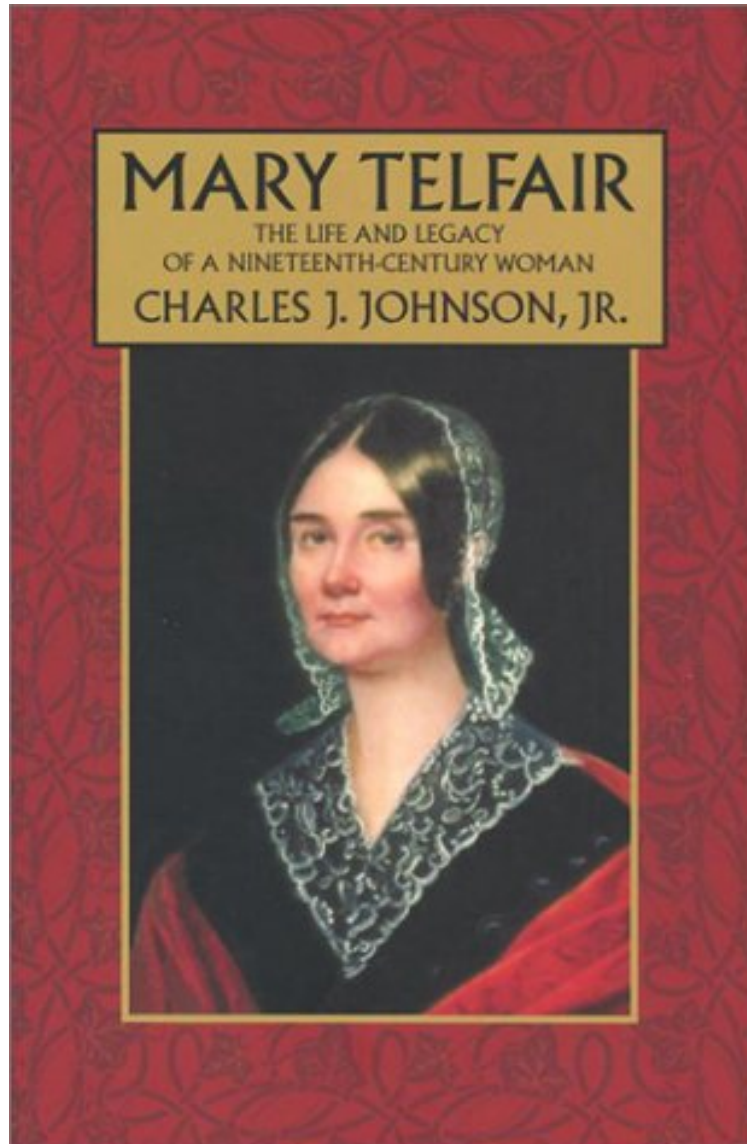


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Mary Telfair: The Life and Legacy of a Nineteenth-Century Woman

Charles J. Johnson Jr.

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Charles J. Johnson Jr. : Mary Telfair: The Life and Legacy of a Nineteenth-Century Woman before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mary Telfair: The Life and Legacy of a Nineteenth-Century Woman:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. I loved this book By Scituate Reader Charles Johnson brings to life a fascinating and fiercely independent woman from the Old South. Johnson is a wonderful story teller and the tale includes scandal, a prodigious court battle and an array of marvelous personalities. This book is a treasure.

This is a detailed examination of the life of a most remarkable woman. Born in 1791, Mary Telfair grew up in Savannah, Georgia, where she was the daughter of a wealthy merchant-planter and three-term governor of Georgia. Although reared in the South, she bore no kinship to the plantation mistress living in isolation---alienated by paternalism and male domination. Rather she belonged to an elite circle of urban Southerners who felt as much at home in the drawing rooms of Philadelphia and New York as in the parlors of Charleston and Savannah. As Johnson writes, "Mary Telfair was her own woman, but she affirmed her identity within the framework of good manners, decorum, and taste demanded of women of her station." Many of the country's leading figures passed through the lives of the Telfairs, and the Telfairs were related to, or close friends with, most of the prominent families in Savannah and the Georgia upcountry---relationships fully explored in this work. Johnson's legal training played a significant role in enabling him to unravel the climactic event in Mary Telfair's story---the great Telfair will contest, one of the epic legal battles of the nineteenth century. Drawing on a stunning amount of research, Charles Johnson reveals the choices and originality of a woman of vision. The result is an unforgettable portrait---a "must read" for anyone interested in nineteenth-century Southern history and women's studies.

About the AuthorRaised in Darien, Connecticut, Charles Johnson graduated from Yale University and the Harvard Law School before practicing securities law in New York City for thirty-two years. He is the author of *Corporate Finance* and *the Securities Laws*. In 1988 Johnson moved to Savannah, Georgia, where he and his wife collect tribal, Southwestern, and contemporary art.