



Heritage

ANCESTORS OF D. D. AND B. B. DOUGHERTY

How are leaders made? The Dougherty boys traced their heritage—both mother and father—to Donegal and Mayo counties in Ireland. From their family they inherited a rich combination of intelligence, determination, and ambition.

Over 250 years ago, in 1744, the ancestor of Dauph and Blan Dougherty, David Dougherty, brought his wife, Polly, and their children from their island home to this country. The youngest son, Thomas, enlisted in the Colonial Army and fought in the American Revolution during his three years of service. At the time of his enlistment, he was living in what is now New York State. There he married Margaret DeFoe, a Frenchwoman.² (Doubtless, the name Dauphin Disco came from this French part of the family.)

Around 1800 Thomas and his wife moved to Rockbridge County, Virginia. In 1806 they came farther south, to what is now Johnson County, Tennessee. They had a daughter, Esther, who married Jacob Dougherty; he was a nephew of Thomas and a first cousin to Esther.

Drawn by the prospect of manufacturing iron from the large deposits of iron ore buried in the mountains, the Thomas Doughertys and the Jacob Doughertys moved to easternmost Tennessee, near Shouns and Mountain City. The Doughertys were among the first settlers in East Tennessee.³ Thomas, who lived to be ninety years of age, built a home at the mouth of Mill Creek, near some of these natural resources.

GRANDFATHER: ELIJAH DOUGHERTY

The iron manufacturing business seems to have ceased, at least temporarily, with the death of the pioneering Thomas. His grandson Elijah Dougherty, the first child of Jacob and Esther, eventually revived and enlarged the iron works. Elijah was a large man with talent, energy, and a great vision of the possibilities around him, and he soon became a leading citizen in his frontier community.

In 1828 Elijah married Eve Mast, a young woman who was living in a nearby community. The young couple set up housekeeping on Mill Creek on a large farm Elijah had bought. There, at an ideal spot beside a large,

*Blanford Barnard and
Dauphin Disco Dougherty, c. 1920*