

Delaware River dispute in 1772; suggestions for reform of the Delaware court system, submitted by Justice William Killen in 1781; militia returns; budget figures; and various bill drafts and notes.

Intermittently, from 1764 to 1769, Dickinson served the Pennsylvania government, and papers from this time frame are found within "Pennsylvania government documents." Included are speeches by Dickinson while he served as president of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania; bills; materials on the Aaron Doane case, a significant case on the legality of the death penalty for outlawry; court martial records; materials on the Wyoming controversy, a long lasting land dispute between Connecticut and Pennsylvania settlers; and miscellaneous Dickinson notes on government affairs. Of particular interest in this series is the information regarding the national debt, taxing, payments to soldiers and information regarding soldiers' land claims. Information comparing exports of Pennsylvania products across several years may be valuable to researchers.

"Land and business records" include miscellaneous land and financial papers, legal papers, and bills and receipts. The miscellaneous land and financial papers, arranged chronologically, largely deal with Dickinson's management of his real estate holdings, primarily in Delaware, and include leases, agreements and memoranda regarding house construction, relations with tenants, property sales, farming techniques and production figures. These materials date from 1733 to 1807. The legal papers, also arranged chronologically, date from 1722 to 1785 and include wills of several Dickinson family members and information on Dickinson's law practice. Law practice materials include several cases argued before the High Court of Errors in Pennsylvania. The bills and receipts date from 1755 to 1807 and are arranged chronologically. Bills and receipts are for wine, vinegar and household materials, to name only a few.

The "Collected essays, notes and commonplace book" includes materials that may have been created by Dickinson as well as materials that were clearly collected by him. Included are writings in the hand of Isaac Norris; notes on genealogy of the Dickinson, Lloyd and Logan families; a copy of Conrad Weiser's journal; clippings; essays; and a speech on the founding of Dickinson College in 1783. These materials are arranged in chronological order.

The "John Dickinson estate records" include a journal and a ledger, both dating from 1808 to 1814, which note the settling of bills and other expenses in regard to the estate of John Dickinson. The final four pages of the ledger are entitled, "Sally Norris Dickinson in account with the estate," and give a chronological summary of the various account entries.

The "Mary Norris Dickinson" series contains two volumes, both of which were written before her marriage to John Dickinson, and are indicative of her intellect and creativity. The first volume consists of copies of letters between Hannah Griffitts (1727-1817), Hannah Harrison (1729-1807), and Mary Norris. These three young women were friends as well as relations and were well educated daughters or granddaughters of prominent judges and/or politicians, and involved in the society and pulse of colonial America. Hannah Griffitts was a poet and wrote under the name "Fidelia," Hannah Harrison was a wealthy socialite who married Charles Thomson in 1774 and wrote under the name "Sophronia." Mary Norris Dickinson wrote under the name of "Sophia." Griffitts, Harrison and Norris gave the people and places in their lives code names and used them to describe some seemingly ordinary events in fairy-tale fashion. Other names mentioned in the volume, such as Theophilus and Fellicia, refer to other members of the Norris and Logan families. This volume appears to be a copy of the original, probably made by Sally Norris Dickinson (daughter of Mary Norris Dickinson), and contains a brief introduction about "The Rural Circle or Band of Friendship, in familiar letters between several young ladies, Interspers'd