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AUTOBIOGRAPHY

SELAH HIBBARD BARRETT.

CHAPTER I.

BIRTH—NAME—ANCESTRY—PARENTS.

I, SELAH HIBBARD BARRETT, was born in the town of Rutland, in the county of Meigs, in the State of Ohio, February 24, 1822. The word Selah, which constitutes a part of my name, is of Hebrew origin. It is only found in the poetical books of the Old Testament, and occurs seventy-one times in the Psalms and three times in Habakkuk. It is usually placed at the end of a period or strophe, but sometimes at the end only of a clause, having evidently a significant meaning. As my father's name was also Selah, in order to avoid confusion, Hibbard was added to mine in memory of my grandmother Barrett.

Meigs County, formed from the counties of Athens and Gallia, is situated in the south-east part of the State, bordering on the Ohio River. Its scenery is romantic and diversified, reminding one of the description of the "hill country of Judea." Rutland,