

THE SUTLIFF FAMILY

1. HENRY SUTLIFF, born June 21, 1778, died June 23, 1846, was the eldest son of Edward and Margaret (Wilson) Sutcliffe of Abbey Leix., Queens Co., Ireland. The name is said to be derived from South Cliffe, a locality in Yorkshire, England. Its etymology may be traced in the various forms of the name, Soutcliffe, Sutcliffe, Sutliffe and Sutliff. In the parish registers in Abbey Leix the name is spelled *Sutliffe*, and many of the descendants of Henry Sutliff retain the original *e*. In this sketch, however, the name of these descendants is spelled uniformly *Sutliff*.

The family tradition is that the Sutcliffes were originally English, but that during the troublous times following the restoration of Charles II to the throne of England, the Sutcliffes, being protestants and followers of Cromwell, were obliged to leave the country and went to Ireland. Edward Sutcliffe, the father of Henry Sutliff, was a farmer and constable and lived at "the Hill," a farm in Abbey Leix, which is now in the possession of Mrs. John Sutcliffe. Henry Sutliff came to America in June, 1811, and in 1833 became a naturalized citizen of the United States. Two of his brothers, Edward, who died unmarried at Utica, N. Y., and Thomas, who married Rachel Rhodes and settled at Oriskany, N. Y., also came to America. The other children of Edward and Margaret Sutcliffe were John, Mary, James, Margaret, Gilbert and William and Joseph, twins. Joseph Sutcliffe came twice to America, but returned to Abbey Leix, where he died unmarried.

Henry Sutliff married, May 28, 1815, Betsy Mulford, eldest daughter of Ezekiel and Sally (Ames) Mulford, and went with his wife to Cherry Valley, Otsego County, N. Y., where he bought a farm of 120 acres, adding to it from time to time as his means allowed. Here he led the uneventful and hard-working life of a western farmer, winning the respect of the community by his uprightness of life and kindness of heart. The compiler's father has often told her that one of the pleasantest features of his visits home after he had grown to manhood was the certainty of meeting some old neighbor who would speak gratefully of kindnesses done him by Henry Sutliff. He was for many years one of the road commissioners for the town of Cherry Valley, and it was largely through his influence that the present road from Judd's Falls to Sprout Brook was laid out.

The will of Henry Sutliff, recorded at the office of the Surrogate of Otsego County at Cooperstown, N. Y., is dated March 4, 1846. His personal property was left absolutely to his wife, the real estate to his wife during her life-time, to be divided equally