

Elizabeth Allen Hibben and Wraith B. Jones and Abram Gooding Mauzy

Generation No. 4.4

ELIZABETH ALLEN⁴ HIBBEN (*Thomas³ Hibben, Thomas², John¹*) was born Abt. April 1832 in Clinton Co., Ohio, and died January 14, 1906 in Rushville, Rush Co., IN. She married (1) **WRAITH B. JONES** December 25, 1850 in Cincinnati, Hamilton Co., OH, son of **JOHN JONES** and **ELEANOR WHITSON**. He was born May 13, 1828 in Clinton County, Wilmington, OH. She married (2) **ABRAM GOODING MAUZY** December 31, 1874 in Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN, son of **PETER MAUZY** and **SARAH GOODING**. He was born February 1825 in Bourbon Co., KY, and died August 1905 in Rushville, Rush Co., IN.

ELIZABETH ALLEN HIBBEN 1832 - 1906
and husbands
WRAITH B. JONES 1828 -
ABRAM GOODING MAUZY 1825 - 1905

She would have made a splendid general; but peace hath greater victories than war, and Mrs. Mauzy gained one that evening at her own table.¹

Personal Losses Precede An Elopement

In April 1832, Elizabeth (a.k.a. Eliza) Allen Hibben was born, in Wilmington, Ohio, to Thomas Hibben and his second wife, Ruth Gaddis. When she was just thirteen, her mother died. Eliza and her older sister, Sarah, remained with their father. The family structure and dynamics changed dramatically five years later, in 1850. Thomas Hibben married for a third time to a widow with two children, and Sarah Hibben died at the age of twenty-two. These events may have caused great emotional stress contributing to Elizabeth's decision to elope with twenty two year old Wraith Jones on Christmas day. "*MARRIED—In Cincinnati, on Wednesday, the 25th, inst., by _____, Mr. W. B. Jones to Miss Eliza Hibben; both of this place.*"² Elizabeth (McManis) Hibben's comment that "*Her father felt bad about it,*" probably was an understatement of his feelings. While there are no records, it is likely that he intervened and made the young couple separate. The 1860 Census lists Thomas, Lydia and Sally Searl living in Household #660. In the adjacent Household #661 Elizabeth Jones and Robert Payne, age sixty five, a black laborer born in Virginia, are listed.³ Neither Wraith Jones or his parents are recorded by the census of Clinton County in 1860.

Eliza Marries Late In Life

Sometime after the death of her father, Thomas, in 1867, Elizabeth, known in Rushville as Lida, moved to Rushville, Rush County, IN. In 1874, at the age of forty two, she married Abram Gooding Mauzy, a widower and former business partner of her half brother, James Samuel Hibben. Abram was the proprietor of a four floor department store at the corner of Third and Main Streets. It was founded in 1840 and remained in business for one hundred years, closing its doors in 1941. The Mauzy home, located on North Harrison Street, remains as a private dwelling and retains the grandeur of past years.

We had the pleasure of attending the reception given by Mr. A. G. Mauzy and wife at their splendid residence, last Thursday evening, to their newly married son [of A. G. Mauzy and Emily R. Jameson], Charley and his wife.

The house seems to have been designed originally for large parties, and Mr. and Mrs. Mauzy know just how to make them, and how to make every one enjoy the most he is capable of. The crowd was just large enough to comfortably occupy all the rooms of the house without any crowding of the guests, one hundred and twenty odd persons being present.

The supper was on a large scale—in perfect keeping with the grand surroundings. The company was seated, and colored servants, robed in spotless linen, catered to every want of the appetite, while Mrs. A. G. Mauzy gave her personal attention, it

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seemed, to everyone. She would have made a splendid general; but peace hath greater victories than war, and Mrs. Mauzy gained one that evening at her own table.

Supper over, and the "band begins to play," and fair ladies and brave men go whirling through the dance as if impelled by some delightful, yet irresistible and unseen power. We judge the men were brave, or they never would have ventured to move or lift a foot in that wilderness of long trails as they swept round and round like comets on their everlasting way.⁴

They had been married for thirty years when Abram died in August 1905.⁵ Eliza passed away just a few months later in January 14, 1906. (Plate 11)

Mrs. Eliza A. Mauzy, widow of the late Abram G. Mauzy, died Sunday evening about 8 o'clock at the home of her son [step son], Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Mauzy, No. 611 North Harrison street. Death followed a stroke of paralysis that suddenly came upon her at the dinner table last Tuesday.

She was the daughter of Thomas Hibben and wife [Ruth Gaddis] and was born at Wilmington, O. She was the last member of a large family and was a sister of George, James H. [S.] and Ethelbert C. Hibben, former leading citizens of this city. She and Abram G. Mauzy were married at Indianapolis Dec. 31st, 1874.

Mrs. Mauzy, always jovial and kindhearted, self sacrificing and patient and devoted to duty and righteous living, was one of Rushville's most respected and beloved women. She was an earnest worker in the church, and her charitable nature won her a host of friends. Her kindly face will be greatly missed among her congregation. The reward for which she has striven is to be hers and although she has been called away, the community has been greatly benefited by the fact that she has lived in it.

The funeral services will be held from the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mauzy tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock, conducted by Rev. W. W. Sniff. Interment will take place at East Hill cemetery.⁶

Generation 4.4 End Notes:

¹ Newspaper, (unknown), Rushville, Rush County, Indiana, about January 1879.

² *Clinton Republican*, Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio, December 25, 1850.

³ US Census 1860, M653-946, page 91, household #660 & #661, Wilmington, Clinton Co., Ohio.

⁴ Newspaper, (unknown), [Note 1].

⁵ Ben B. Mozee, *Peter Mauzy-Ancestors, Descendants, Related Families 1675-1976*, 1976, compiled and copyright, Ben B. Mozee, page 32.

⁶ Newspaper, (unknown), [Note 1], January 14, 1906.