Court of Appeals and was a Whig Presidential elector for five elections—from 1801 to 1829.

His son, Lyttleton Upshur Dennis, married Sarah Waters. He died at his estate in Somerset, known as "Essex," aged 29 years. Two children, George Robertson Dennis and Elizabeth Upshur Dennis, who married Mr. Murray Rush of Philadelphia, survived him.

Colonel George Robertson Dennis married Fanny McPherson of Frederick County. He removed from the Eastern Shore to Frederick County after his marriage, where he engaged in farming, and in later years was elected president of the Central National Bank of Frederick. In protecting the property of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad he became a warm personal friend of the late John W. Garrett and was a director in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company from 1862 until his death in 1902.

On his mother's side, the ancestors of John McPherson Dennis were equally prominent in the early history of the country. Governor Thomas Johnson, the first Governor of Maryland, 1777-79, was his great-great-grandfather. Colonel Robert McPherson took an active part in establishing the independence of the Colonies and in the Revolution.

From the above record it is not difficult to see from whence John M. Dennis derived his love of statesmanship and interest in public affairs.

John M. Dennis was educated in the public schools of Frederick County and for two years attended Milton Academy at Philopolis, Baltimore County, Maryland. At sixteen years of age he left Maryland and was employed by the C. W. & B. Railroad Co. in Cincinnati, Ohio and remained West in different railroad positions until June, 1890, when he returned to Baltimore and formed a connection with the firm of Tate, Muller & Company, grain merchants, which was succeeded by the firm of Louis Muller & Company, of which Mr. Dennis became president and remained president until December 1, 1914, when he was elected president of the Union Trust Company of Maryland, Baltimore.

In 1899 Mr. Dennis married Mary Chiles of Independence, Jackson County, Missouri. He has two children, John McPherson Dennis, Jr., and Mrs. Theodore Gould.

Mr. Dennis is a large land owner in Frederick County and also in Baltimore County, where he resides on his farm near Riderwood. He was elected president of the Maryland State Dairymen's Association in November, 1915, and is an extensive breader of Holstein-Friesian cattle. He is also president of the Maryland State Fair and Agricultural Society.