

HENRY BARNES GOLDTHWAITE

Associate Justice: 1835-1836

BORN: April 10, 1802; Concord, New Hampshire

DIED: October 19, 1847; Mobile, Alabama



***Biographical File
Alabama Supreme Court and State
Law Library***

A native of New Hampshire, Henry Barnes Goldthwaite received a liberal education. At an early age, he left his home in Boston and moved to Richmond, Virginia for two years. He returned to Boston, but soon afterwards, he sailed to Mobile in 1819. After being shipwrecked, he proceeded on to Montgomery in a flat-boat.

Goldthwaite read law in the office of Nimrod E. Benson, was admitted to the bar, and began practice in partnership with Governor Benjamin Fitzpatrick. In 1825, he was elected solicitor. In 1829, he represented Montgomery County in the legislature. Two years later, he went to Mobile and practiced law.

In 1836, Goldthwaite was elected to the bench of the Supreme Court by the Alabama Legislature, succeeding Justice Hitchcock. He was re-elected to the court in 1842, but resigned the next year to run for congress, and was defeated. He was later re-elected to the Supreme Court of Alabama by the legislature, defeating Ex-Governor Clay who had been appointed to fill the vacancy. He remained on the bench until his death in 1847.

Goldthwaite married to Eliza Isabella Witherspoon and they had seven children.