

## *Descendants of William Wallis Hibben and Euphemia Ann Watson*

### *Generation No. 4.3*

**WILLIAM WALLIS<sup>4</sup> HIBBEN** (*James<sup>3</sup>, Thomas<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>*) was born April 17, 1825 in Uniontown, Fayette Co., PA, and died February 08, 1887 in Emporia, Lyon Co., KS. He married **EUPHEMIA ANN WATSON** February 09, 1854 in Paintersville, Greene Co., OH, daughter of **JOHN WATSON** and **HANNAH LESTER**. She was born 1831 in Quakertown, Bucks Co., PA, and died December 11, 1909 in Glendale, Los Angeles Co., CA.

Children of **WILLIAM HIBBEN** and **EUPHEMIA WATSON** are:

- i. **JOHN HARRY<sup>5</sup> HIBBEN**, b. December 1854, OH. He m. **MARY F. KISER** October 19, 1881, Reading, Lyon County, KS; b. November 1854, WI.
- ii. **CHARLES HAMPTON HIBBEN**, b. June 1856, OH.
- iii. **ALLIE S. HIBBEN**, b. May 17, 1858, OH; d. March 02, 1859, Liberty Twp., Clinton Co., OH.
- iv. **GEORGE WALTER HIBBEN**, b. August 16, 1860, OH; d. April 26, 1942, Los Angeles Co., CA.
- v. **WILLIAM DAWSON HIBBEN**, b. August 16, 1860, OH; d. February 06, 1945, Kansas City, Jackson Co., MO. He m. **MARGARET BUFORD** June 11, 1885, Emporia, Lyon Co., KS; b. September 8, 1865, KY; d. December 6, 1948, Kansas City, Jackson Co., MO.
- vi. **MARIANA HIBBEN**, b. Abt. 1865, OH. She m. **G. GILLELAN**.
- vii. **RALPH RANDOLPH HIBBEN**, b. October 28, 1872, Emporia, Lyon Co., KS; d. Abt. 1936, Pasadena, Los Angeles Co., CA. He m. **HARRIET KISER** March 4, 1912, Parsons, Labette Co., KS; b. May 6, 1870, KS; d. December 4, 1961, Los Angeles Co., CA.
- viii. **JENNIE HIBBEN**, b. May 1874, Emporia, Lyon Co., KS. She m. **CHARLES E. JARVIS** October 21, 1897, North Glendale, Los Angeles Co., CA, b. July 1873, CO.

Revised 12/07

**WILLIAM WALLIS HIBBEN 1825 - 1887**  
**and**  
**EUPHEMIA ANN WATSON 1831 - 1909**

*Pioneers are a celebrated breed in our nation. Building a new nation requires hardy, persistent citizens. These people were at the forefront of civilization, preparing the way for other settlers and establishing towns that survive centuries later. Pioneers had profound influence on the communities they settled, shaping the way they would function for years to come. Several pioneers are responsible for laying the foundation of the small town of Emporia, Kansas, in the 1850s and 1860s. Among those who led the settling of Emporia, one family [Watson] influenced the town on myriad issues.<sup>1</sup>*

Melissa Lowery

**The Founding Of Emporia, Kansas**

Plans and legislation to found the township of Emporia were filed in 1857. The first issue of Kansas News published on June 7, 1857 described the area.

*Emporia is situated between the Neosho and Cottonwood creeks, six miles above their junction. To the west it gradually rises for a distance of several miles. On the north and south are large belts of the finest timber, along the Neosho and Cottonwood, while the various smaller streams emptying into them at this point, all well timbered, serve to make it one of the best timbered regions in Kansas. Coal and building stone are found here in abundance.<sup>2</sup>*

**Origins In Ohio And A Mid-life Move To Kansas**

In *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, Dr. William Wallis Hibben is described as “a distinguished pioneer physician,”<sup>3</sup> and by *The Emporia Kansas Weekly Republican* as “one of our oldest and most highly esteemed citizens.”<sup>4</sup> This son of James and Ann Hibben lived such a distinguished life that it was recorded in great detail in many documents.

*Doctor Hibben was born in Uniontown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, April 7, 1825,<sup>5</sup> moved to Jamestown, Greene County, Ohio, with his parents in 1832, remaining there until he moved to Kansas. He received his medical education in the Ohio Medical College, and in the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, from which he was graduated in 1854.<sup>6</sup> He commenced to practice in Jamestown, Greene County, Ohio, but after a short time removed to Paintersville, and one year later to Lumberton, Clinton County, Ohio<sup>7</sup>. . . Doctor Hibben was married in Paintersville, Ohio, February 9, 1854, to Euphemia A. Watson, a native of Quakertown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, she being born in Quakertown in the year 1832. . . Doctor Hibben settled in Emporia October 31, 1867,<sup>9</sup> and was engaged in the practice of medicine from that time until his death, October, 1883 [1887]. In addition to his regular practice, he was associated with on Doctor Jacobs in the drug business. He was a member of the City Council for two terms and held the office of the coroner for one term. He was also examining surgeon for Board of Pensions at Emporia for nine years and was the president of this board from its incipiency to his death. He was a member of the County and*

## **THE JAMES HIBBEN LINE**

*State Medical Societies, was also member of Lodge No. 12, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and of Chapter No. 12, Royal Arch Masons, and was a charter member of the Emporia Commandery No. 8, Knights Templar. . . .He was one of the first medical practitioners at Emporia, and practiced there with much success until his death in 1883. For a number of years he was surgeon for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Company. He was an old line republican, having been identified with that party from its origin. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.*<sup>10</sup>

Six children were born to William and Euphemia while the family lived in Ohio. Five of them were taken to Kansas in 1867. Allie S. Hibben, born May 17, 1858, had died March 2, 1859.<sup>11</sup> Their first son was John Harry Hibben, commonly known as Harry. He was born in December 1854,<sup>12</sup> followed by Charles Hampton in June 1856<sup>13</sup> and then, Allie on May 17, 1858. Twins George Walter<sup>14</sup> and William D. were born August 16, 1860,<sup>15</sup> and Mariana Hibben, about 1865.<sup>16</sup> After the family's arrival in Emporia, Ralph Randolph was born, October 28, 1872,<sup>17</sup> and Jennie, the eighth child, about 1874.<sup>18</sup>

### **Euphemia Ann Watson's Family Become Pioneer Settlers In Emporia, Kansas**

William and Euphemia were drawn to Emporia, Kansas by the successful settlement of her parents and siblings there in September 1858. Her father, John Hampton Watson, of English Quaker stock, was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania in 1804. He graduated from the medical school at the University of Pennsylvania and practiced in Quakertown, Pennsylvania and Warren County, Ohio. He became interested in law and gave up medical practice when he was admitted to the bar in 1844.<sup>19</sup> John Watson was a staunch abolitionist. In Cutlers' *History of the State of Kansas*, he was quoted: "[I] was always earnestly opposed to American slavery, and never omitted an opportunity to lift [my] voice in behalf of the downtrodden and oppressed of all classes." The Watson move from Ohio to Kansas was to assist the Free-Statens prohibit slavery in the new state and to find opportunities for their children. John Hampton Watson practiced law, served as Judge of the Fifth Judicial District<sup>20</sup> and was elected Chief Justice of the State in 1862, but for a technicality, did not assume office. He was also instrumental in passing legislation enabling right of ways and then managing the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad (later Missouri Pacific) which established Emporia as commerce center.<sup>21</sup> This railroad provided career employment opportunities for several family members.

William and Euphemia arrived ten years after her parents and found a rapidly growing town in need of medical services. William filled that need for thirty years and also served in several medical administrative positions and civic posts. While meeting with Euphemia, son Charles and friends to plan a trip to California, William died suddenly on February 8, 1887. He was only sixty-one years of age. "*His life was sacrificed to his patients. No matter how bitter or disagreeable the weather, no sufferer ever summoned his aid in vain. Constant exposure and overwork broke down what must have been, considering its hard usage, a constitution of iron.*"<sup>22</sup> The Emporia forty piece band led the procession to the Maplewood Cemetery where he was buried in accordance with rites of the Masonic fraternity.<sup>23</sup>

### **Euphemia Moves To California With Some Of Her Children**

The trip William had been planning may have been to arrange for a permanent relocation. Shortly after his death, Euphemia, Charles, George, Mariana and Jennie moved to Los Angeles

County, California. The Census of 1900 records Euphemia, Charles and George living in a rural setting in the Glendale precinct of Burbank Township. George and Charles were farming and growing fruit.<sup>24</sup> Jennie had married Charles E. Jarvis, and Mariana, G. Gillelan, and both couples were living elsewhere in the Los Angeles area.

Euphemia died in Glendale, California on December 11, 1909 at the age of seventy-eight. Her obituary indicated that *“temporary interment was made in Glendale and the body probably will be brought to Emporia in a few months and buried beside that of her husband in Maplewood.”*<sup>25</sup> There is no record of her interment at Maplewood.

### **Additional Information About The Children Of William And Euphemia**

After completing his schooling in Emporia, John Harry Hibben worked as a county surveyor.<sup>26</sup> He married Mary F. Kiser on October 19, 1881 in Reading, Lyon County, Kansas.<sup>27</sup> There is no record of children born of this marriage. For more than twenty years Harry was employed as fuel agent, coal mine superintendent, and in 1918 he was the superintendent of the coal department of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, at Parsons.<sup>28</sup> No additional information has been found about Harry and Mary.

Charles Hampton Hibben was recorded in the Census of 1880 working as a laborer in Emporia.<sup>29</sup> In 1900 he was a fruit grower in California. In 1910<sup>30</sup> and 1918 he was associated with the Hooker Pipe Company. In 1920 at the age of 63 he was listed as single and living with his brother, George, in Burbank, California.<sup>31</sup> The date of his death is not known.

George Walter Hibben was working as a clerk in Emporia in 1880. It is believed that his interest in California led Euphemia and four children to leave Emporia. For more than twenty years he was engaged in fruit growing and farming.<sup>32</sup> In the Census of 1920 he was recorded as being single and a farm manager.<sup>33</sup> He died April 26, 1942 in Los Angeles County, California.<sup>34</sup>

George's twin brother, William Dawson Hibben, was married to Margaret 'Maggie' Buford on June 11, 1885 in Emporia.<sup>35</sup> They had two daughters, Kate born in August 1886 and Margaret, born February 1897.<sup>36</sup> Kate married Lee Jones. William was employed by the Wells Fargo & Company Express as an agent in Emporia, Hutchinson and Kansas City.<sup>37</sup> William died February 6, 1945 in Kansas City, Missouri. *“Former Emporian Dies - William D. Hibben, son of the late Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Hibben, Lyon county pioneers, whose death occurred Tuesday in a Kansas City hospital, was reared in Emporia. He was the first Wells-Fargo agent in Emporia”*<sup>38</sup> Maggie died December 6, 1948 in Kansas City.<sup>39</sup>

Mariana Hibben was known as Mayme. She married G. Gillelan who was recorded as *“a retired real estate dealer, living in at Los Angeles.”*<sup>40</sup> This may have been a late marriage as the Census of 1910 she was recorded as single and living with brothers, Charles and George.<sup>41</sup>

Ralph Randolph Hibben is the subject of Chapter VII, Generation 5.3

Jennie Hibben became the wife of Charles E. Jarvis in about 1897 and lived in California. The Census of 1900 records that they had a son, Charles E. Jarvis [Jr.] born in 1899.<sup>42</sup> The Census of 1910 does not record their son or other children, leading to the assumption that he died. The Census also records that both Charles and Jennie were bank clerks.<sup>43</sup> A book printed in 1918 states: *“. . . Jennie, wife of Charles E. Jarvis, who is secretary to the Board of Directors of the First Church of Christ Scientists, Boston, Massachusetts.”*<sup>44</sup> Nothing further is known about Jennie and Charles.

## THE JAMES HIBBEN LINE

### Generation 4.3 End Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> Melissa Lowery, *Emporia and the Watsons: A Family's Influence*, 1999, Senior Honors Thesis, Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas. The Lowery family lives in the Thomas Coke Wright Watson house built in 1884.
- <sup>2</sup> William G. Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas*, 1883, Chicago, Illinois, (A. T. Andreas), part 2.
- <sup>3</sup> William E. Connelley, *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, 1918, Chicago, Illinois, (Lewis Publishing Company), volume 1, page 2158.
- <sup>4</sup> *Emporia Kansas Weekly Republican*, Emporia, Lyon County, Kansas, February 10, 1887, page 1, column 1.
- <sup>5</sup> *Bible Records, Fayette County, Ohio*, (Fayette County, Ohio Genealogical Society), James Hibben Family Bible, page 80, "William Wallis Hibben son of James and Ann Hibben born April 7 [17], 1825."
- <sup>6</sup> US Census 1850, M432-683, sheet 394, household 611, Silver Creek Township, Greene County, Ohio, "age 25, student medicine."
- <sup>7</sup> *Clinton County, Ohio Court House Records of Deeds and Mortgages*, volume 6, page 277, records the purchase of fifteen acres of land on Lumberton road to New Burlington for \$1,600 on November 21, 1861.
- <sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, volume 12, page 538-39, records the purchase of ten acres of contiguous land for \$800 on September 15, 1866.
- <sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, volume 12, pages 539-40, records the sale of twenty-five acres on land on Lumberton road for \$7,800 on April 23, 1867.
- <sup>10</sup> Connelley, *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, [Note 3]; Note: biography abstracted from Cutler, *History of Kansas, 1883*.
- <sup>11</sup> *Cemetery Records of Clinton County, Ohio, 1798-1978*, Wilmington, Ohio 1980, (The Clinton County Historical Society), page 152, "Hibben, Allie S. dau. of W.W. & E.A.. Hibben d. 3/2/1859 age 9 mo 15 da."
- <sup>12</sup> US Census 1900, T623-485, enumeration 123, sheet 2, line 30, Parsons, Labette County, Kansas.
- <sup>13</sup> US Census 1900, T623-91, enumeration 98, sheet 6, line 46, Glendale precinct, Burbank Township, Los Angeles, CA.
- <sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*; California Death Records, 1940-1997, electronic, "born August 16, 1860, Ohio, died April 26, 1942, Los Angeles, California, age 81."
- <sup>15</sup> US Census 1900, T623-496, enumeration 206, sheet 9, line 69, 336 Sherman street, E., Hutchinson, Reno County, Kansas.
- <sup>16</sup> US Census 1880, T9-387, page 309, family 179, Ward 2, Emporia Township, Lyon County, Kansas.
- <sup>17</sup> Connelley, *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, [Note 3], "born at Emporia, Kansas, October 28, 1872."
- <sup>18</sup> US Census 1880, [Note 16].
- <sup>19</sup> *Emporia Kansas Gazette*, Emporia, Lyon County, Kansas, December 24, 1917.
- <sup>20</sup> *Emporia News*, Emporia, Lyon County, Kansas, August 23, 1883.
- <sup>21</sup> John Shipley Waston, John Hampton Watson's son, was an agent for the M. K. & T. and later supplied coal to the railroad. John Shipley Watson's nephews, John Harry Hibben and Ralph Randolph were also fuel agents and fuel supervisors of the M. K. & T. See Chapter III, Generation 5.2 for the John Bascom Hibben link to the Severy family of Emporia, Kansas.
- <sup>22</sup> *Emporia Kansas Daily Globe*, Emporia, Lyon County, Kansas, February 8, 1887, page 1, column 1.
- <sup>23</sup> *Emporia Kansas Weekly Republican*, [Note 4].
- <sup>24</sup> US Census 1900, T623-91, enumeration 98, sheet 6, line 46, Glendale precinct, Burbank Township, Los Angeles, California.
- <sup>25</sup> *Emporia Kansas Gazette*, [Note 19], December, 17, 1909, page 1, column 2.
- <sup>26</sup> US Census 1880, T9-387, page 17, household 26, Emporia, Lyon County, Kansas.
- <sup>27</sup> *Lyon County, Kansas Marriage Book*, book D, page 69; Marriage certificate, October 17, 1881.
- <sup>28</sup> Connelley, *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, [Note 3].
- <sup>29</sup> US Census 1880, [Note 16].

## Chapter VII, Generation 4.3

- <sup>30</sup> US Census 1910, T624-79, enumeration 14, sheet 25A, line 30, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California.
- <sup>31</sup> US Census 1920, T625-102, enumeration 17, sheet 8, line 58, Burbank Township, California.
- <sup>32</sup> US Census 1910, [Note 30].
- <sup>33</sup> US Census 1920, [Note 31].
- <sup>34</sup> California Death Records, 1894-1997, electronic, “b. 8/16/1860, OH; d. 4/26/42, Los Angeles Co., CA, age 81.”
- <sup>35</sup> *Lyons County, Kansas Marriage Book*, book D, page 460; Marriage certificate, June 11, 1885.
- <sup>36</sup> US Census 1900, T623-496, enumeration 206, sheet 9, line 69, 336 Sherman St., E., Hutchinson, Reno County, Kansas.
- <sup>37</sup> Connelley, *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, [Note 3].
- <sup>38</sup> *Emporia Kansas Gazette*, [Note 19], February 8, 1945, page 2, column 5; Death Certificate #5181, Jackson County, Missouri.
- <sup>39</sup> Death Certificate #40172, Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri.
- <sup>40</sup> Connelley, *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, [Note 3].
- <sup>41</sup> US Census 1910, [Note 30].
- <sup>42</sup> US Census 1900, T623-90, enumeration 57, sheet 4, family 84, Los Angeles, Los Angeles Township, Los Angeles County, California.
- <sup>43</sup> US Census 1910, T624-85, enumeration 42, family 454, Long Beach City, Los Angeles County, California.
- <sup>44</sup> Connelley, *A Standard History of Kansas and Kansans*, [Note 3].