

## ***BIOGRAPHICAL***

For the following sketch of Rev. Maltbie Babcock, we are indebted to his aunt. Mrs. Armstrong Maltbie (Annie C. Maltbie.)



DR. MALTEIE DAVENPORT BABCOCK

## MALTBIE DAVENPORT BABCOCK

Rev. Maltbie Davenport Babcock, D. D., was born at Syracuse, N. Y., August 3d, 1858. He was the eldest son of Henry Babcock and Emily Maria Maltbie. Her father was the Rev. Ebenezer Davenport Maltbie, son of Davie Maltbie and Nancy Davenport of Stamford, Conn., who was the lineal descendant of Rev. John Davenport of New Haven, Conn. Emily Maria Maltbie's mother was Mary Ann Davis, daughter of Rev. Henry Davis D. D., and Hannah Phoenix Tredwell.

There were many generations of the most prominent, refined and cultivated men and women behind Dr. Bobcock and he went forth to his life work from an ideal home. His maternal great grandfather and his grandfather were both Presbyterian clergymen. He was the eldest of seven children, and his mother's widespread religious influence, and her beautiful life still speak in many of the influential circles of his native city. Here he was educated, taking his classical course at Syracuse University, and his theological course at Auburn Seminary. In both of these institutions he won highest honors and hosts of friends.

Dr. Babcock received immediate recognition in the front rank of his denomination, his first settlement being at Lockport, N. Y. It was not only his brilliant intellect and his stirring oratorical powers that commanded admiration, for his ministry was ideal and no pastor in the land was more beloved. The man was everywhere regarded as a personal friend,

so cordial, so frank, so cheerful was he always, and so thoroughly unselfish. His influence became in the best sense national. His theology was like his vocal delivery, simple and direct. It was one soul speaking to another. His prayers voiced the cry of a man who wanted help from his FATHER. Dr. Babcock could not do anything just as anyone else would. "To divide burdens and centralize responsibility is the ark of accomplishment;" this was his rule in doing his varied work, and it gave him his almost supreme executive ability. Perhaps there was no greater tribute to his power and consecration than the fact that he was invariably turned to, as a sort of last resort in the attempt to bring a wandering soul to CHRIST. Often men said: "Let us get him under Dr. Babcock's influence; he can surely reach him." Dr. Babcock was a very versatile man; exceedingly attractive in physique, pleasant in manner, with a soul that reflected GOD.

Dr. Babcock was a clear thinker, and a fluent speaker. He was noted for his broad and impartial charity, and his vast array of friends among the young men of his country. He reached the people in so many ways. His personal magnetism was marvelous. Those who heard him were entranced and he was called to speak at all great religious gatherings, from one end of the country to the other and crowds, young and old, hung upon his lips. Taught of the SPIRIT, he revealed to them the open heaven and the message of JEHOVAH.

Dr. Babcock never published a book. He lived or sang his thoughts. He was a great lover of music, played many instruments extremely well, improvised delightfully and also wrote many songs and hymns which have been published and have won instant recognition as splendid work. But the

watchword of his life was: "This one thing I do;" to honor his MASTER and to save souls. His poems are of unquestioned excellence and have been said to resemble those of Emerson. They have been published in connection with a memorial volume of extracts from sermons and addresses, gathered by his grief stricken widow, entitled "Thoughts for Every Day Living." His foreign letters, written while last abroad; to the men of the Brick Church in New York City were also published.

What Dr. Babcock's work was in Baltimore it is simply impossible to estimate in an article as brief as this or to speak of the breadth and reach of that wonderful pastorate in New York. His acquaintance was cosmopolitan; and it knew no denominational bond, and was met by a distinguished hospitality to which his wife, the daughter of a prominent Poughkeepsie lawyer, added both beauty and charm. What Dr. Babcock was in his home only those who lived with him and loved him, upon whom his devotion was showered can tell. At the time of his death, at Naples, Italy, May 18, 1901, in his forty-third year, the papers both religious and secular teemed with statements proving in every way his remarkable power.

One who knew Dr. Babcock intimately said: "The only relief in the mystery of his untimely death it seemed to me, was in the fact that his character and work were of such POTENCY that they must reproduce themselves in the living.



MRS. HARLOW SWAIN LOVE

For this sketch of Mrs. Harlow Swain Love (Martha Church Maltby) we are indebted to her daughter, Mrs. Frederick E. Foster. Mrs. Love was a daughter of General Isaac Maltby, whose portrait appears on page 12.

1	2	3	4
William	Daniel	Benjamin	Isaac

**MARTHA CHURCH MALTBY**

(MRS. HARLOW SWAIN LOVE)

Was the youngest of the ten children of Gen. Isaac Maltby and Lucinda Murray, his wife, who was the daughter of Gen. Seth Murray, an officer during the entire war of the Revolution, and who participated in all of the early engagements and was present at the Battle of Bennington, and also at the surrender of Burgoyne. She was borne in Hatfield, Mass. Her parents removed to Waterloo, N. Y., when she was but two years of age, and upon her marriage to Mr. Harlow S. Love, their home was established in Buffalo, N. Y., where all of her five children were born. Prior to 1860 the family made several trips to California by the way of Panama, and in that year they located permanently in San Francisco, where Mr. Love, until his death in 1866, was a prominent member of the legal profession, and where, later, her son John became the Attorney General of the state of California and subsequently the City and County Attorney of San Francisco.

Mrs. Love was a person of great intellectuality, refinement and cultivation, and of a lovely and graceful presence. She was endowed in an eminent degree with all those tender attributes which endear a woman to the circle of her familiar friends, and possessed that gentleness and benevolence of character which purifies and softens the social atmosphere of her surroundings. To these qualities were united an unostentatious charity and helpfulness which all of her



intimates have reason to remember with affectionate gratitude. Her literary attainments were of a high order; and for many years she contributed to the public prints articles on various subjects, which were widely read and favorably received. She also devoted much labor and attention to genealogical research, and was instrumental in tracing and rescuing from oblivion the lines of her descent from Colonial and Revolutionary ancestors, all of whom were of distinguished stock.

Mrs. Love crossed the Pacific Ocean numerous times, visiting Hong Kong, China, on the occasion of the marriage of her daughter Leila to William Hammond Foster, Jr., (a member of the celebrated American house of Russell & Co., China,) and some years later making her home with her youngest daughter Martha, the wife of Frederick E. Foster, successively in Yokohama, Japan, and Hong Kong, China, where Mr. Foster represented, as General Agent, the trans-Pacific lines of steamers plying between those ports and San Francisco. Mrs. Love and her husband are interred in Lone Mountain Cemetery, San Francisco, California, and are survived (in 1908) only by their daughter Martha (Mrs. F. E. Foster) now residing in Mount Vernon. N. Y.

The following condensed biography of Gen. Isaac Maltby (4), whose portrait appears on page 12, was very kindly furnished the Association by Mrs. Frederic Emory Foster, his grand-daughter.

Major Seth Murray Maltby referred to in the sketch was the father of Mr. George Beecher Maltby and Mrs. A. T. Higby whose names will be found in the roll of members.

### **Gen. Isaac Maltby**

Born November 10, 1767; graduated at Yale College 1786. He was the son of Benjamin Maltby of Northford and Branford, Conn., and Elizabeth Fowler, his wife. He was a student of divinity with Dr. Smalley of New Britain, Conn., and was admitted to the church in that place July 12, 1789, and licensed to preach the same year, by New Haven, East. He married Nov. 10, 1790, at Hatfield, Mass., Lucinda Murray, the only child of Seth Murray, who was a Brigadier General in the Hampshire Militia in the time of the Revolutionary War, and he was persuaded to settle with his father-in-law in Hatfield. He served as representative from Hatfield in the Massachusetts Legislature 1809-10; was the author of three books on Military Science, viz: "Elements of War," "Military Tactics" and "Court Martial;" twice chosen Presidential Elector at a period in American history when the Electoral College was composed of notable men and when it was intended to select deliberately the President of the United States. He served through the war of 1812 and was made Brigadier General in 1813, with headquarters at Boston, his son Seth Murray Maltby being paymaster in the same brigade with the rank of major. In 1818 he removed to Waterloo, Seneca county, N. Y. where he died the following year (1819.)

### **Capt. Jonathan Maltbie 3d**

Through the kindness of Miss Emily A. Lynes of Norwalk, Conn., we have secured a photograph of the tombstone of Capt. Jonathan Maltbie of Revolutionary War fame. The stone of his wife Elizabeth (Allen) Maltbie will be seen beside his.

Miss Lones endeavored to obtain a photograph of Capt. Jonathan Maltby's commission, signed by General Washington, and also one of Capt. Maltbie's old homestead in Fairfield, Conn. We regret not being able to print them in Booklet Two but hope to do so later.

The sketch of Jonathan Maltbie, 3d, written by Miss Lynes, will be found intensely interesting by all the members, we feel sure.

"My great grandfather, Jonathan Maltbie, 3d, the picture of whose grave accompanies this sketch, was the only child of Jonathan Jr. and Abigail Holmes Maltbie, born at Stamford, Conn., December 17, 1744. He moved to Fairfield, Conn., and married Elizabeth the daughter of David and Sarah (Gold) Allen Oct. 23d, 1768. He was a sea captain in the East India trade, and lived in one of the historical houses given in the "History of Fairfield Count" as "Colonial No.4." This house was built in 1766 by Isaac Tucker, who sold it to Captain Maltbie who owned and occupied it during Revolutionary times, and was one of the few house left standing at the burning of Fairfield. Mr. Henry Rowland, a grandson, in writing some reminiscences, states that "grandfather

Maltbie's (house) was reserved for a cook house. After the conflagration the inhabitants returned (when the British had gone on board their ships.) Grandfather Maltbie on returning to his house found all their valuable china scooped off the shelves on to the floor and broken into pieces and everything upside down. In the kitchen in the fireplace hung a large brass kettle filled with their hams, but they dare not eat them, fearing that they were poisoned, (so they started anew with provisions.)" Captain Maltbie's son William inherited this place and sold it to Justin Hobart. The house is still standing today in good condition. Jonathan Maltbie was 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant of the "Trumbull," one of the first cruisers built for the Continental navy; Dudley Saltonstall, Commander. She went into service about April, 1780, carrying 28 guns and her crew numbered 200. Her first engagement under Captain Nicholson, occurred June 2d of the same year; with the "Watt," an English letter-of-marque, under Captain Colehart. She carried 34 guns and 250 men. The "Watt," a private vessel with a cargo of great value, and was especially equipped to fight her way. This was the first action of any moment that occurred in 1780 and had the reputation of being the most obstinate and sanguinary naval battle during the Revolution. The "Trumbull" being badly disabled failed to capture the "Watt," although she defeated her. The next summer, 1781, she left the Delaware, still under Captain Nicholson, having been thoroughly equipped as convoy to 28 sail of merchant craft bound for Cape Francois, West Indies. Off the capes the "Trumbull" met three British cruisers astern. Two of them, on being a frigate, stood for the "Trumbull"—



which ship by hauling up gained the wind of them. While standing on in this manner, hoping everything from the darkness, which was fast approaching, a gale carried away the 'Trumbull's' fore top mast, which, in falling, brought down the main gallant mast. She was otherwise disabled and night coming on was unable to clear up the wreck. At 10 o'clock the Iris, 32 guns, one of the vessels in chase, closed with her and forced her to combat. In the midst of rain and tempestuous winds Captain Nicholson found himself obliged to go to quarters or to strike, without resistance. He preferred to do the first, but the English volunteers on board his ship, instead of obeying orders, went below, extinguished lights and secreted themselves. Near half the remaining men followed their example and Captain Nicholson could not muster fifty of even the diminished crew he had at the guns. The battle that followed might almost be said to have been fought by the officers. These brave men sustained by a party of the petty officers and seamen managed a few of the guns for more than an hour, when the "General Monk" 18 guns, coming up and joining in the fire of the "Iris," the "Trumbull" submitted. The "Trumbull," after her capture, was towed into New York harbor and condemned. Though unsuccessful in her battles, she still fought two of the most famous fights that took place on the ocean during the exciting times of the Revolution. Jonathan Maltby was afterwards appointed Master of the "Argus," a cutter in the service of the United States for the protection of the revenue. He died Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 1798, while in command of this vessel, and was buried in

the old cemetery at Fairfield, Conn. The date of Jonathan Maltbie's commission as 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant—Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, 1776. Date of commission as Captain by George Washington—March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1791. These commissions were in the family of his son William who lived in the South, and were said to have been given to some Historical Society."