

Portrait
Biographical
Album
OF
Lake County, Illinois.

CONTAINING

FULL PAGE PORTRAITS

AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES
OF PROMINENT AND REPRESENTATIVE CITIZENS
OF THE COUNTY

TOGETHER WITH PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE
PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.
AND GOVERNORS OF THE STATE

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property of his son, Thomas, and which is situated on section 36, town of East Deerfield, then in McHenry but now in Lake County. When Mr. Daggitt bought his claim of a quarter-section the land was not in market and the Indians had been removed only one year previous. The country was a perfect wilderness, wild game of all kinds was abundant but the comforts of civilization were few and not easily accessible. Chicago was the nearest trading post and the roads in the wet seasons of the year were impassable, in fact. Indian trails were about all the early settlers had at first in the way of roads. Mrs. Daggitt died in 1867, Mr. Daggitt surviving his wife until June, 1871, when he too passed away. They were respected citizens of the community, worthy pioneers, and their deaths were mourned by many friends and acquaintances.



ROBERT DAGGITT, an English pioneer settler of the town of Deerfield, now deceased, dated his arrival in Lake County from August, 1837, becoming therefore one of its earliest settlers. He was born within four miles of Bridlington, Yorkshire, England, in 1793, and was a son of Robert Daggitt. The early years of his boyhood were spent in the usual manner in which lads pass their time but at the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to the carpenter's trade, at which he served a term of seven years, or until twenty-one years of age. He then traveled for two or three years, working as a journeyman carpenter. In 1817, he was united in marriage with Miss Martha Lightholder, and unto them was born a family of ten children, five sons and five daughters. In 1833, the mother died and the following year, Mr. Daggitt married Miss Elizabeth Mitchell.

In 1837, he emigrated with his family to America, bringing all the children except the eldest who had died in England. At this writing, in 1891, only two sons and two daughters are now living. On reaching America, Mr. Daggitt came direct to Illinois, and settled on the farm which is now the



THOMAS DAGGITT, a well-known farmer of East Deerfield Township, residing on section 36, and a pioneer of the county of 1837, was born in the town of Halifax, Yorkshire, England, August 11, 1823. His parents, Robert and Martha Daggitt, are represented elsewhere in this volume. The first fourteen years of his life were spent in his native land and he then came to America with his father and the family in 1837. He assisted his father in making a home in the midst of the forest of the town of Deerfield, and continued his farming operations until 1850, when he crossed the plains to California with a party of gold-seekers. After spending three years in the gold regions he returned by way of the Nicaragua route in 1853. Having secured during his sojourn in that western country a considerable quantity of gold dust, he had it coined in Philadelphia and came home with gold pieces in his pocket made from the product of his individual efforts in the placer diggings.

On his return from California, Mr. Daggitt purchased land in Deerfield Township and engaged in farming in his own interests. He was married September 4, 1869, to Miss Clara Richardson, a native of Cheshire, England, and a daughter of W. H. and Elizabeth Richardson. She died on the 4th of February, 1872, at the age of thirty-one years, four months and fourteen days, leaving one child, a son, Thomas R., who was born September 7, 1870. Mr. Daggitt was again married March 4, 1883, his second union being with Mrs. Sarah Daggitt, widow

of John Daggitt, and a sister of his former wife. Her first husband was also his brother. She was born in Cheshire, England, February 19, 1845, and in Waukegan, Ill., on the 20th of May, 1867, gave her hand in marriage to John Daggitt, by whom she had three children, sons: Robert W. H., Albert John and James Arthur. One child was born of the present marriage but died at birth.

Mr. Daggitt is a Republican in politics and cast his first vote for Gen. Fremont for President, since which time he has supported each succeeding candidate of the party. He has not been active in seeking public office but has served one term as School Director. His landed possessions aggregate ninety acres in Cook County and fifty-seven acres where he now resides. The tract in Deerfield Township lies in the belt of the lakeshore region, which of late years has grown to be very valuable. A part of his father's estate recently sold for \$500 per acre. Mr. Daggitt has just completed a good residence with fine natural surroundings. He is a hard-working, practical man and has accumulated a good property and his course in life has been such as to command respect from all who know him. His residence is on section 36, East Deerfield Township and adjoining the village of Ravinia, which is his postoffice.

