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ALTON LOVEJOY DEVILBISS, D.D.S., Decatur, is a native of Indiana, born near Spencerville, DeKalb County, a son of Alexander De Vilbiss, who was born in Frederick County, Maryland, August 8, 1816, and died in DeKalb County, Indiana, January 19, 1861, aged forty-three years. In his early boyhood the father of our subject removed with his parents to Licking County, Ohio, where for a time he lived in Alexandria. After his father's death he was apprenticed to learn the tanner's trade, which not agreeing with him, he obtained his release and went to Tiffin, Ohio, and for time worked at cabinet-making, when he returned to Alexandria and worked on his mother's farm. January 27, 1839, he was married to Lydia M. Clogston, who was born in Charleston, Virginia, now the capital of West Virginia, November 4, 1821, and to them were born eight children, of whom Alton L. was the seventh child. In June, 1843, the father removed with his family to Michigan, and the same year came to Indiana, locating on a farm in the vicinity of Spencerville, where, in connection with farming, he was engaged in the manufacture of fanning-mills until his death. In his youth he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1853 he joined the United Brethren church, and soon after was licensed to preach the gospel, of which he was an earnest defender. He was a devout Christian and was always charitable toward the unfortunate, and ever ready to help the poor and needy. He was strictly temperate in his habits. Mrs. De Vilbiss still survives her husband, and is now a resident of Fort Wayne. Alton L. De Vilbiss, the subject of this sketch, was born near Spencerville September 8, 1855. He began to do for himself at the age of thirteen years, working on farms during the summer months, and attending school in the winter until he was fifteen years old. He then began working at the carpenter's trade, which he followed till reaching the age of eighteen years, when he began the study of dentistry at Fort Wayne in the dental rooms of H. C. Sites, with whom he practiced and studied for over two years. May 11, 1877, he came to Decatur, Adams County, where he has since been engaged in the practice of dentistry, and in his chosen profession has been very successful, and has gained the confidence of all who know him. He is a member of the Dental Association of Indiana. He was married near Monmouth, Adams County, September 9, 1879, to Miss Florence Lizzie Kunkel, who was born December 20, 1861, and reared in Adams County, and educated in the schools of Decatur. They are the parents of one child - Fannie, who was born at Decatur July 23, 1880. Mr. De Vilbiss was elected councilman from the First Ward in Decatur in 1886, which office he still holds. He is a worthy member of St. Mary's Lodge, No. 167, Decatur, and Decatur Encampment, No. 138, I.O.O.F. He was one of the originators and is a director in the Decatur Cemetary Association, and is also stockholder and director in the Eagle Manufacturing Company of Decatur. Mrs. DeVilbiss is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church. Her parents, Samuel D. and Martha (Dorwin) Kunkel, were formerly from Ohio, coming thence to Adams County, Indiana, in an early day, when they located on a farm near Decatur.