

Robert D. Talbot, Sergeant, Co. C, 75 Illinois Infantry, US

1836 August 3: Born in Lisbon, St. Lawrence County, NY.

No found information before enlistment in the U.S. Army.

1862 August 7: Enlisted in the U.S. Army and mustered into Co. C of the 75th IL Infantry as a Corporal. At enlistment his height was 5'7, hair: light, complexion: light, marital status: single, occupation: farmer, residence: Newton, Whiteside County, IL.

1864 November 30: Fought at the Battle of Franklin Grose's brigade, Kimball's division.

"We arrived at Franklin about 10 a.m. on the thirtieth day of November. We had been marching and skirmishing for two days and two nights, and were footsore, tired and hungry. We supposed that after getting into Franklin, the first thing would be to get coffee and something to eat, but we were ordered to stack arms and build works and so for four hours we were engaged on the defenses which were to save thousands of lives in the desperate battle that ensued. My regiment, the 75th Illinois, to Kimball's division. Kimball's division held the right of the battle line across the Columbia Pike, the main road leading into Franklin, and my brigade was on the left of the division next to the pike, the soldiers on the other side of the pike belonged to the 23rd corps. About 4 P.M. Confederates were seen forming in battle lines across the open field in front of our lines, which were nearly two miles long; we could see them forming among the foothills across the open fields in three double battle lines with nearly all of their general officers on horseback leading them on. Soon they were near enough to draw our fire and then the deadly strife was on in all the fury of war and for six hours [sic] it was breast to breast, face to face, hilt to hilt. Our batteries opened, pouring solid shot, shells, cannister and spherical case into their ranks, and at each discharge killing and wounding scores of the enemy. We, the infantry, had become experts at loading and firing three and four years of continual practice, had made us proficient and I doubt if loads were ever worked out faster in any battle of the Civil War than Franklin.

*Seven times they [Confederates] charged the works and in all the fury of those desperate charges it took but a few minutes to wipe out thousands of their lives. Seven times they were beaten back and we were left in undisputed possession of our works. Braver men never lived than those Confederate soldiers who fought us at Franklin..."*¹

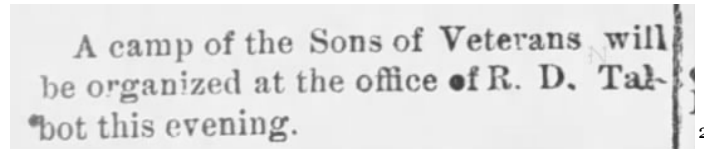
1865 June 12: Mustered out of the U.S. Army at Camp Harker, TN.

1872 September 1: Married Louisa J. Preston in Allen County, KS.

¹ The Oswego Independent, Oswego, KS, 19 Jul 1912, Friday, pg. 7 (accessed newspapers.com)

1880 June 14: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Parsons, Labette County, KS showed Robert, a carpenter, and Louisa living with their two young sons: John and Frank.

1888 March: Talbot was active in veterans groups, including the GAR.



1889 January 25: Talbot applied for and was granted a pension for his military service during the Civil War.

1900 June 16: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Parsons, Labette County, KS showed Robert, county commissioner, and Louisa living with their adult sons.

1910 April 16: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Parsons, Labette County, KS showed Robert, a retired house carpenter, living with his wife Louisa.

1912 September 26: Son Frank died in Colorado Springs, CO.

1913 Talbot was active in his community, as is illustrated in the following two articles.

² Parsons Daily Eclipse, Parsons, KS, 22 Mar 1888, Thursday, pg. 4 (accessed newspapers.com)



= R. D. TALBOT =
Candidate for Parks
and Public Property

Has been a resident of our city for over 40 years and has filled many positions of honor and trust with credit and ability. He is a broad gauged man, no one can say but what he is honest and competent. In all the years of his official life, whether in city or county, he has boldly stood up for the rights of the locality he represented and neither threats nor bribes could ever swerve him from what he believed to be for the best interests of Parsons. He is an earnest advocate for the betterment of Oakwood Cemetery, so as to make it a more fitting resting place for the cherished and lamented dead who lie buried there. He is in favor of more parks, especially on the West side, where the people and children have no park and are absolutely without any place to congregate and have any enjoyment. He is perfectly qualified for the duties of the office he aspires to, having had years of experience in that line.

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³ Parsons Daily Eclipse, Parsons, KS, 31 Mar 1913, Monday, pg. 6 (accessed newspapers.com)

In the retirement of Judge R. D. Talbot from the board of county commissioners after serving three terms. Republicans have reason to feel proud of his services. No changes reflecting on his administration could be preferred and he leaves the office with honor. If his successor follows the course outlined, then he will have done his duty equally as well. Though elected from the Parsons district, he naturally had its interests at heart, but was handicapped many times in securing favors. It is said politics never influenced Judge Talbot, when an old soldier wanted anything. That is one of his characteristics. It was the crowning act of his term to establish a flag pole in the court house square, and no one can ever question his loyalty. He was one of the original supporters of the equal suffrage movement, and carried his theory into practice. He worked for the whole county, and has won a reputation for honesty and steadfastness of purpose.

At the coming election in Parsons his name will be presented as a candidate for city commissioner, and he is pre-eminently qualified for the position. Having resided in Parsons thirty-eight years, he knows the town and the needs of the people. He has served as street commissioner, city clerk, justice of the peace, and police judge, and rendered efficient service in each office. If the voters consider his candidacy and elect him city commissioner of Parsons, they may feel assured that the business will be conducted all right.

⁴ Parsons Daily Eclipse, Parsons, KS, 31 Mar 1913, Monday, pg. 4 (accessed newspapers.com)

1915



1916 Talbot and his wife moved to Rock Island, OK to live with their son John.

1917

warestore.

Ex County Commissioner R. D. Talbot, was here Friday from Rock Island, Oklahoma, to greet his many old friends, The Judge and his wife are keeping house there for a son whose wife died some time ago, He looks hearty for a man of his years,

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⁵ The Kansas Workman, Minneapolis, KS, 1 Mar 1915, Monday, pg. 8 (accessed newspapers.com)

⁶ The Oswego Independent, Oswego, KS, 23 Nov 1917, Friday, pg. 4 (accessed newspapers.com)

1918

Judge R. D. Talbot, of Rock Island, Oklahoma was in Oswego Monday, shaking hands with his many old friends here, he having been the County Commissioner from the Parsons District for many years. The Judge is 84 years of age, but hale and hearty. He has out a 2½ acre garden at Rock Island and tends to it without any trouble and the way he is carrying his age indicates that he will be able to round out a century unless something other than old age gets him.

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1920 January 28: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Cameron, Leflore, OK showed a retired Robert and Louisa living with their son and his family.

R. D. Talbot is in the city to observe Decoration Day. He will probably remove back to Parsons this fall.

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1921 June 12: Died in Rock Island, OK..



Judge Talbot Passes Away.
Judge R. D. Talbot, a former county commissioner of Labette county and a pioneer of Parsons, died Sunday at his home at Rock Island, Okla., where he had lived the past seven years. The burial was made at Parsons today. Judge Talbot, who was aged 86 years, moved to Parsons before that town was organized and for many years was employed as a cabinet maker in the Katy shops there. He was an ardent Republican of the old school type and at various times served as city clerk, street commissioner, police judge and as a member of the board of education, city council and county commission. He was a prominent G. A. R. worker also.

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August 9: Louisa applied for and was granted a widow's pension for her husband's military service during the Civil War.

⁷ The Oswego Independent, Oswego, KS, 24 May 1918, Friday, pg. 4 (accessed newspapers.com)

⁸ Parsons Daily Eclipse, Parsons, KS, 14 May 1920, Friday, pg. 6 (accessed newspapers.com)

⁹ Findagrave.com/Kansas/Labette County/Oakwood Cemetery/user/Cheryl Behrend

¹⁰ The Coffeyville Daily Journal, Coffeyville, KS, 14 Jun 1921, Tuesday, pg. 5 (accessed newspapers.com)