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DR. THOMAS CUSHING 1821-1898

Dr. Thomas Cushing was the son of Enos Cushing born near Cazenovia, New York in Madison County. His family had moved to New York State from Massachusetts in 1790. Enos Cushing was a teacher, civil engineer, surveyor and a farmer. Education was considered of primary importance to the Cushings.

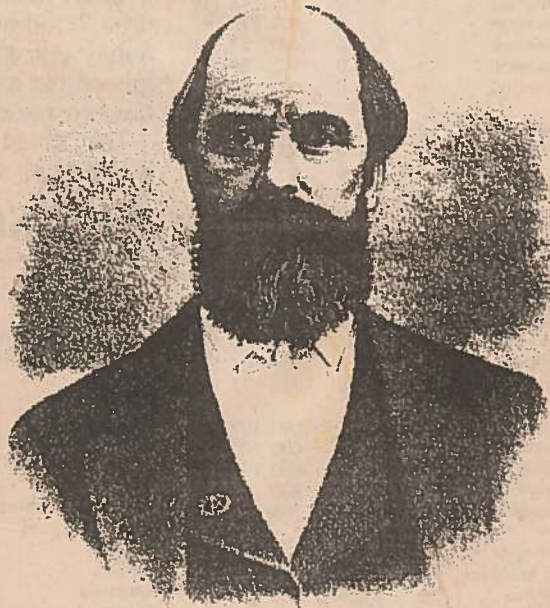
Thomas took his academic education at Chittenango, N.Y. and studied languages without the aid of a teacher. He also studied medicine under a physician at Cazenovia, N.Y. where he commenced a practice in partnership with this doctor. He attended lectures in Albany and graduated from the University of Buffalo in medicine.

From Buffalo he went to Brocton, Chautauqua County in 1848, then to North East, Pa. in 1853 and finally to Barre in 1860 where he remained.

In 1848 he married Sarah A. Crittendon by whom there were three sons and one daughter. Their son Frank became a noted ethnologist associated with the Smithsonian Institution. Another son, Enos, was a local dentist.

Dr. Thomas Cushing was a veteran of the Civil War, having served as assistant surgeon of the 28th Regiment N.Y. Volunteer Infantry. He was later appointed surgeon of the 20th U.S. Colored Regiment with which he remained until the close of the war. He then returned to Barre where he practiced medicine and ran a farm. Cushing Road in the Town of Barre takes its name from the Cushing Family.

He was a writer of some note and had several scientific papers published. Dr. Cushing was



Dr THOMAS CUSHING
BARRE CENTER. N.Y.

known as a free thinker who greatly disliked organized religion. The 1879 Illustrated Album states: "He is somewhat notorious for his eccentricities, liberality of thought, loyalty to his conviction, and fearlessness in the expression of his opinions, are his distinguishing characteristics."