

Talbird.

Henry Talbot was born in Dublin, Ireland, of highly respect-

able parents.

When a boy he came to South Carolina early

in the 18th century. He amassed a fortune and became a prominent

man in Beaufort district. He married Mrs. Mary Doherty, by whom

he had several sons and daughters. His sons were actively en-

gaged in the revolutionary war, though he was too old to take part

His ~~daughter~~ daughter, Mary, married John Rhodes, of Beaufort.

Henry Talbird and wife are buried at Whale Branch plantation

which belonged to him, and which he gave to his daughter Mrs.

Rhodes. He still has descendants of his own name in South

Carolina. His name was changed from "Talbot" to "Talbird"

during his early manhood.

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Abridged from United States Biographical Dictionary for Missouri.

Rev. Henry Talbird, D. D., was born Nov. 7th, 1811, on Hilton Head Island, Beaufort, S. C. He is the son of Capt. Henry Talbird and Sarah F. Blakewood. ¹⁷⁸¹⁻¹⁸⁴⁶ His family were among the early settlers of the South. ⁽¹⁷⁶⁰⁻¹⁸²⁵⁾ His grandfather, John Talbird, was a commissioned officer in the army of the Revolution.

Henry Talbird was educated at Madison University, N. Y., and his studies embraced a full collegiate and theological course. After graduating in the theological department, he removed to Tuscaloosa, Ala., where for one year he performed the duties of a pastor. He then removed to the city of Montgomery in the same State, where he remained nine years. In these two pastorates his ministrations were greatly blessed, the churches were built up in faith and zeal and strengthened in numbers, and he obtained a deep hold on the affections of the people among whom he labored. While residing in Montgomery he contracted chronic

sore throat, and being elected to the professorship of theology in Howard College, Marion, Ala., he was induced to accept. At the close of the fiscal year he was elected to the presidency of the college, and maintained that relation until the commencement of the civil war in 1861. The success which marked his labors proved the sagacity of the trustees, who invited him to accept the place. During his administration Howard College was greatly prospered in all its departments. In six years the endowment fund was increased from \$45,000 to \$225,000, besides adding to its other possessions about \$79,000. At the opening of the war it was one of the most flourishing denominational institutions of the United States. In 1854 the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on him by the University of Alabama.

Dr. Talbird is by birth and education a Southern man, embracing that peculiar political doctrine of States Rights, which has, of late years come to be universally conceded-----It is not strange, therefore, that he embraced the cause of the Confederate States, and lent all his influence and energies to con-

vert its battle into a victory. In 1861 he entered the Confederate army, with the rank of Captain, in the 7th Alabama regiment. At the close of the campaign he was promoted to the rank of Colonel, and he raised and organized the 41st Alabama regiment. While in the army he was engaged in a number of battles and skirmishes. His calm courage and deliberate intrepidity won for him the confidence of his officers and men. He was kind to all, but a firm disciplinarian. Hence he commanded one of the most reliable regiments in the service. Protracted illness interfered greatly with his military career, and ultimately forced him to resign his command.

At the close of the war, his health being only partially restored, he accepted a country pastorate where his labors would not be so great as in his former positions. He spent two years and a half in Carlowville, Dallas County, Ala., making an able, faithful, and successful pastor. From that point he was called to Henderson, Ky. As his health continued feeble, he thought that a milder climate might be beneficial and enable him to labor more efficiently. The field in Kentucky was an inviting one,

and though he left his friends in Carlowville and Alabama with feelings of deep regret, he did not feel at liberty to decline the call. His ministry here was, as it had elsewhere been, marked by deep devotion to the cause of Christ, and his ministrations were greatly blessed. In the three years and a half he spent in Henderson, he did much to elevate the standard of religion, and won from all classes sincere respect and esteem, and the warm and devoted affection of every member of his church, now doubled in numbers.

At the close of this period several of the leading families of the church determined to remove to California. Quite unexpectedly to himself, Dr. Talbird was invited to assume the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, in Lexington, Mo., In April 1872 he removed to that city, one of the most intelligent and refined communities in the State. There he remained for twelve years and nine months. He won for himself a high place in the esteem and confidence of the entire community, and the affectionate regards of those to whom he ministered. During his ministry, many were added to the Church, and it was increased in all the

graces of the Holy Spirit.

Dr. Talbird is possessed of much of that personal magnetism that attracts men to him, and makes him the center of their affections. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and has taken all the regular degrees of Masonry conferred in this country.

Politically, he has always been a Democrat, without being a partisan. He united with the Baptist Church in his 21st year.

On the 15th of January, 1845 he was married to Mrs. Mary C. Griffin, the widow for several years, of Gen. Griffin. Her maiden name was Tarrant, the daughter of Mr. Thomas Tarrant, of Alabama, one of the most respectable families in the State.

His personal characteristics are very marked. He is over medium size, of compact and well rounded form, possessing sufficient physical power to enable him to perform a great amount of brain work, of prepossessing appearance, and benevolent expression of face. He is polished and graceful in manner, courtly in address, affable in conversation, dignified in deportment, and lovely and lovable in disposition. without writing his sermons, he preaches from full notes. His sermons exhibit industrious study and re-