

Descendants of Julia A. Hibben and Charles Edward Belin Flagg

Generation No. 5.4

JULIA A.⁵ HIBBEN (*Ethelbert Campbell⁴, Thomas³, Thomas², John¹*) was born April 1864 in IN, and died June 02, 1911 in Vancouver, Clark Co., WA. She married **CHARLES EDWARD BELIN FLAGG** December 02, 1893 in Marion Co., IN, son of **ARTHUR FLAGG** and **GEORGIANA WARD**. He was born July 22, 1871, and died December 06, 1941 in Vancouver, Clark Co., WA.

Children of **JULIA HIBBEN** and **CHARLES FLAGG** are:

- i. **GERTRUDE MARGARET⁶ FLAGG**, b. October 04, 1894, Sequoia Park, Inyo Co., CA; d. August 12, 1967, Portland, Multnomah Co., OR. She m. **JAMES LYALL BURNETT** June 21, 1915, Vancouver, Clark Co., WA; b. December 11, 1892, Batavia, Kane Co., IL; d. October 25, 1962, Portland, Multnomah Co., OR.
- ii. **CHARLES EDWARD BELIN FLAGG, Jr.**, b. July 04, 1905, Philippines; d. May 25, 1937, TX. He m. **MARGARET DUNLAP**; b. June 17, 1908, IL.

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JULIA A. HIBBEN 1864 - 1911
and
CHARLES EDWARD BELIN FLAGG 1871 - 1941

...Genealogy is not a cold gathering of the facts, but instead, breathing life into all who have gone before. We are the story tellers of the tribe. All tribes have one. We have been called as it were by our genes. Those who have gone before us cry out to us—tell our story. So, we do.¹

Jan Harding

Doctor Julia A. Hibben

The Francis A. Countway Library of Medicine provided documentation that in 1890 Julia A. Hibben graduated from the Medical College of Indiana at Indianapolis.^{2, 3} Julia was a pioneer in the predominantly male medical profession of her time.

Marriage And Military Duty

Julia married Charles Edward Belin Flagg in Marion County, Indiana on December 2, 1893.⁴ (Plate 11) He was seven years younger than Julia, born July 22, 1871 in Charleston, South Carolina.⁵ Charles received his MD in 1890 from the University of Georgia Medical Department, Augusta, Georgia.⁶ After Julia and Charles were married they moved to the west where Gertrude Margaret Flagg was born October 4, 1894 in Sequoia Park, California.⁷ No records have been found about Julia and Charles' lives or medical practices in the 1890s. It is assumed that Charles joined the Army when hostilities broke out with Spain in 1898. The US Census 1900 records that Captain Charles Flagg, Assistant Surgeon, was at Fort Grant, Arizona with Julia, daughter Gertrude, age 5, and Julia's mother, Gertrude.⁸

The Flaggs were transferred to the Philippine Islands where the Army was attempting to suppress an uprising of the Moros.

She [Julia] and Charlie Flagg went through some trying times in the Philippines. Julia would assist Charlie in operations during battles with the Moros. During one fierce battle the US Army compound was in danger of being overrun. Charlie gave Julia a revolver with instructions not to be taken captive by the Islamic Moros because of their terrible treatment of women prisoners.⁹

Charles E. B. Flagg, Jr. was born in the Philippines on July 4, 1905. The Flagg family returned to the States after the Philippines were ceded to the United States.

Charles E. B. Flagg, Julia's husband, was a career military officer who settled in Vancouver upon retirement. He served in the Philippines for several years. Julia spent most of the time there with him. Their son, Charles, was born over there, and their daughter, Gertrude, even joined them after staying awhile with her grandmother, Gertrude Robinson Hibben.¹⁰

THE THOMAS HIBBEN LINE

Private Medical Practice And Julia's Tragic Death

Upon Charles' retirement from the military, both Julia and Charles became members of the Washington State Medical Association. Julia was an attending physician to St. Joseph's Hospital in Vancouver. Tragically, Julia was injured in an accident and died shortly thereafter on June 2, 1911 in Vancouver.

Jack [John Martin Burnett] really doesn't know that much about her [Julia] and his grandfather [Charles E. B. Flagg] remarried. . . .The story goes that she was driving her horse and buggy when the horse spooked and caused the buggy to crash. Julia died of the resulting injuries shortly after this. . . .Julia, they think specialized in ear and throat ailments, but when helping her husband, often administered the anesthetics at births, etc. Interestingly, Gertrude fell heir to this job at the age of 16 when her mother died. She often accompanied her father on his calls.¹¹

After Julia's death, Charles married another physician, Mary Bernice Fimple. Mary was born November 3, 1879 in Coleridge, Cedar County, Nebraska. They had two children, William Ward Flagg, born June 2, 1913 (died September 11, 1981), and Wilma Flagg, born about 1922.¹² 1930 Census records indicate that Charles and Mary had separated. Mary and her children were living in Rupert, Minidoka County, Idaho,¹³ while Charles remained in Vancouver.¹⁴

"Later Grandfather married another woman doctor. She developed schizophrenia. Mother [Gertrude Flagg Burnett] had no use for this woman. Mother later learned that she was mistreating Charles, Jr."¹⁵

Charles E. B. Flagg, Jr. was only six years old when his mother died. Most likely he had a stressful childhood and adolescence as suggested by the recollections of his nephew, Malcolm E. Burnett.

My Grandfather sent Charles to Hills Military Academy for a time. Charles later attended Vancouver High School. A teacher there indoctrinated Charles in Marxism. As a result Charles quit high school two weeks before he was to graduate. His father talked to him at great lengths trying to dissuade him from such a foolish decision and the school principal also talked to him. Charles got caught up in a group of radicals who were out to make over the world. He was a leader in the IWW and organized strikes in coal mines and copper mines. In the 20s and early 30s my father spent much time in trying to make Charles face up to the reality of what communism is. Charles went to work as a laborer on the Bonneville Dam. He married a widow with a young son [Margaret Dunlap]. By this time he was beginning to see the wisdom of what Grandfather Flagg and my father were telling him. When the dam was completed he heard about a job opportunity in Texas. We all saw him off on the train for Texas, little realizing we were saying a final good by. On the trip to Texas he came down with appendicitis. By the time he reached his destination his appendix had ruptured. Grandfather flew down to see him in the hospital. Grandfather thought the doctor in Texas was very competent and that Charles would recover. After Grandfather returned to Vancouver he got a telegram that Charles had passed away [May 25, 1937]. It was a great shock for all of us. We have often thought that if only Julia had lived things would have been much different.¹⁶

Charles E. B. Flagg died December 6, 1941 at the age of 71.¹⁷

Daughter, Gertrude Margaret Flagg Marries

Gertrude married 'Lyall Burnett' June 21, 1915 in Vancouver¹⁸

Her daughter, Gertrude Margaret, married Lyall Burnett and lived in Camas, Clark County, Washington until her death [August 12, 1967]. Her grandson, John (my father-in-law), remembers her as a very determined, self-sufficient woman who did not heed the rules for women of her time. She often carried a gun and often came into town to visit her husband at the town paper mill unescorted. Although she was otherwise considered a "proper" lady.¹⁹

Gertrude Margaret and James Lyall Burnett had three children: Elizabeth Ann, John Martin and Malcolm Edward Burnett. Elizabeth 'Betty' died October 4, 1968 in Everett, Washington²⁰ and John M. Burnett died June 1, 2005 in Olympia, Washington.²¹ James Lyall Burnett died October 25, 1962²² and Gertrude Burnett died August 12, 1967, both in Portland, Oregon.²³

Generation 5.4 End Notes:

- ¹ Excerpted from "Why I do Genealogy" with the permission of the author.
- ² *Journal of American Medical Association*, November 4, 1911, page 1552.
- ³ Hilton U. Brown, *A Book of Memories*, 1951, Indianapolis, Indiana, (Butler University), page 63. The Medical College of Indiana became associated with Butler College in 1879.
- ⁴ *Index to Marriage Records, Marion County, Indiana, 1891-1895*, (Indiana Works Progress Administration), volume 1, A-K, page 162.
- ⁵ Family Records of the descendants of Gershom Flagg (b. 1730) of Lancaster, Massachusetts, Norman Gershom Flagg, page 130.
- ⁶ *Journal of the American Medical Association*, March 14, 1942, page 916.
- ⁷ Burnett family records.
- ⁸ US Census 1900, T623-47, enumeration [none] , sheet 1, line 15, Fort Grant, Arizona.
- ⁹ Letter dated April 29, 2003 from Malcolm E. Burnett to George C. Hibben.
- ¹⁰ Interview with John Martin Burnett recorded by Nikki Burnett. John Martin⁷ Burnett (*Gertrude Margaret⁶ Flagg, Julia A.⁵ Hibben, Ethelbert Campbell⁴, Thomas³, Thomas², John¹*)
- ¹¹ Ibid.
- ¹² 1920 US Census, T625-1922, page 6B, enumeration 31, Vancouver, Clark County, Washington.
- ¹³ 1930 US Census, T626-402, page 4B, enumeration 10, Rupert, Minidoka County, Idaho.
- ¹⁴ 1930 US Census, T626-2485, page 3B, enumeration 46, Vancouver, Clark County, Washington.
- ¹⁵ Letter dated October 2, 2001 from Malcolm E. Burnett to George C. Hibben.
- ¹⁶ Ibid.
- ¹⁷ *Journal of American Medical Association*, March 14, 1942, page 916.
- ¹⁸ Burnett [Note 7].
- ¹⁹ Interview [Note 10].
- ²⁰ Burnett [Note 7].
- ²¹ Social Security Death Index, #533-16-7583.
- ²² Social Security Death Index. #532-03-5406.
- ²³ Oregon Death Index, Multnomah, Certificate #12013.