

Descendants of Harold Barcroft Hibben and Louise Freeman

Generation No. 5.3a

HAROLD BARCROFT⁵ HIBBEN (*James Samuel⁴, Thomas³, Thomas², John¹*) was born December 03, 1855 in Rushville, Rush Co., IN, and died March 23, 1916 at Long Key, FL. He married **LOUISE P. FREEMAN** June 12, 1879, Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN, daughter of **STEPHEN R. FREEMAN**. She was born September 1858 in IN, and died June 24, 1923 in Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN.

Children of **HAROLD HIBBEN** and **LOUISE FREEMAN** are:

- i. **HAROLD JAMES⁶ HIBBEN**, b. May 3, 1881, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN; d. June 20, 1956, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN.
- ii. **FREEMAN HART HIBBEN**, b. May 19, 1882, IN. He married **EVADNE HAYWARD** September 14, 1908, Marion Co., IN; b. October 3, 1883, Pana, Christian Co., IL.
- iii. **LOUISE BARCROFT HIBBEN**, b. May 13, 1889, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN; d. September 10, 1912, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN. She m. **RICHARD MONROE FAIRBANKS** June 7, 1911, Indianapolis, Marion Co. IN; b. October 8, 1883, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN; d. July 26, 1944, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN.
- iv. **CATHERINE WILES HIBBEN**, b. December 20, 1895, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN; d. February 2, 1967, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN. She m. **WARD HENLEY HACKLEMAN** April 4, 1917, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN; b. November 12, 1891, Rushville, Rush Co., IN; d. April 21, 1934, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN.

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HAROLD BARCROFT HIBBEN 1855 - 1916 and LOUISE P. FREEMAN 1858 - 1923

*Though passed, I count him still my master-friend,
Invincible, as thought his mortal flight,
The laughing light of faith still in his eye
As, at his wintry tent, pitched at the end
of life, he gaily called to me, "Good night,
Old friend, good night — for there is no good-by."*¹

James Whitcomb Riley

Young Harold Barcroft Hibben Assumes Business And Family Responsibilities

Harold Barcroft Hibben was born at Rushville, Indiana on December 3, 1855, the oldest son of James Samuel Hibben and Sarah A. Pattison. Events during the last several years of the 1870s shaped the life of Harold Barcroft Hibben.

His father, a merchant, removed to Indianapolis and founded the wholesale dry goods house of Hibben, Pattison & Co. The son [Harold] was graduated at Indiana University, Indianapolis, in 1875. At the age of twenty the impaired health of his father and the death of Mr. Coleman Pattison,² his father's partner, and his mother's brother, left him in practical charge of the business of Hibben, Pattison & Co., and he was identified with that business, through various changes of firm name, until his death.³

In the seventies Mr. Hibben, by the death of a relative, was left at the head of the wholesale dry goods house of Hibben, Pattison & Co., and even at that early age he acquitted himself with distinction and was the central figure in the succeeding houses of Murphy, Hibben & Co., and Hibben, Hollweg & Co. of Indianapolis.⁴

He married Louise Freeman sometime before the census taker of 1880 recorded her as Louise Hibben, age 22, married and living at 372 Tennessee Street in Indianapolis.⁵ Apparently, Harold Barcroft took the events in stride. A successful business career and prosperous family resulted. In his father's biography it was written:

Harold Barcroft Hibben was born at Rushville, Indiana, on the 3rd day of December, 1855, and his educational training was obtained principally in Butler University.⁶ He early identified himself with the business interests of his father and, with his brothers finally succeeded the latter in the wholesale dry goods business in Indianapolis. He married Louise Freeman, of Terre Haute, this state, and they maintain their home on North Delaware Street. They have four children: Louise, who is the wife of Richard Fairbanks, the son of Hon. Charles W. Fairbanks, former vice-president of the United States; Dr. Freeman Hibben, who married Miss Evdena [Evadne] Hayward, of Indianapolis, and who is now engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery in the city of Boston; and

*Catherine and James Harold, who remain in the parental home. The younger James, is associated in the business with his father.*⁷

During the 1890s Louis Hollweg joined the brothers, Harold Barcroft and Thomas Enriken, in the business and changed the name to Hibben, Hollweg & Company. Evidently, Harold Barcroft was in partnership ventures with other merchants and manufacturers.

*The C. B. Cones & Son Manufacturing Company, manufactures of "Cones Boss" overalls, coats, pants and shirts, is one of the largest manufacturing establishments of its kind in the United States. The factory consists of a three story and basement building on North Senate avenue, 50 by 200 feet. The business was established in 1879 by C. B. Cones, Sr., and from a very small and modest beginning, it has extended its operations until at the present time the output is sold throughout all of the central, western, and southern states, furnishing employment to more than 400 hands and requiring ten traveling salesmen to visit the trade. . . .The present officers of the company are. C. B. Cones, president; H. B. Hibben, vice-president; John W. Murphy, treasurer, and H. L. Browning, secretary.*⁸

*Murphy, Hibben & Co., Importers and Jobbers of Dry Goods, Notions, Woolens, etc. (wholesale exclusively), 93 to 99 Meridian street, and 26 to 36 East Georgia street (annexed). This, the oldest and largest Jobbing Dry Goods and Notion House in the State, rightfully occupies a most important position in any review or history of Indianapolis as a jobbing center. . . .The merchandise offered in the various departments includes all desirable lines required in a first-class modern store, covering a wide range of foreign and domestic dry goods, notions, hosiery, white goods, linens, woolens, floor oilcloth, and linoleum, curtains, draperies, window shade; also of their own manufacture a very large line of overalls, working shirts, laundered and soft shirts, jeans, cottonade and cassimere pants. Liberal use has been made by this firm of the facilities of direct importation offered by the Indianapolis Custom House, through which much merchandise is received in bond directly from all foreign markets. Special attention has been given to the products of Western and Southern mills with most encouraging results, as both the trade and the consumer hold this class of goods in constantly increasing favor, and many of the larger mills have found it advantageous to make Messrs. Murphy, Hibben & Co., their agents for general and special lines manufactured by them. In conclusion, it may be said that the wide acquaintance of the house, and its well known reputation for solidity and fair-dealing, place it as a representative of the best element of commercial character and activity, and the firm is conceded to stand at the head of its own line, and among the best of the strictly jobbing interests of the State. The members of the firm are J. W. Murphy, H. B. Hibben and Louis Hollweg, and they are always prominently identified with all movements that tend to further the city's interest.*⁹

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Information About Harold And Louise's Four Children

Harold James Hibben was born in May 3, 1881; Freeman Hart Hibben was born May 19, 1882; Louise B. Hibben was born May 13, 1889; and Catherine Wiles Hibben was born December 20, 1895.¹⁰

While his siblings were still in school, Harold James Hibben, age 20, was recorded by the 1900 US Census as a dry goods salesman. He was a third generation member of the family business known then as Hibben, Hollweg & Company. For many years he was also active in the Chamber of Commerce Wholesale Trade Division. He was elected to this position and served for many years to promote wholesale trade in Indianapolis. In 1910 he was nominated by the Republican party to run for the state legislature. He responded: "*while he did not seek the honor, in view of the attitude of the men at the meeting, he did not see his way clear to decline.*"¹¹ In the end he was not nominated. In 1911 he was one of a group of merchants and industrialist who promoted the development of Mars Hill on the outskirts of Indianapolis. A large tract of agricultural land was purchased and then divided into lots for homes and industry. The promoters "*recommend it to the people as a means of stimulating industrial conditions through the new factories which will come to the manufacturing suburb.*" and they also "*believe that aside from the general benefits which will accrue to the city at large, person who assists the movement by purchasing lots in Mars Hill will benefit directly.*"¹² It is not known if the development was a financial success, however, a section of Indianapolis called Mars Hill exists today. After the death of his father and the assumption of control of the family business by Lewis Hollweg, Harold continued to play a roll in its operation as vice-president.¹³ There is no record of Harold James marrying. The 1920 US Census records him without a spouse, living with his mother. He died in June 1956.¹⁴

Freeman Hart Hibben received his medical degree from the Medical College of Indiana in 1905. He had a private medical practice and was employed by the Indianapolis Street Railway Company as surgeon, a position obtained, most likely, with the assistance of his father. He married Evadne Hayward September 14, 1908 in Marion County, Indiana,¹⁵ Evadne was the daughter of William Eugene Hayward, a wealthy real estate investor, and Clara Humbolt Hayward. A court action was initiated in August 1912 by Evadne and her sister, Susan H. Schneider, to gain a listing of contents and accounting of a trust established by her father valued at about \$1,000,000. Boston Globe reports of the court suit revealed a good deal about Evadne's family life.¹⁶

Evadne testified that her mother did not like Freeman and attempted to prevent her marriage, and that her father did not approve of the Hibben house on Meridian Street because it might be accessible to kidnappers. So he purchased another home for the young couple and their first child, Hilda, born in June 1909. They lived there until June 1910 at which time they went on vacation near Boston, intending to return in October. For unknown reasons, William and Clara Hayward severed all ties to Indianapolis and arrived at a Boston hotel in October and shortly thereafter, moved into a house in Brookline. Evadne and Freeman did not return to Indianapolis, renting a house nearby in Brookline. Before and during this time, as the newspaper reported, the relationship between the Hibbens and Clara were "*not very cordial,*" although the ailing William Hayward remained close to his daughters until his death in 1914.

In December 1912 after extensive testimony, an out-of-court settlement was arranged by which Evadne received a financial settlement in exchange for abandoning a claim on her

Indianapolis home. During the trial Evadne had testified “*my mother said that my sister and I had no right to a copy of the trust or accounts. Such daughters as I have don’t deserve anything, anyway.*” It is quite ironic that five years later after Clara died alone in a hotel in Chicago, the daughters did receive very little. The trust had been depleted. The newspaper headline read: *GREATER PORTION OF LARGE FORTUNE GONE - Estate of Mrs. Hayward Had Been Valued at \$1,000,000 - Mystery in Disappearance of Estate of Former Brookline Woman.*¹⁷

Other recorded events in their lives are as follows. Another daughter, Evadne H. Hibben II was born about 1911.¹⁸ During World War I Freeman was appointed a Captain in the Medical Reserve Corps. In 1927 he and Evadne returned to Indianapolis where they obtained a divorce. In 1930 the Census recorded she was working as a translator in Indianapolis.¹⁹ Freeman had returned to Boston where he was on the staff of the Boston Floating Hospital and a lecturer at Tufts Medical School. In 1932 he was on the staff of the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health in Shirley, Massachusetts. The last record located places Freeman at the Westfield State Sanatorium in Massachusetts in 1942. Dates and places of death of Freeman and Evadne are not known.

Louise B. Hibben attended Miss Bennett’s School in New York state and the Merrill VanLear School in New York City. On June 7, 1911 she married Richard Monroe Fairbanks, son of Charles Warren Fairbanks. Charles Fairbanks was Theodore Roosevelt’s vice president. Tragically at the age of twenty-four on September 10, 1912. “*Mrs. Louise Hibben Fairbanks died yesterday at her home, 2989 North Illinois street, after an illness of five weeks, death being due to typhoid fever. . . . Besides her husband, she leaves a son [Richard Monroe Fairbanks, Jr.], 6 months old.*”²⁰ Richard remarried and subsequently held editorial and executive positions with the family controlled Indiana News Publishing Company and WIBC, Incorporated. Louise is buried in the Fairbanks lot at Crown Hill Cemetery beside her husband who died July 25, 1944.²¹

Catherine Wiles Hibben married Ward Henley Hackleman on April 4, 1917.²² They had two sons, Ward Hibben Hackleman and Peter Hibben Hackleman. At the time of his marriage, Ward had a successful career and was manager of the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company in Indianapolis. In 1924 he formed a partnership, Hackleman & Shields Agency, to act as general agents for the same company. No other records have been found concerning the Hackleman family except their dates of death.²³

Ward Henley Hackleman was a descendant of Oliver Cephus Hackleman of Rushville, Indiana.²⁴ As early settlers in Rushville, the Hacklemans and Hibbens had close ties. The families were also related through the marriage of Nancy Hackleman, sister of Oliver, to Jonathan McCarty. Jonathan’s sister, Caroline McCarty, married James M. Heron. James was the brother of Helen Heron who married George Hibben.²⁵

Business Expands In The New Century

The 1907 edition of Hyman’s Handbook of Indianapolis described the growth of the business.

Hibben, Hollweg & Co., Importers and Jobbers: Dry goods, Notions, Woolens, etc. (at wholesale only), 131 to 141 South Meridian Street—This, the oldest and largest jobbing dry goods and notion house in the state, had as founders in the early “sixties” J. S. Hibben and C. B. Pattison, through whose untiring energy and aggressive, upright business methods a leading place in the esteem and

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confidence of the trade tributary to this market was quickly assured. Since their retirement from the business and subsequent decease, a period of approximately thirty years, the active management has developed upon H. B. and T. E. Hibben, who, together with Louis Hollweg, constitute the present firm of Hibben, Hollweg & Co. Under their efficient management, aided by employees long associated in the conduct of the business, the position early acquired has been strengthened and continuously maintained throughout the various changes of firm title and partnership interests occurring in this interval. . . .Mr. Hollweg is one of the pioneer Indiana glass manufacturers and is largely interested in this and other enterprises located both in this city and elsewhere in the state.

*Hibben, Hollweg & Co. occupy the building at the corner of Meridian and Georgia streets, which they have recently enlarged by the addition of building adjoining on the north, affording a frontage of 100 feet on Meridian street by 205 feet on Georgia street, which, together with the premises of 26 to 30 East Georgia street, annexed by bridges and tunnels, afford the firm in excess of 125,000 square feet of floor space in their salesrooms, exclusive of the premises at 211 to 215 South Meridian street, a building 35x205 feet, six floors, which is used for storage. In their entirety, the buildings occupied comprise approximately 200,000 square feet of floor space, being larger than is employed in any similar jobbing business in the state.*²⁶

Harold Dies Suddenly In Florida

Harold Barcroft Hibben died at the age of 61. His life span was only four years greater than his father, James Samuel Hibben, who died at the age of 57. Harold had been ill with a bronchial condition for about a month and had traveled to Long Key, Florida, in hope of regaining his health. Shortly before the day he died, he sent messages to friends.

*Otto N. Frenzel, president of the Merchants National Bank and one of Mr. Hibben's most intimate friends, received postal cards from him yesterday at almost the same time that the wire was received telling of his death. One of the postals told of an automobile ride he had just taken with James Witcomb Riley [The Hoosier Poet] over to Miami Beach, and mentioned numerous Indianapolis people whom he had met in Florida. The other was an enthusiastic comment on the city of Long Key, the climate of Florida and life in general. "I'm feeling almost as good as new," said this postal in conclusion.*²⁷

Harold's obituaries list additional business positions and extol his personal qualities. *Mr. Hibben was, at the time of his death, vice-president of the Claypool Hotel Company, vice-president of the Indianapolis Street Railway Company and a director of the Indiana Union Traction Company. . . .Dr. Henry Jameson pointed out three characteristics of Mr. Hibben that especially endeared him to those who knew him. He said that Mr. Hibben was social in the best sense, that he enjoyed being in the company of his friends and desired to have friends about him at all times. In his business life Mr. Hibben was always broad enough to be able to see both sides of a question and to desire the good will and good opinion of those with whom he dealt. He had a great love of nature and the artistic, and was a keen critic of art. . . .Mr. Hibben was one of the type of men whose influence is*

greatly needed in corporation today. He believed in giving fair returns for what was taken, and his connection with the Indianapolis Street Railway Company was valuable to it for that reason. He loved nature and was fond of hunting and fishing and the good fellowship it afforded. He never sought political preferment, but he was a man who did his duty politically and realized the importance of working for the public benefit. He was always broad-minded and generous in his views and his conduct.²⁸

Louise Freeman Hibben Dies In 1923

Louise lived with her son, Harold James Hibben, until she died June 24, 1923. Louise and her husband are buried at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis.²⁹

Mrs. Harold B. Hibben died Sunday at her home, 1451 North Delaware street, after a year's illness. Mrs. Hibben was the widow of H. B. Hibben, of the firm of Hibben, Hollweg & Co., who died several years ago. Mrs. Hibben had been known in social circles of Indianapolis and for her work along charitable lines. Prior to her marriage, Miss [Mrs.] Hibben was Miss Freeman and lived in Terre Haute, where her grandparents were among the pioneer residents of that part of the state. She was a member of the Indianapolis Art Association and the Indianapolis Propylaeum. Mrs. Hibben is survived by three children³⁰, Mrs. Ward Hackleman, Harold J. Hibben and Dr. Freeman H. Hibben.³¹

Generation 5.3a End Notes:

- ¹ Mary Q. Burnet, *Art and Artists of Indiana*, 1921, New York, (The Century Company), page 155.
- ² Died September 27, 1880; Crown Hill Cemetery tombstone inscription, COLEMAN B. PATTISON 1845-1880.
- ³ *The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, 1918, New York, (James T. White & Company), volume XVI, page 244.
- ⁴ *Indianapolis News*, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana, March 23, 1916, page 1, column 2.
- ⁵ US Census 1880, Roll T9-294, enumeration 111, sheet 21, line 46, Center Township, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana.
- ⁶ *The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, [Note 3], is believed to be correct.
- ⁷ Jacob Piatt Dunn, associate editor, *Memorial Record of Distinguished Men of Indianapolis and Indiana*, 1912, Chicago - New York, (The Lewis Publishing Company), page 198.
- ⁸ Max R. Hyman, editor, *Hyman's Hand Book of Indianapolis, 1897*, 1897, Indianapolis, (M. R. Hyman Company), pages 299-300.
- ⁹ *Ibid.*, page 313.
- ¹⁰ US Census 1900, Roll T623-388, enumeration 56, sheet 4, line 80, 1411 N. Delaware Street, Indianapolis, Center Township, Marion County, Indiana.
- ¹¹ *Indianapolis Star*, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana, May 16, 1910.
- ¹² *Ibid.*, November 9, 1911.
- ¹³ Draft Registration Card, Division 8, Boston, Massachusetts, September 12, 1918.
- ¹⁴ Crown Hill Cemetery records, interment June 26, 1951; Tombstone inscription, HAROLD J. HIBBEN 1881-1956; *Indianapolis News*, [Note 4], June 20, 1956, page 47, column 3.
- ¹⁵ Indiana Marriage Records Index, 1845-1920, Marion County, book 50, page 349, fiche 4090; Indiana Marriages, 1780-1992, Indexing project M01667-5, System origin Indiana-EASy, Source film, 413540, ref. 237. "Groom - Freeman H Hibben, b. 19 May 1882 Indianapolis, father - Harold B. Hibben, mother - Louise P. Freeman, Bride -

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Evandne Hayward b. 3 Oct 1883 Pana, Ill, father - William Eugene Hayward, mother - Clara M Turnbolt, Married - 14 Sept 1908 Marion County, Indiana.

¹⁶ *Boston Daily Globe*, Boston, Massachusetts, August 11, 1912, page 11; December 11, 1912, page 20; December 12, 1912, page 3; December 13, 1912, page 9.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, August 15, 1919, page 4.

¹⁸ US Census 1910, T624-366, enumeration 59, sheet 9, line 10, Center Township, Indianapolis City, Marion County, Indiana.

¹⁹ US Census 1930, T626-608, enumeration 326, page 26B, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana.

²⁰ *The Indianapolis Star*, [Note 11], September 11, 1912.

²¹ Crown Hill Cemetery burial records, interments November 14, 1913 and July 28, 1944; Tombstone inscriptions, LOUISE HIBBEN FAIRBANKS 1889-1912, RICHARD MONROE FAIRBANKS 1884-1944.

²² Indiana Marriages, 1780-1992, Indexing project M00645, System origin Indiana-EASy, Source film 413547, page 135. "Groom - Ward H. Hackleman, b. 1893 Rushville, Ind., age 24, single, white, father - F. G. Hackleman, mother - Husley [Henley]; Bride - Catherine Wiles Hibben, b. 1896 Indianapolis, b. 1896, 21, single, white, father - Harold B. Hibben, mother - Louise P. Von Foeman [Freeman]; married 4 Apr 1917 Indianapolis, Marion, Indiana.

²³ Hill Cemetery records, interments April 22, 1934, February 6, 1967 and May 2, 1967; Tombstone inscriptions, WARD HENLEY HACKLEMAN 1891-1934, CATHERINE HIBBEN HACKLEMAN 1895-1967, WARD HIBBEN HACKLEMAN 1918-1968; Peter Hibben Hackleman was born August 14, 1923 in Indianapolis, Indiana and died in September 1975 in Los Angeles, California.

²⁴ Phyllis A. Hackleman, *Hacklemans in America 1749-1988*, 1988 Rochester, New York, page 60.

²⁵ George⁴ Hibben (*Thomas³, Thomas², John¹*), born 1818.

²⁶ Max R. Hyman, Editor, *Hyman's Handbook of Indianapolis, 1907*, 1907, Indianapolis, (M. R. Hyman Company), page 250.

²⁷ *Indianapolis Star*, [Note 11], March 24, 1916, page 3, column 1.

²⁸ *Indianapolis News*, [Note 4].

²⁹ Crown Hill Cemetery letter, July 13, 1999; Interments May 16, 1916 and June 26, 1923; Tombstone inscriptions, HAROLD B. HIBBEN 1855-1916, LOUISE F. HIBBEN 1858-1923.

³⁰ Louise B. Hibben, wife of Richard Fairbanks, predeceased her mother.

³¹ *Indianapolis News*, [Note 4], June 25, 1923, page 17, column 3.