

## *Descendants of Sarah Jane Hibben and Philip Gatch Jeans*

### *Generation No. 4.3*

**SARA JANE<sup>4</sup> HIBBEN** (*John<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born June 21, 1823 in Uniontown, Fayette Co., PA, and died May 01, 1902 in Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH. She married **PHILIP GATCH JEANS** January 06, 1853 in Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH, son of **JOSEPH JEANS** and **SARAH TEAL**. He was born June 15, 1816 in Milford, Clermont Co., OH, and died September 02, 1899 in Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH.

Children of **SARAH HIBBEN** and **PHILIP JEANS** are:

- i. **KATE BELLE<sup>5</sup> JEANS**, b. March 20, 1854, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH; d. May 08, 1931, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH. She m. **JOSEPH GATCH PERIN** March 23, 1873; b. September 14, 1848, OH; d. March 15, 1918, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH.
- ii. **FRANK HIBBEN JEANS**, b. January 20, 1856, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH; d. September 23, 1937, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH. He m. (1) **ANNA MARY STAFFORD** November 25, 1880, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH; b. February 20, 1860, Marion, Grant Co., IN; d. February 22, 1906, Columbus, Franklin Co., OH. He m. (2) **VIOLA M. ZINK** April 20, 1907; b. February 1855, OH; d. 1930, OH.
- iii. **HARRY C. JEANS**, b. July 04, 1857, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH; d. May 15, 1858, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH.
- iv. **ELLA MAY JEANS**, b. April 05, 1863, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH; d. August 07, 1863, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH.

**SARAH JANE HIBBEN 1823 - 1902**  
**and**  
**PHILIP GATCH JEANS 1816 - 1899**

*The good deeds left behind her  
Will form a chain to bind her  
To those who linger here,  
And oh ! the love of knowing  
The good she sowed is growing  
And the harvest from the sowing  
Will increase from year to year.<sup>1</sup>*

Nellie P. McDermott, granddaughter.

**Trials of Life During Youth**

Sarah Jane Hibben lived all but a few years in Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio. Along with her uncle, Samuel Entriiken Hibben, and her cousin, Joseph Matthew Hibben,<sup>2</sup> she was a leader in the social and religious life of Hillsboro. Sarah was born June 21, 1823 in Uniontown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania,<sup>3</sup> the sixth child of John Hibben and Phebe Milhous. She arrived at Hillsboro in 1829 with her parents and three brothers and three sisters. She attended the Hillsboro schools and was a graduate of the Oakland Female Seminary of Hillsboro.

By the time she was 21 years of age, death had claimed her mother, a brother and three sisters. Sarah became the woman of the house after sisters Elizabeth Laurette Hibben and Caroline T. Hibben died, and a few years later in 1844, she interrupted her education upon the death of Mary Ann Hibben Campbell to care for her children. By 1850 she had completed her education and had begun a teaching career. The US Census 1850 found her living with her brothers William and Henry Bascom Hibben, and teaching in Lawrenceburg, Indiana.<sup>4</sup> She also taught in Perintown, Clermont County, Ohio, where she met Philip Gatch Jeans.

**Courtship, Marriage And Family**

Philip Gatch Jeans was born June 15, 1816 in Milford, Clermont County, Ohio. *After leaving school he spent the greater part of his younger life traveling. While in Indiana, at the age of 21, he became a mason. His work in this line can only be told by his brother masons. For a number of years he was occupied at his trade in Perintown. . . .In June 1837 he became 21 years of age and in August following was made a Master Mason in a Lodge in the State of Indiana. Upon moving to the new State of Iowa soon thereafter he became one of the leading spirits in the organization of the second subordinate lodge in that State and later in influential member of the grand Lodge of Iowa. To Bro. Jeans belongs the distinction of having built in the town of Muscatine the first Masonic Hall in the State of Iowa, and it was with him a delight in his declining days to show to his brethren the picture of the Hall as contained in the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge for 1896, by that body sent him. . . .On the 11th of March, 1850, he left Perintown for the "gold fields" of California. His diary written while on this trip is still preserved and is very interesting.<sup>5</sup> From California he returned to Perintown in 1851.<sup>6</sup>*

## THE JOHN HIBBEN LINE

*He pursued his trade as carpenter until 1850, when he was overcome with "gold fever," and crossed the plains to California. He returned with a lot of experience and very little gold.*<sup>7</sup>

Three letters written by Philip to Sarah between October 17th and December 15th 1852 tell of his devious attempts to keep his nuptials a secret and his plans to see her one more time before the wedding day. *"I went home with Mary Perin that evening and she says to me now Philip tell me candidly if it is going to be Christmas or New Year. Said I, Mary I don't know anything about it."* Philip also mentioned that attention to his unspecified work kept him from making the forty mile trip to Hillsboro. *"You need not look for me on the day of your fair, my will is good but duty forbids."* He also expressed delight in his church Sunday school teaching. Unlike most letters to lovers, they do not contain expressions of love, but rather friendship. The letters conclude: *"May Heaven's best boon attend you Sarah, Philip G. Jeans; I remain your friend and well wisher, Phil; and I ever remain your Philip."*<sup>8</sup> They were married by Rev. J. McD. Mathews, January 6, 1853 in Hillsboro, just a few months before the death of her father.

### Forty-nine Years In Residence In Hillsboro

Philip moved to Hillsboro where the couple took up housekeeping. Their first child, Kate Belle Jeans, was born March 20, 1854, followed by Frank Hibben Jeans on January 20, 1856.<sup>9</sup> Two more children, Harry C. Jeans and Ella May Jeans, died as infants in 1858 and 1863, respectively. Philip followed his trade for a number of years and then became a merchant. Later on *"February 28th, 1873, he entered into partnership with Mr. Charles Utman in the lumber and planing mill business, which partnership continued the remaining portion of his life on earth."*<sup>10</sup> The firm, Utman, Jeans and Co., manufactured sash doors, blinds and furniture. The ready made furniture was sold from a store on Main street in Hillsboro.<sup>11</sup> Philip joined the Highland Lodge which was his Masonic home for the rest of his life. He was made a Royal Arch Mason in May of 1863.

On December 22nd of 1873, Sarah Jane and many women of Hillsboro attended a lecture by Dr. Dio Lewis, a Boston physician and lyceum lecturer, recounting the suffering of his mother at the hands of her alcoholic, abusive husband and how she campaigned single-handedly against the purveyors of liquor. The next evening Hillsboro women organized a woman's temperance crusade and appointed Eliza Jane Thompson as their leader. During and after the crusade she was known as 'Mother Thompson.' *"Mrs. J. H. Thompson, Mrs. P. J. Jeans and Miss E. L. Grand-Girard were appointed a committee to write an appeal to be read to the liquor sellers by the committee of visitation."*<sup>12</sup> On Christmas morning the group marched to the saloons, hotel bars and drug stores to gain cessation of liquor sales..

*Mother Thompson's husband, Judge Thompson, vividly described the initial descent of the band of 70 crusaders upon the town: 'A band, a cohort, a troupe of 70 women arrayed in sable black moved in a settled line of march through the cold, still streets of Hillsboro. There was no wind. A light flurry of snow descended from the dark December clouds. Throughout the day all places kept for the sale of liquors heard the devout prayers and songs of these gentlewomen. At night consultation resumed at the church from whence the phoenix-like body, springing from the ashes of the funeral pyre of women's immolation, had emerged in the morning. On this Christmas Eve there were reports, prayers, and singing. And as they journeyed homeward, a last quarter moon gave benediction through*

*the white still streets. Since the movement was divinely inspired only a higher power will limit its effects on the nations of the earth.*<sup>13</sup>

*Some idea of the marvelous rapidity with which this movement began to spread may be had from the fact that, within two weeks from the day it was first inaugurated at Hillsboro, three or four of the leading counties in Southern Ohio were taken by storm. As fast as the news could be carried to neighboring towns, they caught the spirit, and began the crusade of prayer and song.*<sup>14</sup>

*The Hillsboro Crusade culminated in the organization of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the United States, at Cleveland, Ohio, on November 20, 1874. A white ribbon was adopted as the official badge of the organization and members were call 'white ribboners.' Almost overnight, Eliza Jane Thompson and her band of crusaders had become national figures.*<sup>15</sup>

The women also campaigned for pledges from the male populace to abstain from the use of liquor. The pledge written by Abraham Lincoln was: "*Whereas, the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is productive of pauperism, degradation and crime; and believing it is our duty to discourage that which produces more evil than good, we therefore pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage.*"<sup>16</sup>

The list of the Hillsboro crusaders of 1873 includes many other Hibben descendants and related surnames: Mrs. Thomas Barry, Mrs. Emily Dill, Mrs. Lavinia Dill,<sup>17</sup> Mrs. George Glasscock, Mrs. J. Rittenhouse, Mrs. John A. Smith, Mrs. Eli Stafford and Mrs. John L. West. Also among the liquor purveyors was druggist Dr. William Robinson Smith,<sup>18</sup> who agreed to sell liquor only by prescription.

#### **Death Ends The Friendship**

Philip died September 2, 1899, received a Masonic tribute and was buried in the Hillsboro, Ohio, cemetery.<sup>19</sup> At that time or perhaps before, Kate Belle and her family moved into the Jeans house to care for her parents.<sup>20</sup> Three years later, Sarah departed this world May 1, 1902, and was buried beside Philip.<sup>21</sup> She was 78 years, 11 months old. Her sister, Mrs. Harriet L. Stout, then became the only surviving child of John Hibben and Phebe Milhous.

In July 1998 the author visited the Highland House Museum in Hillsboro, Ohio. Displayed there in the 'crusade room' is a photographic portrait of Sarah taken in her later life. (Plate 1) When Mrs. Jean Wallis, member of the Museum staff, removed the photo from the frame, neatly folded sheets of note paper fell out. On them was a eulogy written by Sarah's granddaughter.

*Sarah Hibben Jeans*

*In Memoriam*

*Sarah Hibben Jeans was born in Uniontown, Penn., June 21, 1823 and died in Hillsboro, O., May 1, 1902.*

*When quite a little girl, her parents moved from Uniontown to Ohio, and here the many happy and useful years of her life were spent.*

*In January 1853 she was married to Philip Gatch Jeans. To them was given a long and happy wedded life.*

*Grandma was a quiet sweet little woman of beautiful character. We who knew her intimately can testify in no uncertain terms of the great influences for all that*

## THE JOHN HIBBEN LINE

*is true and noble, over those who came immediately within the holy circle of her shining light.*

*It seems to me that her most prominent traits were cheerfulness, above all things, and an unusually high sense of duty and honor. We who knew her so well, cannot forget how she habitually shared with others the brightness of her life and kept the gloom to herself.*

*So tender hearted, so sympathetic, so charitable in her opinion of other people, her life was a grand example for many.*

*She was very shy in her disposition and shunned any display, but when the call came to take up the cross in the cause of Temperance in 1873-4 she was among the first to respond. She attended the first Crusade meeting and also made a prayer at that meeting. During the whole time of this famous Crusade, she was one of the most enthusiastic workers and was always ready to do her duty.*

*The good deeds left behind her  
Will form a chain to bind her  
To those who linger here,  
And oh! the love of knowing  
The good she sowed is growing  
And the harvest from the sowing  
Will increase from year to year.*

*Nellie P. McDermott,  
Grand-daughter<sup>22</sup>*

### Generation 4.3 End Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> "Sarah Hibben Jeans," In Memoriam, letter attached to the back of a photograph of Sarah in the Crusade Room of the Highland Museum in Hillsboro, Ohio. Note: This same poem was printed in the obituary of Philip Gatch Jeans, Nellie's grandfather, [Note 6].
- <sup>2</sup> Joseph Matthew<sup>4</sup> Hibben (*Samuel Entriken<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*).
- <sup>3</sup> Newspaper unknown, obituary, Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio, 1902.
- <sup>4</sup> US Census 1850, M432-141, page 282, household 1009, City of Lawrenceburg, Dearborn County, Indiana.
- <sup>5</sup> Whereabouts unknown in 2000.
- <sup>6</sup> Newspaper unknown, obituary, Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio, 1899.
- <sup>7</sup> Elsie Johnson Ayers, *Highland Pioneer Sketches and Family Genealogies*, 1971, Springfield, Ohio, (H. K. Skinner & Son), page 119.
- <sup>8</sup> Letters from Philip Gatch Jeans at Perin Mills to Sarah Jane Hibben in Hillsboro, October 17, October 22 and December 15, 1852, in possession of Sarah McAdams<sup>9</sup> Hershberger (*Richard Scott<sup>8</sup> McAdams, Claribel<sup>7</sup> McDermott, Nellie May<sup>6</sup> Perin, Kate Belle<sup>5</sup> Jeans, Sarah Jane<sup>4</sup> Hibben, John<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*).
- <sup>9</sup> McDermott family records; US Census 1870, M593-1222, page 23, Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio; US Census 1880, T9-1033, enumeration 46, sheet 7, household 71, Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio.
- <sup>10</sup> Newspaper, [Note 6].
- <sup>11</sup> David McBride, *History of Ross and Highland Counties, Ohio, 1880*, Cleveland, Ohio, (Williams Brothers, Publishers), page 367.
- <sup>12</sup> J. E. Stebbins, *Fifty Years History of the Temperance Cause*, 1874, Cincinnati, (L. Stebbins), page 322.
- <sup>13</sup> Violet Morgan, *Folklore of Highland County*, 1946, Greenfield, Ohio, (The Greenfield Printing & Publishing Co.), page 92.
- <sup>14</sup> Stebbins, *Fifty Years History of the Temperance Cause*, [Note 12], page 339.

### Chapter III, Generation 4.3

- <sup>15</sup> Morgan, *Folklore of Highland County*, [Note 13], page 93.
- <sup>16</sup> Elsie Johnson Ayers, *Highland Pioneer Sketches & Family Genealogies*, 1971, Springfield, Ohio, (H. K. Skinner & Son), page 574.
- <sup>17</sup> See related documentation, Chapter XI, Generation 4.4.
- <sup>18</sup> William Robinson Smith was the nephew of Margaret Galloway and Samuel Entriken Hibben.
- <sup>19</sup> Tombstone inscription, Section D67, PHILIP G. JEANS 1816-1899; Highland County, Ohio, Probate Court Wills, volume 12, page 589.
- <sup>20</sup> US Census 1900, T623-1286, enumeration 118, sheet 2, line 46, household 49, Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio. Philip Perin was renting the house owned, free of mortgage, by Sarah J. Jeans.
- <sup>21</sup> Newspaper, [Note 3]; Tombstone inscription, Section D67, SARAH J. HIBBEN wife of PHILIP G. JEANS 1823-1902; *Highland County, Ohio, Probate Court Wills*, volume 13, page 536.
- <sup>22</sup> Original returned to picture frame, copy in possession of George C. Hibben.