properly identify the contributions of the Dickinson family as it then related to plantation life and its continuing contributions historically to date. Since the Mansion and furnishings are fundamentally under the ownership and direction of the State, it was suggested that Mr. Henry outline in general written form his thoughts as expressed verbally as to the proper function of the Mansion in the future.

Brief comment was made on the access to various publications which heretofore have been sold but with little recent success. It was suggested that copies of the booklet, The House on Jones Neck, by J. H. Powell should be given, at least to adults, as a further way of publicizing the Mansion.

Mr. Hering requested Messrs. Biggs, Wilson, Sweeney and Henry combine efforts to recommend as to what they feel would be a proper future course that the Friends might take in its overall activities with respect to the Mansion.

The Board considered in principle, certain amendments to be adopted to the current bylaws which were last printed, as revised, November 10, 1964. The following propositions were approved by the Board:

1. The current nine-member Board elected from the membership should be increased to twelve members so as to provide four members to be elected each year on staggered terms. The current prohibition against a director be re-elected except after an interval of non-service deemed to be inappropriate and to be replaced by the principle that board members may be elected to succeed themselves, but not beyond nine years of continuous service.

2. The secretary-treasurer shall be a member of the Board.

3. The Governor of the State and the President of Dickinson College should be ex officio non-voting members of the Board, but serving in such capacity during the term in which they respectively serve as Governor and President of the College.

4. A quorum of the board should be five members and not a simple majority of those elected to the Board as is now the case.

William C. Scott, Treasurer, submitted the following written report:

As of 3/29/76:

Balance on Wilm. Trust checking account	\$ 750.55
Balance on Wilm. Trust savings account	1,674.01
Balance on Del. Trust Dickinson Medals checking account	59.19

The meeting is concluded again with the sincere thanks to our fellow director, Sewell C. Biggs, for his thoughtfulness in hosting the Board and their husbands and wives in his home.

Respectfully submitted

Anne Biggs, Secretary

DINNER RESERVATIONS FOR NOVEMBER 20, 1975, Hotel DuPont

Mrs. Laird Stabler and two guests
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cooch, Jr.
Mrs. A. Felix duPont
Mr. and Mrs. James Tunnell
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Holmes and son
Mr. and Mrs. Terry Carver
Mr. Charles VanRavensway and guest
Mrs. and Mrs. William A. Worth & guest
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lee Reese, Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin Burton
Mr. and Mrs. Emmerson Wilson
Mrs. John B. France
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Scott
Dr. and Mrs. Norman Wilkinson
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Rose
Mr. and Mrs. George C. Hering, III
Mrs. H. B. duPont
Mr. and Mrs. John Biggs, III
Mrs. Alfred P. Bissell
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Horsey
Miss Elizabeth Lloyd
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Holpp
Mrs. and Mrs. Thomas Robinson, Jr.
Mrs. Harry Clark Boden IV
Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Hankins
Dr. Milton Flower
Mr. and Mrs. N. Maxson Terry, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. N. Maxson Terry, Sr.
Dr. C.E. Wagner
Mr. George Edmonds
Miss Sue Fox
Mrs. G. S. Bradford
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Robinson
Mrs. Chadwick
Mrs. LeFevre
Mrs. Margaret Montgomery
Mrs. and Mrs. John Herdeg
Mr. Sewell Biggs
Mrs. William Cann
Miss Celeste Sheehan
Miss Christine Sheehan
Mrs. Charles Richards
Mr. and Mrs. John Reese
Judge and Mrs. William Storey
Mrs. Barry Dysart
Mrs. William P. Knowles
Mr. and Mrs. Willard E. Henderer II
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Homsey
Mr. Gary Hender
rs. Donald Pease
Mrs. Thomas Brittingham
Mrs. Elwyn Evans
Mrs. Alice B. DeGraff
Mr. and Mrs. David Stockwell
Mrs. Eugene Quigg
Mrs. George Winchester
Mrs. Sidney Scott
Mrs. Martha Steel
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Reed
Mr. Grover Biddle
Mr. and Mrs. William Paton
Mr. and Mrs. H. C. McDaniel
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Jackson
Mr. and Mrs. Lammot duPont Copeland
Mr. Richard Cooch
Mrs. Michael Donahue
Mrs. Helen Krebs
Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Scott

Diane

A NEWS LETTER FROM The Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, Incorporated

MAY 6 1976

Div. Historical & Cultural Affairs



Vol. 15, No. 2

W. Emerson Wilson, Editor

May, 1976

ANNUAL MEETING, GARDEN PARTY JUNE 7 CHANGES IN BYLAWS ON ELECTIONS PROPOSED

The 24th annual meeting of the Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, Inc., will be held at the mansion on the Kitts Hummock Road at 5 p.m. on Monday, June 7.

Following the business meeting there will be a reception and a buffet supper served in the garden. This garden party was a memorable success last year. After supper there will be candlelight tours of the mansion.



Over 100 attended the fall dinner at the Hotel duPont.

DINNER LECTURE DRAWS BIG THRONG

More than 100 members of the Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, Inc., and their guests, attended the annual dinner meeting in the Du Barry Room of the Hotel DuPont last November 20.

Mr. Lawrence Henry, new director of the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, was the speaker of the evening. He praised the society for its interest in the mansion and declared other historic shrines in the state would benefit immensely if they had similar groups supporting them. He also spoke generally on historic preservation throughout the country.

Mr. Sewell C. Biggs, a director, who was chairman of the dinner committee, won the deep appreciation of the board for the success of the dinner which attracted one of the largest gatherings in the history of the organization.

Secretary of State Robert Reed whose department is in charge of the mansion will report on the state's activities there during the past year and any plans for future work at the mansion.

Secretary Reed will also be asked to explain briefly how the Governor's proposed reorganization plan will affect the John Dickinson Mansion which would come under the proposed 25-member Delaware Cultural Trust Commission.

A change in the constitution and bylaws has been proposed for the election of directors. At present directors can serve for only three years and cannot be re-elected until after at least one year out of office.

The proposed change would permit directors to succeed themselves for three terms but their service must not exceed three terms or a total of nine consecutive years. The board would also be increased to provide for the election of four members each year with a minimum of two from each county making a total of 12 with five required as a quorum at any meeting of the board. The Governor of Delaware and the President of Dickinson College would continue as members of the board. It is expected that these changes will be in effect for this annual meeting.

Following the election of the directors by the members the board will meet to elect officers for the coming year. George C. Hering, III, president, will preside at each of these meetings. Other officers are Thomas P. Robinson, vice-president; Mrs. John Biggs, III, secretary and William C. Scott, treasurer.

The garden and grounds of the mansion are expected to be at the height of their beauty in June. Last fall over 1,000 mixed daffodil bulbs, the gift of Mrs. E. Arthur Simpler of Millsboro, were planted throughout the grounds. They bloomed beautifully this spring. Coupled with the new boxwood put in a year ago, the grounds are in excellent condition. It is hoped that even more members than last year will take advantage of this opportunity to revel in this beauty and to see the house as it will appear to the thousands of visitors from other states expected during this bicentennial year.

LETTERS FROM A FARMER IN PENNSYLVANIA

BY JOHN DICKINSON

PART II OF LETTER XI

The method of taxing by excise was first introduced amidst the convulsions of civil wars. Extreme necessity was pretended, and its short continuance promised. After the restoration, an excise upon beer, ale and other liquors, was granted to the King, one half in fee, the other for life, as an equivalent for the court of wards. Upon James the second's accession, the parliament gave him the first excise, with an additional duty on wine, tobacco, and some other things. Since the revolution it has been extended to salt, candles, leather, hides, hops, soap, paper, paste-board, mill-boards, scaleboards, vellum, parchment, starch, silks, calicoes, linens, stuffs, printed, stained, etc. wire, wrought plate, coffee, tea, chocolate, etc.

Thus a standing army and excise have, from the first slender origins, tho' always hated, always feared, always opposed, at length swelled up to their vast present bulk.

These facts are sufficient to support what I have said. 'Tis true that all the mischiefs apprehended by our ancestors from a standing army and excise, have not yet happened: but it does not follow from thence, that they will not happen. The inside of a house may catch fire, and the most valuable apartments be ruined, before the flames burst out. The question in these cases is not, what evil has actually attended particular measures – but what evil, in the nature of things, is likely to attend them. Certain circumstances may for some time delay effects, that were reasonably expected, and that must ensue. There was a long period, after the Romans had prorogued the command to Q. Publilius Philo, before that example destroyed their liberty. All our kings, from the revolution to the present reign have been foreigners. Their ministers generally continued but a short time in authority; and they themselves were mild and virtuous princes.

A bold, ambitious Prince, possessed of great abilities, firmly fixed in the throne by descent, served by ministers like himself, and rendered either venerable or terrible by the glory of his successes, may execute what his predecessors did not dare to attempt. Henry IV tottered in his seat during his whole reign. Henry V drew the strength of the kingdom into France, to carry on his wars there, and left the Commons at home, protesting, "that the people were not bound to serve out of the realm."

It is true, that a strong spirit of liberty subsists at present in Great-Britain, but what reliance is to be placed in the temper of a people, when the prince is possessed of an unconstitutional power, our own history can sufficiently inform us. When Charles II had strengthened himself by the return of the garrison of Tangier, "England (says Rapin) saw on a sudden an amazing revolution; saw herself stripped of all her rights and privileges, excepting such as the King should vouchsafe to grant her; and what is more astonishing, the English themselves delivered up these very rights and privileges to Charles II which they had so passionately, and, if I may say it, furiously defended against the designs of Charles I." This happened only thirty-six years after this last prince had been beheaded.

Some persons are of opinion, that liberty is not violated, but by such open acts of force; but they seem to be greatly mistaken. I could mention a period within these forty years, when almost as great a change of disposition was produced by the secret measures of a long administration, as by Charles's violence. Liberty, perhaps is never exposed to so much danger, as when the people believe there is the least; for it may be subverted, and yet they not think so.

Public-disgusting acts are seldom practiced by the ambitious, at the beginning of their designs. Such conduct

silences and discourages the weak, and the wicked, who would otherways have been their advocates or accomplices. It is of great consequence, to allow those, who, upon any account, are inclined to favour them, something specious to say in their defence. The power may be fully established, though it would not be safe for them to do whatever they please. For there are things, which, at some times, even slaves will not bear. Julius Caesar and Oliver Cromwell did not dare to assume the title of King. The grand Seigneur dares not lay a new tax. The King of France dares not be a protestant. Certain popular points may be left untouched, and yet freedom be extinguished. The commonality of Venice imagine themselves free, because they are permitted to do, what they ought not. But I quit a subject, that would lead me too far from my purpose.

By the late act of parliament, taxes are to be levied upon us, for "defraying the charge of the administration of justice, the support of civil government – and the expences of defending his Majesty's dominions in America."

If any man doubts what ought to be the conduct of these colonies on this occasion, I would ask them these questions.

Has not the parliament expressly avowed their intention of raising money from us for certain purposes? Is not this scheme popular in Great-Britain? Will the taxes, imposed by the late act, answer those purposes? If it will, must it not take an immense sum from us? If it will not, is it to be expected, that the parliament will not fully execute their intention, when it is pleasing at home, and not opposed here? Must not this be done by imposing new taxes? Will not every addition, thus made to our taxes, be an addition to the power of the British legislature, by increasing the number of officers employed in the collection? Will not every additional tax therefore render it more difficult to abrogate any of them? When a branch of revenue is once established, does it not appear to many people invidious and undutiful, to attempt to abolish it? If taxes, sufficient to accomplish the intention of the Parliament, are imposed by the Parliament, what taxes will remain to be imposed by our assemblies? If no material taxes remain to be imposed by them, what must become of them, and the people they represent?

"If any person considers, these things, and yet not thinks our liberties are in danger, I wonder at that person's security."

One other argument is to be added, which, by itself, I hope, will be sufficient to convince the most incredulous man on this continent, that the late act of Parliament is only designed to be a precedent, whereon the future vassalage of these colonies may be established.

Every duty thereby laid on articles of British manufacture, is laid on some commodity upon the exportation of which from Great-Britain, a drawback is payable. Those drawbacks in most of the articles, are exactly double to the duties given by the late act. The Parliament therefore might in half a dozen lines have raised much more money only by stopping the drawbacks in the hands of the officers at home, on exportation to these colonies, than by his solemn imposition of taxes upon us, to be collected here. Probably, the artful contrivers of this act formed it in this manner, in order to reserve to themselves, in case of any objections being made to it, this specious pretence – "That the drawbacks are gifts to the colonies; and that the act only lessens those gifts." But the truth is, that the drawbacks are intended for the encouragement and promotion of British manufactures and commerce, and are allowed on exportation to any foreign parts, as well as on exportation to these provinces. Besides, care has been taken to slide into the act some articles on

(Continued on Page 4)



Dr. Sam A. Banks, President of Dickinson College.

DICKINSON COLLEGE HEAD WILL VISIT

Dr. Sam A. Banks, the newly installed president of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and an ex-officio member of the board of the Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, Inc., will attend the annual meeting at the mansion on June 7.

A native of Florida, Dr. Banks received his bachelor's degree from Duke University with a master's degree from Emory University and a doctorate in psychology and religious studies from the University of Chicago.

He has taught at the University of Chicago, Drew University and the University of Florida. He is also a Methodist minister, having held pulpits in Georgia, Florida and Illinois.

Dr. Banks, formerly chief of the Division of Social Sciences and Humanities at the University of Florida's College of Medicine at Gainesville, was selected for the Dickinson presidency after a one-year search involving 150 candidates.

DICKINSON HOUSE FIRST OPENED TO PUBLIC 20 YEARS AGO; FRIENDS DATE FROM 1952

This is the 20th anniversary of the opening of the John Dickinson Mansion to the public and next year will be the 25th anniversary of the Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, Inc.

The Friends were organized in 1952 when the house was purchased with private contributions collected through the Historic Activities Committee of the National Society of Colonial Dames in Delaware and turned over to the state. James M. Tunnell, Jr., was the first president of the Friends and was re-elected for the second year.

The work of restoring the mansion was carried on by the Public Archives Commission under the supervision of Leon de Valinger, Jr., and the home of the Penman of the Revolution was officially opened to the public on May 2, 1956.

During the years of restoration the Friends received a number of gifts for the furnishing of the house with Mr. Henry Francis duPont serving as chairman of the committee on furnishing. In 1954 the Wilmington Garden Club announced the underwriting of a garden plan for the house which was carried out under the direction of Alden Hopkins who had done much of the landscaping for Colonial Williamsburg.

It might be appropriate here to restate the objectives of the Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, Inc., as they were stated in the Certificate of Incorporation:

"To stimulate and endeavour to perpetuate interest among the people of

Delaware and elsewhere in John Dickinson, president of the Delaware State under the Constitution of 1776 and a signer of the Constitution of the United States and the mansion located in Kent County, Delaware near the St. Jones River where he resided during a portion of his life, through the collection and dissemination of data with reference thereto;

"To encourage and sponsor the acquisition of the mansion by the State of Delaware to the end that it may be repaired, restored, held and maintained in perpetual trust by the State as a historical memorial for visitation and enjoyment by the public;

"To furnish financial and advisory assistance to the State of Delaware or the agency thereof charged with the administration of the mansion with respect to the acquisition, repair, restoration, maintenance and utilization of the mansion and the collection and dissemination of data and information pertaining to the mansion and to John Dickinson."

The first edition of the News Letter appeared in the Spring of 1956 and was edited by a committee comprising of Mr. Joseph P. Monigle, Mr. John A. H. Sweeney and Mr. Robert N. Lunny.

DOVER DAY TEA

A tea at the John Dickinson Mansion on Sunday, May 9, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. will be the culminating feature of the Old Dover Day observance this year.

Mrs. N. Maxson Terry, Jr., a director of the Friends, is chairman of the Old Dover Day tour and Mrs. Robert Reed, wife of the Secretary of State, is the chairman of the tea. Mrs. Benjamin N. Burton, Jr., another director, will be in charge of decorations of the house for this occasion.

A concert by the Dover Baroque Ensemble will be a feature of the program at the mansion. It is expected that this will be the first of a number of special events to be presented at the mansion during the Bicentennial.

CHRISTMAS AT MANSION

The Dickinson Mansion was especially decorated for the Christmas season for the first time since the opening of the house to the public.

The decorations following the 18th Century custom before the advent of the Christmas tree into America were designed, in part, by William C. Scott, our treasurer. Mrs. R. James Quillen, Jr., and Mrs. Pamela Gallery, both of New Castle, contributed greatly with their decorations which won high praise from the many persons who visited the house during the holiday season.

Over 100 persons attended the special preview for members which was held Sunday, December 14. 18th Century style punch, homemade cookies and pastries, prepared by the ladies of Dover, were served.

A feature of the afternoon was a brief concert by the Wesley Junior College Madrigal Singers. Mrs. Benjamin N. Burton, Jr. was general chairman. The Friends plan to make this an annual event.

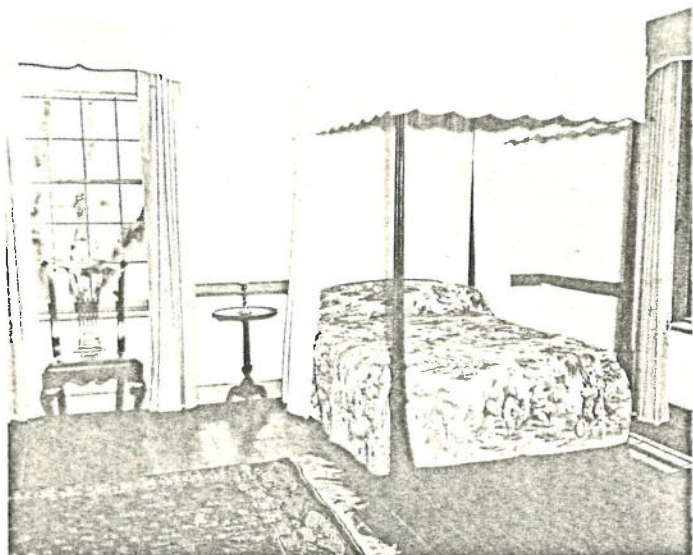
SWEENEY WILL HEAD HOUSE COMMITTEE

Mr. John A. H. Sweeney of Winterthur Museum has been appointed chairman of the House Committee by President George C. Hering, III.

Mr. Sweeney, in conjunction with Mr. Lawrence Henry, will begin an inventory this summer of all the furnishings, china, silver and other materials in each room of the mansion to establish its authenticity, period, value, donor and date of acquisition.

This work will probably be carried out by a summer interne working under the supervision of Mr. Sweeney and Mr. Henry.

Every effort will be made to make this a work of real scholarship which should prove useful in sharing our knowledge with the general public both in the realm of the decorative arts and in history explaining how some of the articles were of use to John Dickinson and his family.



The master bedroom at the mansion where John Dickinson slept during 1777 and 1778 when he spent months there. The counterpane of a later date depicts the apotheosis of Washington.

DICKINSON' PLAY

The play written by Donna Marie Swajeski of Green Acres on the life of John Dickinson won the first prize in the children's category in the Bicentennial play manuscript contest for Delaware and will be presented in schools throughout the state.

The presentation will be by the Children's Repertory Theatre with a cast of six adults. The Friends are happy to know that the story of John Dickinson will be taken to the school children throughout the state.

Letter From A Farmer

(Continued from Page 2)

which there are no drawbacks. However, the whole duties laid by the late act on all the articles therein specified, are so small, that they will not amount to as much as the drawbacks which are allowed on part of them only. If, therefore, the sum to be obtained by the late act had been the sole object in forming it, there would not have been any occasion for the "Commons of Great-Britain to give and grant to his Majesty, rates and duties for raising a revenue in his Majesty's dominions in America, for making a more certain and adequate provision for defraying the charge of the administration of justice, the support of civil government, and the expences of defending the said dominions" - Nor would there have been any occasion for an expensive board of commissioners, and all the other new charges to which we are made liable.

Upon the whole, for my part, I regard the late act as an experiment made of our disposition. It is a bird sent over the waters, to discover, whether the waves, that lately agitated this part of the world with such violence, are yet subsided. If this adventurer gets footing here, we shall quickly be convinced, that it is not a phenix; for we shall soon see it followed by others of the same kind. We shall find it rather to be of the breed described by the poet -

"Infelix vates."

A direful foreteller of future calamities.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HONORABLE JAMES CALEB BOGGS
BY THEODORE MARVIN, PRESIDENT
THE FRIENDS OF THE JOHN DICKINSON MANSION
FIRST ANNUAL DINNER-LECTURE COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH OF JOHN DICKINSON
TREADWAY INN, DOVER, DELAWARE
Friday, November 6, 1964

As chairman of a memorable ceremony at the tumbled-down relic which was what remained of John Dickinson's mansion the afternoon of September 17, 1952, I made the following remarks:

"We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

"Thus did John Dickinson recite to Mary, his wife, the preamble of the good work accomplished at Philadelphia during the long, uncomfortable summer of 1787 and which, upon his return to this Mansion, shortly after September 17 of that year, became his opening plea, day after day, to Delawareans until ratification by them on December 7, 1787 of the Federal Constitution.

"From this venerable house he often went on his missions of ratification. Through this door came guests for consultation until finally it was done and John Dickinson had accomplished another of his glorious patriotic achievements for his country."

* * * * *

There followed the presentation of the deed of the old Mansion to the Honorable Elbert N. Carvel, then - as now - Governor of the State of Delaware, by Mrs. Charles Lee Reese Jr., Chairman of the Historic Activities Committee of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Delaware. Through these past twelve years we have seen the restoration and furnishing of the Mansion and the landscaping of its surroundings under the direction of the State Archives Commission. On July 31, 1952, this Society, the Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion, was incorporated for "the extension of public knowledge about John Dickinson and his Mansion."

Mainly, the latter part of that objective has been achieved. It is to the first part to which we dedicate this evening meeting which commemorates the birthday of John Dickinson, born 232 years ago on November 2, 1732.

While John Dickinson accomplished untold distinguished tasks for the Colonies, his Constitutional labors were more memorable. He established for all time, Delaware as the first State of the Union but this perhaps is small importance compared to his Constitutional achievements, the National impact of which I leave to our distinguished speaker.

The Honorable James Caleb Boggs, Junior Senator of the great State of Delaware or "Cale" as his neighbors and friends address him - is well qualified to initiate this first of what I hope will be a continuing series of birthday dinner-lectures on the life and accomplishments of John Dickinson.

Cale was born on a farm in Kent County, Delaware, May 15, 1909, and was educated in the public schools of Delaware. He later earned an A.B. degree at the University of Delaware and his LL.B. degree at Georgetown University, Washington, D. C., and received an LL.D. degree from Delaware State College. He married Elizabeth Muir of Dover; they have two children, James Caleb Boggs, Jr., born October 31, 1934, and Marilu Boggs, born June 29, 1946. He is a member of the Bar of the State of Delaware and of the United States Supreme Court. Elected as U.S. Representative at Large from Delaware to the 80th, 81st and 82nd Congresses, he returned home to local politics and was elected Governor of the State of Delaware for his first four-year term, November, 1952, and re-elected November, 1956. During this period he was elected Chairman of the National Governors Conference 1959; became President of the National Council of State Governments 1960; and on November 9, 1960 was elected to the United States Senate for a term ending January 3, 1967.

In 1925, Cale enlisted as a private in the Delaware National Guard, and now is Brigadier General (Ret.) Delaware National Guard. His military record stands amplification. He was a University of Delaware ROTC graduate and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant, USAR, 1931. In 1941, he was called to active military duty with rank of Captain; was graduated from the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and served in Europe with the Sixth Armored Division as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, through the campaigns of Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes, and Central Europe. He was released to inactive duty with the rank of Colonel in early 1946, and continues as Colonel, USAR (Ret.). Besides five campaign stars, Cale was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with Cluster and the French Croix de Guerre with Palm. Keeping up his national defense responsibilities, he graduated from the National War College Defense Strategy Seminar in 1959.

In the 87th and 88th Congresses, our speaker served on the Public Works Committee, the Post Office & Civil Service Committee and the Agriculture and Forestry Committee. More than those services, he, like John Dickinson, has and is serving his State and his Nation in dedicated protection of the Constitution of the United States. Let him indicate this to you by his following modest remarks.

The Honorable James Caleb Boggs -----

Speech by U. S. Senator J. Caleb Boggs

First Annual John Dickinson Dinner-Lecture Meeting
Treadway Inn, Dover, Delaware
November 6, 1964
Sponsored by Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion

Thank you, Ted, and good evening, everyone.

First of all, let me thank you--all of you--for asking me to come tonight. I have been looking forward to this evening with you, and the relative peace and quiet which I think we were all anxious for during the long political campaign.

It is certainly fitting to commemorate John Dickinson's 232nd birthday in this way, and I congratulate all who have worked to make this evening possible.

There are many reasons why I am honored to have the opportunity to speak tonight about John Dickinson and his contributions to our Constitutional government.

First, because as a citizen I have a great appreciation for the invaluable work of John Dickinson at a time when it appeared that our struggling young nation might not be able to preserve the shaky union of the states.

Second, because as a Delawarean I have particular pride in this unusual and gifted man, and in this group which seeks to preserve and illuminate the many valid reasons why his fame should endure.

And third, because at this time of my life I have the great privilege of representing Delaware in the United States Senate, and it is his efforts toward creation of this legislative body which is Dickinson's greatest monument, and has contributed more than we can measure to the stability and balance of our government.

What I hope to do tonight is to outline Dickinson's role in the Constitutional Convention of 1787 and relate this to the present focus of attention on the Supreme Court's decision concerning reapportionment.

The obstacle which had the Constitutional Convention deadlocked was the question of how individual states were to be represented in the national legislature, the Congress.

The Supreme Court has recently decided questions on voter representation in state legislatures. It has also ruled this year in cases of apportionment of Congressional districts.

Since the times and circumstances are vastly different, as well as the points at issue, there are dangers in trying to relate Dickinson's views then to our problems of apportionment and representation today. But I will go as far as seems justified.

As Wordsworth says, "the child is father of the man," and for this reason let us look briefly at Dickinson's early life.

The factual details are well known. He was born near Easton, Maryland, on November 2, 1732, the same year as his fellow patriot, George Washington. In 1740 the Dickinson family moved to Dover, where his father, Samuel, bought a large estate. John Dickinson's early life, and much of his adult life, was spent at the family mansion which now, thanks to this group in particular, has been wonderfully restored.

He was tutored by a gifted young man, William Killen, later chancellor of Delaware, who came to Dover and lived at the Dickinson home. And with this broad learning as a basis young John Dickinson went to London to study law.

His background as a lawyer, and one trained in the mother country, England, is particularly significant, for it influenced greatly his appeals to reason and legal procedure which characterized his later writing and speaking.

Dickinson's public and private life, as you well know, was spent in both Pennsylvania and Delaware, and it was in Philadelphia that he quickly established himself as a lawyer of great merit.

It was not long before he also became a public figure active in the debate about the differences between the colonies and England.

Later, the clear thinking of his influential "Farmer's Letters" did much to spell out the colonists' just quarrels with England. And while he would have preferred to see the colonists follow more closely a path of legal redress of these grievances, he energetically supported petitions for justice and in due course the war itself.

It is easy to forget just how loosely joined were these original colonies, and how divergent were their interests. In Massachusetts was one group--generally regarded as the most impulsive among the colonies. In Pennsylvania were Quakers opposed to warfare. And in Virginia and other Southern areas were plantation owners whose pace of life was far removed from the tensions of New England.

With General Washington's outstanding leadership and the common cause of freedom these colonies managed to struggle successfully through the seven-year Revolutionary War. Then came peace, and John Dickinson was the principal author of the Articles of Confederation which, as it turned out, served as a stop-gap basis for a national government.

But Dickinson and others realized the Articles were not sufficient to assure continued national unity, and he was glad to serve as chairman of the Annapolis Convention in 1786 which met to improve on this system of government.

Since only five states responded to this call, it was decided to try again the following year in Philadelphia.

Thus was the stage set for the Constitutional Convention which produced the remarkable basic instrument of government which is our Constitution.

I imagine there were many delegates who gathered in Philadelphia that hot summer, however, who despaired of ever resolving the

the points at issue among the young states.

There was sufficient good will and wisdom to settle many of the disputed points, but one obstacle was outstanding upon which all others depended.

In this association of sovereign states, how would the rights and interests of each be protected in the national legislature? The large states naturally felt that their voices should reflect their greater population and territory. The smaller states were reluctant to see their sovereign status so diluted that they would have little to say about the conduct of the national government.

Attacking this impasse with all the skill and knowledge and prestige he had built up through his remarkable career was John Dickinson.

His solution, so easily accepted today because we have become used to it, was both simple and brilliant at the time.

Let there be two houses in the national legislature instead of one, he proposed. Let one of them reflect the population of the member states, and in this way assure the larger states of representation commensurate with their size.

And let the other house, he said, have equal representation from the member states, thus assuring the smaller states that they would not be overwhelmed by their larger neighbors in deciding national legislation.

While Dickinson was foremost among the delegates in effecting this compromise, it was not his idea alone, nor was he its only advocate. Representatives from other small states, Connecticut in particular, were also vitally interested in this solution.

Dickinson did have an additional overriding reason for settling this mountainous obstacle, however.

He and the other four Delaware delegates to the Constitutional Convention were instructed that any new Constitution had to

include Article Five of the Articles of Confederation. This instruction was the work of George Read, who had earlier suggested this limitation on the delegation in a long letter to Dickinson.

The resolution of the Delaware General Assembly authorizing the sending of the deputation to Philadelphia was in fact drawn up by Read, and contained this clause:

"So always and Provided, that such Alterations or further Provisions, or any of them, do not extend to that part of the Fifth Article of the Confederation of the said States, finally ratified on the first day of March, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and eighty one, which declares that 'In determining Questions in the United States in Congress Assembled each State shall have one Vote.'"

Because the great compromise included equal representation of the states in the Senate, Dickinson and Read, along with the other three delegates--Gunning Bedford, Junior, Richard Bassett, and Jacob Broom--apparently felt they could in good conscience vote for the final draft of the new Constitution.

It is interesting to speculate what would have happened to the loosely-bound states if this compromise had not been agreed to. Instead of a single nation of the United States, we might have seen a succession of quarrels finally resulting either in several weak countries or a take-over of these lands by foreign powers.

Such is the import of the work of John Dickinson at the Constitutional Convention.

After the delegates had approved the proposed Constitution on September 17, it was Delaware, as we all know so well, which was the first state to ratify it. By this quick action Delaware showed it backed its delegates in the solution of the representation dispute between the large and small states.

Let me now shift our attention to a much more recent development in the basic question of equitable representation in government.

And again, we are chiefly concerned with this development as it affects Delaware.

On June 15 of this year the Supreme Court handed down a series of decisions bearing on reapportionment of election districts within states. Delaware was one of the states involved.

In each of the six decisions the Supreme Court held that the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution required that seats in both houses of a bicameral state legislature must be apportioned substantially on a population basis.

Delaware's General Assembly responded to the decision by devising a reapportionment plan under which the election of three days ago was held.

Still at legal issue in Delaware, however, is the question of whether or not the General Assembly indulged in gerrymandering in setting up the new election districts.

The Supreme Court's action in the reapportionment cases, although foreshadowed two years earlier by its *Baker vs. Carr* decision, came as a political bombshell. Not only the six states specifically connected with the decisions were affected. Most, if not all, of the 44 remaining states will also feel the impact of these rulings, and the end result of the Court's opinions will cause extensive realignments in local, state and national politics. The changes have only begun.

Reaction in the U. S. House of Representatives produced the so-called Tuck Bill, which seeks to remove from Supreme Court jurisdiction the matter of apportionment of state legislatures.

Although the Tuck Bill passed the House, it was not favorably received in the Senate. In general it was regarded as too drastic.

In the meantime the Senate was treated to the unusual situation of a small group of liberal Senators filibustering to prevent consideration of the so-called Dirksen Amendment, and amendment

which would have delayed enforcement of the Supreme Court's decisions for up to two years.

Senator Dirksen was joined in this proposed amendment-- which took the form of a rider to the Foreign Aid Bill--by Senator Mansfield, the Majority Leader.

Behind the urgency of Senator Dirksen's proposal was the fear that if changes in state legislatures were not delayed, there would be considerably less chance of passage of a Constitutional amendment allowing one house of a state legislature to be apportioned on some basis other than population.

As the filibuster wore on, however, and as the time before the election grew short, the original Dirksen amendment was watered down to the point where it became a "sense of Congress" statement that the Supreme Court should allow a delay in compliance with its reapportionment decisions. In this weakened form it passed the Senate, and the liberal group of Senators generally claimed victory.

The net result of the legislative furor, in other words, was nil. Congress did not come up with any effective means of delaying or thwarting the Supreme Court's position.

It might be well to mention that in addition to his well-publicized "breather" amendment Senator Dirksen, along with 23 co-sponsors, introduced Senate Joint Resolution 185. This provided for a Constitutional amendment giving each state exclusive power to determine the composition and apportionment of its legislature.

Because of the little time remaining in the Congressional session, however, there was never any real hope that it would be acted upon.

It is also important to note that Dirksen's proposed Constitutional amendment provided that composition of the state legislatures would be up to the state's citizens to decide. This would have meant a referendum procedure.

This essential point--putting the proposed apportionment system before the voters--is also contained in Constitutional amendments proposed by Senator Javits of New York and Congressman McCulloch of Ohio.

What this means, it seems to me, is that the Supreme Court's directive of "one man, one vote" would be followed as the whole of a state's electorate voted on its legislative apportionment system. If a majority of all the voters of a state approved a plan whereby one house was apportioned with factors other than population considered then such a system would be valid for that state.

It must be noted that in one of the six decisions handed down on June 15 the Supreme Court rejected this approach. Citizens of Colorado had voted to have one house elected on a population basis and the other house elected on a combination of population and geographical factors. The Supreme Court said this was unconstitutional.

The 89th Congress, which convenes in January, will undoubtedly wrestle with a variety of proposals dealing with the apportionment question. And, in my opinion, the question should be thoroughly explored.

Let me emphasize another point which is worth remembering.

There is a court of appeal in this country beyond the Supreme Court, and that is the people themselves. They can change the basic instrument of our government through action of their elected representatives in Congress and the state legislatures.

It is precisely because the Supreme Court decisions deal with the question of how these representatives are to be elected that it is of such tremendous significance.

With this somewhat sketchy background--and I know you understand why, in the interests of time, it is necessary to touch only the highlights--we arrive at the point of considering what John

Dickinson's attitude might be toward today's reapportionment questions.

As I have already cautioned, we are dealing with different times and different levels of representation. And since the 14th Amendment upon which the Supreme Court decisions are based came long after John Dickinson, we are also dealing with a changed Constitution.

However, relying on statements which Dickinson made in his famous letters to the public signed "Fabius," we can offer some points to consider.

It need hardly be stated in this company that in his "Fabius" letters Dickinson in effect resumed his role as "penman of the Revolution" and with his lucid writing style effectively explained the reasons for approving the new Constitution.

This labor he undertook early in 1788 when some states were showing an alarming hesitancy to ratify. His explanation of the Constitution's provisions undoubtedly had much to do with the eventual ratification by the required number of states.

In these letters Dickinson stressed the sovereign roles of the states.

Let me quote briefly from his third letter, for instance:

"In short, the government of each state is, and is to be, sovereign and supreme in all matters that relate to each state only. It is to be subordinate barely in those matters that relate to the whole; and it will be their own faults if the several states suffer the federal sovereignty to interfere in things of their respective jurisdictions."

In his second letter Dickinson describes the Senate-to-be as necessarily small, but "let it be remembered, that it is to be created by the sovereignties of the several states."

And, in discussing the roles of the House of Representatives and the Senate, he touches on the contention by some states that

representation in the Congress should be based only on "the number of inhabitants."

He comments:

"This method is unattainable, and the wish for it should be dismissed from every mind, that desires the existence of a confederation."

In this he was defending the Senate, of course.

Dickinson's other observations included emphasis on the value of the two houses of Congress, as well as the three branches of government, as part of the check and balance system set up by the Constitution.

Now, from a somewhat different point of view, we find that Dickinson "thought State laws should be declared void if found contrary to the Federal Constitution." This is mentioned as among Dickinson's positions by Dr. George Ryden in his book "Delaware - The First State in the Union."

And Dickinson favored the Supreme Court having jurisdiction both as to law and fact, Dr. Ryden says.

Dickinson might be argued as being on either side of the current national debate on reapportionment, depending on which of his views one sought to emphasize. But his primary consideration, I have no doubt, would be for protecting the rights of citizens to an equitable representation in their government, whether national, state or local.

And since the amendment on which the recent decisions are based came long after his time, for practical purposes it would be only speculation, it seems to me, to try and fathom what his attitude would be today.

Our Constitution, I think we all agree, is a living instrument of government, capable of changing with the times and yet not neglecting the fundamental principles upon which our republic was founded and has since prospered.

John Dickinson contributed mightily to this time-tested system of government, and we in Delaware are proud, and justly so, of this illustrious forbear of ours.

His claims to fame as a molders of this country's destiny are so well founded that we should continue to do all we can to see that his name and deeds are remembered and understood. It seems to me that historians generally have not accorded him the full credit his remarkable contributions deserve.

You have honored me in asking me to make these few remarks tonight, and I thank you all for the privilege.