

## *Descendants of Alpheus J. Hibben and Caroline Nordyke*

### *Generation No. 4.5*

**ALPHEUS J.<sup>4</sup>HIBBEN** (*William<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born March 31, 1822 in Clinton Co., OH, and died March 26, 1885 in Polk Co., IA. He married **CAROLINE NORDYKE** October 01, 1853 in Clinton Co., OH, daughter of **MORGAN NORDYKE** and **ANN JOHNSON**. She was born March 12, 1832 in OH, and died November 12, 1895 in Boone Co., IA.

Children of **ALPHEUS HIBBEN** and **CAROLINE NORDYKE** are:

- i. **ANNA<sup>5</sup>HIBBEN**, b. Abt. 1857, IA.
- ii. **FRANKLIN C. HIBBEN**, b. April 1862, OH; d. March 26, 1934, Polk Co., IA. He m. **ESTELLA RIFENBURGH FOSTER** May 17, 1887, Des Moines, Polk Co., IA; b. May 1854, NY; d. June 08, 1925, Des Moines, Polk Co., IA.
- iii. **GEORGE E. HIBBEN**, b. May 13, 1865, Dallas Center, IA; d. September 02, 1888, Polk Co., IA.



Revised 6/10

**ALPHEUS J. HIBBEN 1822 - 1885**  
**and**  
**CAROLINE NORDYKE 1832 - 1895**

The fifth child of William Hibben and Elizabeth Springer was Alpheus J. Hibben. The William Hibben family bible records that he was born March 31, 1822, in Clinton County, Ohio.<sup>1</sup> He grew up in Wilmington and worked with his father. The Census of 1850 records him at the age of twenty-eight working as a clerk.<sup>2</sup> Three years later he married. "*MARRIED. On the 1st inst., by Elder David Thompson, Mr. Alpheus J. Hibben, to Miss Caroline Nordyke, all of this county.*"<sup>3</sup> On October 9, 1853, Elizabeth McManis (Magee) Hibben, Alpheus' stepmother reported the marriage in a letter to her son in Bureau County, Illinois. "*Alpheus was married last week to a Miss Nordyke.*"<sup>4</sup> Caroline had been born on March 12, 1832, in Clinton County, Ohio.<sup>5</sup>

**The Nordyke Family Moves To Iowa**

In 1854, Caroline's parents, Ann Johnson and Morgan Elmore Nordyke, moved their family to Dallas County, Iowa. Alpheus and Caroline accompanied the family.

*Mr. Nordyke was born in Clinton county, Ohio, May 12th, 1808, and after an active business life in that State, removed with his family to Iowa in 1854, and purchased the land upon which he resided at the time of his death. For a short time he resided in this city, engaged in business, though continually improving his large farm, and making it one of the best in the county.*<sup>6</sup>

Alpheus and Caroline had three children: Anna was born about 1857;<sup>7</sup> Franklin "Frank" C., April 1862;<sup>8</sup> and George E. Hibben, May 13, 1865.<sup>9</sup> The US Census of 1870 records Alpheus as a farmer, aged 48, with a farm worth \$24,000 and personal assets valued at \$5,200. It is assumed that he had purchased his own farm, as when his father-in-law died in 1874, Morgan Nordyke still owned a large farm.

In a codicil to his will drawn in February 1869, William Hibben made financial provisions for Alpheus' attendance at his funeral. William's only other living son, William, had been provided for by a separate bequest in his will.

*I also hereby direct that my Executors pay the necessary traveling expenses of my son Alpheus J. Hibben from his home in Iowa to Peru, Illinois and back and also the necessary travel expenses of my son Alpheus J. Hibben and my sister Elizabeth Kelley from here to Wilmington, Ohio and return in case they go there for the purpose of attending my funeral.*<sup>10</sup>

Sometime before he died on March 26, 1885, Alpheus and his family moved to Des Moines, Iowa.<sup>11</sup> Caroline died ten years later on November 12, 1895. Both are buried at the Jordan Cemetery in West Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa.<sup>12</sup>

**Information About Alpheus' And Caroline's Sons**

As a young man in 1885, Frank C. Hibben worked as a teamster. He married Estella Rifenburgh Foster, known as 'Stella', on May 17, 1887, in Polk County, Iowa.<sup>13</sup> Stella was eight years older than Frank and it is believed she had a child from her first marriage to a Mr. Foster.

## THE WILLIAM HIBBEN LINE

Stella and Frank had two children: Fay, born June 1888; and Corwin Vernon Hibben, born March 22, 1893. In 1900 the family lived in Valley Junction, Polk County where Frank was employed as a street railroad conductor.<sup>14</sup> Both the 1910 and 1920 Census reports record that Frank continued to be employed as a conductor and that Vernon was employed as a car inspector for the street railroad.<sup>15</sup> Stella, died June 8, 1925 and Frank passed March 26, 1934, at the age of seventy-two. Both are buried in the Glendale Cemetery, Polk County. Corwin Vernon Hibben died January 20, 1945, at the age of fifty, and was interred beside his parents.<sup>16</sup> Fay Hibben married H. E. Phillips on September 17, 1906, in Valley Junction, Iowa.<sup>17</sup>

George E. Hibben died on September 2, 1888, at the age of twenty-two. He was employed as a brake man on the railroad. It is possible he died as a result of an accident on the job. He is buried at the Jordan Cemetery.<sup>18</sup>

### Generation 4.5 End Notes:

---

<sup>1</sup> William Hibben Family Bible, "Alpheus J. Hibben, son of William & Elizabeth Hibben, was born on the thirty first day of March in the Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and twenty two 1822."

<sup>2</sup> US Census 1850, M432-668, page 352, household 483, District 21, Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio.

<sup>3</sup> *Clinton Republican*, Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio, October 7, 1853.

<sup>4</sup> Letter from Elizabeth McManis (Magee) Hibben to William B. Magee at Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois, dated October 9, 1853.

<sup>5</sup> WPA Graves Registration Project, Polk County, Iowa, page 273.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*; Obituary, "Another Old Settler Gone," reprinted from the *Des Moines Register*, November 19, 1874; Cemetery Records, Jordan Cemetery, West Des Moines, Iowa, addition 1/Lot 2/Plot 6.

<sup>7</sup> US Census 1870, M593-385, sheet 538, line 13, household 92, post office Dexter, Boone Township, Dallas County, Iowa.

<sup>8</sup> US Census 1900, T623-455, enumeration 110, sheet 1, line 55, Valley Junction, Walnut Township, Polk County, Iowa.

<sup>9</sup> WPA Graves Registration Project, [Note 5].

<sup>10</sup> *Clinton County, Ohio, Wills*, volume 2, page 230.

<sup>11</sup> State Census 1885, Iowa, page 397, Ward 3, Des Moines, Polk County, Iowa.

<sup>12</sup> WPA Graves Registration Project, [Note 5]; Cemetery Records, [Note 6], addition 1/Lot 31/Plot 1 and 2.

<sup>13</sup> Richard L. Allen, <ballen@pop.mail.rcn.net>: Iowa Marriages, 1809-1992, Indexing project M02556-2, system origin Iowa-EASy, source film 1014767 page 110, "Married 17 May 1887 Des Moines, Polk, Iowa, Groom - Frank Hibben, W, single, 26, born 1861 Lasalle Ia [IL], Groom's father - Alpheus Hibben, mother - Caroline Nordyke, Bride - Stella Rifenburgh Foster, W, marriage status not given, 34, born 1853 NY, Bride's father - Griffen Rifenburgh, mother - Mary Mitthill."

<sup>14</sup> US Census 1900, [Note 8].

<sup>15</sup> US Census 1910, T624-418, page 17A, enumeration 180, Valley Junction, Polk County, Iowa; US Census 1920, T625-508, page 9B, enumeration 121, Des Moines City, Polk County, Iowa.

<sup>16</sup> Cemetery Records, Glendale Cemetery, Des Moines, Polk Co., IA., block 22 Section NW1/4 Lot #112.

<sup>17</sup> Richard L. Allen, [Note 13]: Iowa Marriages, 1809-1992, Indexing project M02555-8, system origin Iowa-EASy, source film 1014489 page 208, "Married 17 Sep 1906 Valley Junction, Iowa, Groom - H. E. Phillips, single, 25, born 1881 Walnut, Iowa, Groom's father - F. M. Phillips, mother - Sarah Elizabeth Livery, Bride - Fay Hibben, single, 19, born 1887 Des Moines, Iowa, Bride's father - Frank C. Hibben, mother - Estelle Rifenburg [Foster]."

<sup>18</sup> WPA Graves Registration Project, [Note 5]; Cemetery Records, [Note 6], addition 1/Lot 31/Plot 3.