

Centennial Portrait and Biographical Record of the City of Dayton and of Montgomery County, Ohio

William S. Welsh, one of the best-known farmers of Clay Township, was born six miles north of Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, December 15, 1826, and received his education in the old-time public or district schools.

James Welsh, his father, was a native of Perry County, Pa., of Irish parentage, and married, in his native state, **Margaret Hann**, daughter of **Peter Hann**, of German descent. To **James Welsh** and wife were born the following children: **Eliza**, born in Pennsylvania; **Mary**, **William S.**, **Margaret**, **Sarah** (who died young), **Esther** (who died at the age of fourteen years), **Elizabeth**, **James** and **Catherine**, all born in Ohio. In 1823 **Mr. Welsh** brought his wife and eldest child to Ohio, using a wagon team as a means of conveyance, stopped a year in Warren County, and then came to Montgomery and settled on fifty acres six miles north of Dayton. The year following, he sold this property and bought ninety-five acres a mile and a half west of Union, in Randolph Township, also bought eighty acres in Miami County, and 120 acres in Wells County, Ind. He died in Montgomery County, Ohio, at the age of fifty-five years, a member of the United Brethren Church, well-to-do as to worldly goods, and left an unsullied reputation for honesty and charitable disposition.

William S. Welsh was reared a farmer, and on November 21, 1850, married **Miss Elizabeth Winger**, who was born in Randolph Township, Montgomery County, in September, 1831, a daughter of **Christian** and **Mary (Klepinger) Wenger**. They first located on the Welsh homestead, where they resided for three years; then moved to the **Wenger** homestead, lived there about eight months; then went to Monroe Township, Darke County, and remained there about eighteen months. Returning to Montgomery County, they bought the farm in Clay Township then occupied by **Levi Gilbert**, on which they lived four years; then lived near Laura four and a half years, and finally bought and settled on the farm of 172 acres formerly owned by **Henry Limbert**, of which they took possession in 1865. Here they lived until February, 1890, when they moved to a farm near Phillipsburg, on which **Mr. Welch** has erected modern buildings.

To the marriage of **Mr. and Mrs. Welsh** have been born the following children, in the order here given: **Mary C.**, born January 26, 1852—died an infant on the **Welsh** homestead in Randolph Township; **John H.**, born on the same homestead June 21, 1853; **Martha A.**, born in Darke County July 20, 1855; **Sarah E.**, born in Randolph Township, Montgomery County, August 26, 1857; **Eliza J.**, born October 11, 1862—died at the age of eleven years in Miami County; **Maggie A.**, born November 10, 1864, in Clay Township, Montgomery County, where the three following were also born: **William W.**, February 25, 1867; **James F.**, January 17, 1871, now married to **Rettie Good**; and **Floy L.**, November 16, 1874. Of this large family, **John H.** married **Alice Binkley**, who died September 28, 1890, leaving one child; the husband then married **Minnie Ella Eckman**, and is now in the hardware business at Dayton; **Martha A.** is married to **Newton Binkley**, a farmer, and is the mother of four children; **Sarah E.** was the wife of **Michael Weist**, a farmer, but died without issue; **Maggie A.** is married to **George Smoot**, a farmer, of Brookville, and has four children; **William W.**, a farmer, married **Salomie Peffley**, and is the father of one child. The **Welsh** family have a fine record in Montgomery County, as well as elsewhere, for usefulness and public spirit, and their standing as citizens and members of society is unexcelled.