

PORTRAIT AND
BIOGRAPHICAL
ALBUM

—OF—
VERMILION COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent
and Representative Citizens of the County

This portion taken from the book Portrait and Biographical album
of Vermilion and Edgar Counties, Illinois

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CHICAGO:

CHAPMAN BROTHERS,
1889.

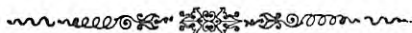
GENEALOGICAL DEPARTMENT
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF
LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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Brewer, who was, like himself, a native of Vermilion County, born in Danville to William and Sarah (Switzer) Brewer. To them came ten children, five of whom are living—Thomas R., Sarah C., Mary E., Francis and Minnie May, six having died in infancy. Death invaded the happy household of our subject and removed the loved and loving wife and mother.

In his life-work Mr. Rodrick has shown himself to be possessed of prudence, thrift, steadiness of purpose, and other traits necessary to success in any calling. And while laboring to gain a competence, he has not been unmindful of his duties as a good man and a reliable citizen, and has won for himself a reputation for honesty and truthfulness, and for considerate and kindly dealings with his neighbors, who hold him in great respect.



THOMAS BRADY, living in honorable retirement in Catlin Village in one of the finest residences in the place, and one of the pleasantest homes in the county, was formerly largely identified with the agricultural interests of this section, and still owns 500 acres of very valuable farming land, nearly all located in this township. Our subject is a native of Vermilion County, born of pioneer parentage, Oct. 8, 1832, in Danville Township, and he may well be proud of its progress and of the part that he has played in bringing about his present high standing, wealth and prosperity.

The father of Thomas Brady, John Brady, was born in the old commonwealth of Virginia, while his mother was a native of Ohio. They married and settled in Brown County, the latter State, and remained there till 1832. In that year they decided to try pioneer life still farther westward, and pushing their way to Illinois, they located in Danville Township and were among its early settlers. The father took up land and busily engaged in its improvement till death removed him from his sphere of usefulness in 1855. His wife died in 1848, when she laid aside the cares and toils of earth to fall into that dreamless sleep that knows

no waking this side of the grave. Fourteen children were the fruits of the marriage of those good people, of whom Thomas was the seventh. His early years were passed on his father's farm, where he learned the practical part of a farmer's life, and his education was gleaned in the log school-houses of those days. He remained an inmate of the parental household till he was twenty-two years old, when he married and settled in a home of his own across the line in Catlin Township, and was a resident of his farm there till 1881, giving all his time and attention to agricultural pursuits, and to such purpose that his well directed labors were handsomely rewarded by a fine competence, and he was enabled to take his place among the wealthy, substantial farmers of this section of the country. In the year just mentioned he retired from the active labors of his farm to the village, where he erected his present commodious, well-fitted up dwelling.

Mr. Brady has been twice married. To the wife of his early manhood, America Finley by name, he was wedded in Georgetown Township. She was a native of Vermilion County, and a daughter of Mahlon and Margaret (Falls) Finley, deceased. Two children were born to our subject by that marriage—Clarence M. and George M. Mrs. Brady was a woman whose character combined so many fine traits of mind and heart that she was an influence for good to those about her. She was a woman of devoted Christian piety and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Her death, which occurred in Winfield, Kan., May 8, 1883, while on a health-seeking tour, was a loss not only to her family, but to church and society, and to the community at large, where she was so well known and esteemed.

Mr. Brady was married to his present wife, formerly Miss Lura Williams, March 21, 1885. She is a native of Vermilion County, born Jan. 20, 1851 to Myron and Sarah (Sterrett) Williams, natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and Virginia. She was the second child of their family of ten children. Mrs. Brady is a woman of true refinement and much culture, and is an artist of much merit, many of her beautiful pictures adorning the walls of the attractive home, over which she presides so graciously, warmly co-operating with her husband