

THE ELIZABETH HIBBEN LINE

Chapter X

Page

435

Generation 3.8

Elizabeth Hibben 1802 -1884

and Charles Lyle Kelley 1804 -1853

Descendants of Elizabeth Hibben and Charles Lyle Kelley

Generation No. 3.8

ELIZABETH³ HIBBEN (*Thomas², John¹*) was born November 05, 1802 in Union Township, Fayette Co., PA, and died June 02, 1884 in Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH. She married **CHARLES LYLE KELLEY** February 18, 1830 in Clinton Co., OH, son of **SAMUEL KELLEY** and **AGNESS LYLE**. He was born June 27, 1804 in PA, and died March 12, 1853 in Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH

Children of **ELIZABETH HIBBEN** and **CHARLES KELLEY** are:

- i. **JOHN⁴ KELLEY**, b. May 16, 1833, Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH; d. March 12, 1835, Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH.
- ii. **WILLIAM EDWARD KELLEY**, b. June 26, 1835, Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH; d. August 18, 1837, Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH.
- iii. **MARY AGNESS KELLEY**, b. February 02, 1838, Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH; d. July 09, 1839, Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH.
- iv. **DANIEL FRANCES KELLEY**, b. October 01, 1840, Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH; d. July 13, 1868, Cincinnati, Hamilton Co., OH.
- v. **SAMUEL EDWIN KELLEY**, b. April 10, 1842, Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH; d. November 04, 1848, Wilmington, Clinton Co., OH.

Revised

ELIZABETH HIBBEN 1802 - 1884
and
CHARLES LYLE KELLEY 1804 - 1853

An honest man now lies at rest,
As e'er God with his image blest;
The friend of man, the friend of truth;
The friend of age, and guide of youth;
Few hearts like his, with virtue warm'd,
Few heads with knowledge so inform'd.¹

Obituary of Charles Lyle Kelley

Youth And Marriage

From the time of her birth November 5, 1802, Elizabeth Hibben was known as Betsy.² In later life she was known as Aunt Betsy to all of her nieces, nephews and friends. She was born in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, the eleventh child of Thomas Hibben and Mary Entriken and spent her youth with her family in Uniontown and German Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. She accompanied her parents when they moved to Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio.

*In the year 1827 her father, Thomas Hibben, moved to Ohio. On the first of May he bought a small farm on the edge of the town of Wilmington, where they lived for a number of years. . . . She [Betsy] joined the Methodist Church. Rev. Taylor was the pastor and Rev. Bigelow the Presiding Elder. Her class leader was Levi Shepard. The Methodists were then worshipping in a small frame house that had once been used as a mill. Here she and her father and mother worshipped for some years, and then the little society built a small brick house, in which many persons were converted and much good was done. The brick house has passed away, as well as the frame building in which she first worshipped.*³

Betsy married Charles Lyle Kelley in Clinton County, Ohio when she was 28 years old: "Hibben, Elizabeth; Kelley, Charles L.; 18 Feb. 1830; married by Maley, Geo. W. ME:"⁴ Charles' mother and father, Samuel Kelley and Agness Lyle, were born in County Antrim, Ireland in the 1770s. "Both came to America with their parents, whose names are unknown, he as a little boy and she as an infant. The parents settled in Pennsylvania."⁵ When Charles' mother, Agness, died in 1851, he wrote her obituary.

Mrs. Kelley was born in Antrim County, Ireland, Feb. 27, 1773. Her parents emigrated to this country while she was yet an infant and settled in what was then known as the Colony of William Penn, or Pennsylvania. Her early history is associated with the sufferings of the Colonies—the Independence of the States—and the hardships incident to a life in a new country. She was rocked in the struggle for independence and, like the women of her times, she was filled with the spirit of the purest patriotism. Some forty years ago she sought of the Lord, a change of heart,—was happily found of him, and joyfully and satisfactorily experienced salvation "by faith through our Lord Jesus Christ." About this period she united with the Presbyterian Church, of which she remained a faithful and consistent member to the end of her pilgrimage. About the middle

THE ELIZABETH HIBBEN LINE

*period of her life she was left alone—a widow with six children dependent upon her; for these she provide with her own hands; and though she had to toil hard to support her family, she did not neglect their religious culture, but trained them up “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”*⁶

On September 1, 1830, shortly after Charles and Betsy were married, Charles and his brother, Edward, purchased two lots, numbers 5 and 8 of Thatcher’s Addition in Wilmington, on Spring and Sugar streets for \$40. It is believed that Charles and Betsy made their first home on one of these lots.⁷

Early Childhood Deaths

What we know about Betsy’s marriage is found in the Kelley family records. These events are documented in Charles’ bible.⁸ Four of Betsy’s and Charles’ children died as young children. First son, John Kelley, born May 16, 1833, died March 12, 1835, at the age of 2.⁹ Second son, William Edward Kelley, born June 26, 1835 died August 18, 1837, at the age of 2.¹⁰ And daughter Mary Agness Kelley, born February 2, 1838 died July 9, 1839, at the age of 1.¹¹ Their son, Samuel Edwin Kelley, born April 10, 1842, died November 4, 1848 at the early age of 6.¹² Samuel Edwin Kelley’s cause of death was recorded by William Hibben’s third wife, Elizabeth.

*Their [There] has been considerable sickness in the country, not much in town lately. A great many deaths for the number sick. Charles Kelleys lost their youngest son last week. He died very suddenly of croup. I suppose the kind that Perry Dakin’s children died of some years ago. It is said to be incurable.*¹³

Only Daniel Francis Kelley, born October 1, 1840, lived to adulthood.

Charles Recorded In Two Court Documents

Charles is believed to have been a law clerk.¹⁴ He participated with his brothers and brother-in-law, William Hibben, in commercial ventures. In 1834 James Gray sued Edward Kelley, Charles L. Kelley and William Hibben for non payment of a promissory note. The three defendants failed to appear in court and, by default, were commanded to make payment.¹⁵

When John Kelley, Charles’ brother, died April 20, 1833,¹⁶ he left a wife, Ann Anderson Kelley. Charles and Ann’s brother, Thomas Anderson, were appointed administrators of John Kelley’s estate. In a court proceeding Ann released her dower rights to land in Clarksville, Ohio, and the administrators were permitted to sell it to discharge debts of the deceased.¹⁷ The claims against John amounted to \$550. His personal assets were \$160 and the land sale realized \$201. So it appears that John's creditors were not fully compensated. Interestingly, the high bidder for the land and presumably a house on it, was Daniel Kelley [uncle of Daniel Francis Kelley], another brother of the deceased. Probably Daniel purchased the land so that Ann and her children would not be forced to vacate their home.

Charles Lyle Kelley Dies

Betsy Kelley was left a widow with one thirteen year old son, Daniel Francis Kelley, when her husband died in 1853.¹⁸

Died on Saturday morning last, of Consumption, CHARLES L. KELLEY, in the 49th year of his age. Mr. K. has been a resident of this community for nearly thirty years, and was widely and favorably known. The writer of this paragraph

has known him intimately for more than twenty years, and does not hesitate to pronounce him, all in all, the best character he ever knew. He was a professor of Christianity for several years before his death, but was never connected with any church organization. On Saturday an impressive funeral discourse was delivered at the Methodist Church, by Rev. Mr. Dunham, to a very large congregation. . . . The several congregations of the village were dismissed, to give all an opportunity of attending the funeral services—a fact which indicates the profound veneration of the public for the deceased.¹⁹

Son Daniel Supports His Mother Before And After Service In The Civil War

At the time the husband of Elizabeth Kelley died he was behind \$300 and interest on the house and lot [#88 W 1/2 on Columbus Street] in which the applicant Elizabeth Kelley now lives. After the husband's death the son Dan'l F. Kelley out of his wages paid off the mortgage for his mother and told her that the property should be hers while she lived. The house is small having but five rooms. Two to three of the rooms she has rented where she could at from five to six dollars per month. Daniel supplied what this lacked in supporting her.²⁰

Daniel's Civil War Company Muster and Descriptive Roll describes him as being 5 feet 8 inches with light complexion, auburn hair and gray eyes. He was 24 years old and his occupation was bookkeeper.²¹ On August 29, 1864, after Daniel was discharged, his commanding officer deposed:

That he was and is now Captain of Company C of the 137th Reg't of Ohio National Guards, which Reg't was mustered into the service of the United States on the 10th day of May at Camp Dennison, Ohio; That said Sergeant was discharged from such service on the Nineteenth day of August AD 1864 at Camp Dennison; That during all the time of said service, Daniel F. Kelley was a member of said Company C under my command and was regularly mustered into the service with said Regiment and was discharged with said Regiment by reason of expiration of term of service on said 19th day of August 1864. Said Dan F. Kelley was Sergeant in said Company C and did duty as such during all that time.

A. R. Russell

Capt. Co. C. 137th Regt O.N.G.²²

Daniel Dies

After his 100 days in the service, he returned to Cincinnati and bookkeeping. Affidavits submitted in support of his mother's Pension Declaration, claim Daniel contracted chronic dysentery while in the service and the disease led to his death July 13, 1868.²³

That her said son, Daniel F. Kelley, deceased, was at the time of his death, and for a long time prior thereto, had been an entry clerk employed in the house of McAlpin & Co.,²⁴ 103 Pearl St. in the city of Cincinnati; that according to her recollection, he received a salary of \$1,000 per year, out of which he contributed \$20.00 a month towards the support of this deponent, and had done so for more than two years prior to his said death.²⁵

His mother the applicant often spoke to me about his having chronic diarrhea, and it was the understanding at the time of his death that he had been troubled

THE ELIZABETH HIBBEN LINE

with it from the time he was mustered out of the service until his²⁶ death. His general appearance denoted bad health.

Elizabeth Honored As A Pioneer

The Clinton Republican reported:

At the pioneer dinner held for Ephraim KIBBY, on December 11, 1869, an old folks photograph was taken of all the old pioneers that attended the dinner. There were forty eight pioneers at attendance. Of the forty eight pioneers only two were under the age of sixty years. Mr. Daniel MARBLE was the photographer. There were six photographs taken, of groups of eight. Listed names, nativity and birth date: . . . Elizabeth KELLEY, Pa., November 15, 1803 [1802].²⁷

Had not her brothers, William and Thomas, died in early 1869 and 1867, respectively, they would have been invited and photographed also as pioneers.

Friends, Family And Church Support Aunt Betsy

Aunt Betsy's pension application was dated October 6, 1883, and several depositions were not made until early 1884. In his deposition, the Rev. W. P. Wolf stated that after Daniel's death, Betsy was supported by friends, the M. E. Church and a brother who sent money orders. It is assumed that the brother was Samuel Entriken Hibben of Hillsboro, Ohio,²⁸ as all of her other brothers had died by 1871. In addition, Harriet Hibben Stout and her daughter, Nellie Stout,²⁹ moved from Hillsboro to Wilmington, Ohio in about 1882 to care for Betsy. They were there for the last two years of Betsy's life.³⁰

The pension documentation was not completed before Betsy died June 2, 1884, at the age of 82. She left the following note:

God has taken my husband, and all of my children are gone; but blessed be His name: He has taken care of me during all these years [widowed 31 years]. O, how good and kind and merciful God has been to poor, unworthy me. O, how He comforts and cheers me on my pilgrimage.³¹

Mrs. Elizabeth Kelly, wife of Charles C. Kelly, one of the oldest citizens of Wilmington, died at her home on Columbus street, Monday last. Deceased was a sister of William and Thomas Hibben, among the earliest settlers of Wilmington; was a member of the M. E. Church and a good woman.³²

Postscript: The Kelley - Hale Connection

John Kelley mentioned above was the brother of Charles Lyle Kelley. John and Ann Anderson Kelley had a son, Daniel Allen Kelley, born in 1830. He married Amy Jane Gough in 1858. Their daughter, Ann Alvena Kelley, was born in 1864 and she married Frank Edgar Hale in 1883. In turn, their sons were William Kelley Hale and Layton Hale. William Kelley Hale (a.k.a. Dr. Kelley Hale) became a prominent physician in Wilmington. With the financial assistance of First National Bank of Wilmington, he built the Hale Hospital in 1913. This private hospital provided medical services for many years before a county hospital, Clinton Memorial, was built after World War II. Dr. Kelley Hale is important to the history of Betsy Hibben and Charles Lyle Kelley as he was in possession of their family bible in the mid 1900s. (Appendix A)

The following was printed in the Hamilton, Ohio, Journal News:

Your Family? KELLEY BIBLE. Holy Bible, 8 3/4 x 10 3/4 inches; covered with calfskin, sewed on as a cover over the original cover; condition: fair state of preservation; published by C. Ewer and T. Ballington; J. H. A. Frost, printer, 1827, Boston.

*Original owner, Charles L. Kelley and last known owner, Doctor Kelley Hale. Fronts page marked: "This is for Daniel Kelley."*³³

A son of Dr. Kelley Hale³⁴ and Dorothy Lee Curl, a Kelley and Curl family historian, have been contacted. Unfortunately, neither know of the whereabouts of the bible at the time of this writing.

The search for the bible found the following interesting, though not relevant, information. Dr. Kelley Hale married Dessa Caroline Raydure who was named after her paternal grandmother, Desolate Quigley, born 1 April 1805. Desolate had an identical twin sister, Lonely. Desolate and Lonely were born to Rosannah Mushrush "without the benefit of clergy."³⁵

Generation 3.8 End Notes:

- ¹ *Clinton Republican*, obituary, Wilmington, Ohio, March 18, 1853.
- ² Thomas Hibben family bible, "Betsy Hibben daughter of Thomas and Mary Hibben was born on the fifth day of November in the year of Our Lord 1802."
- ³ *Wilmington Journal*, obituary, June 11, 1884.
- ⁴ *Clinton County, Ohio Marriage Records*, book 2, page 265.
- ⁵ Jackie Burton, "Kelley family investigation shows County Antrim [Antrim] origin," *Journal News*, Hamilton, Ohio, March 4, 1972.
- ⁶ Newspaper (unknown), Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio, about December 15, 1851.
- ⁷ *Clinton County, Ohio Records of Deeds and Mortgages*, volume H, page 436.
- ⁸ *Journal-News*, Hamilton, Ohio, June 22, 1972, "Your Family? Kelley Bible," by Dorothy Lee Curl.
- ⁹ Tombstone Inscription, Sugar Grove Cemetery, Wilmington, Ohio, Section. 3, Lot 18 - JOHN Son of C. L. & E. Kelley died March 12, 1835, aged 1y 10m.
- ¹⁰ *Ibid.*, WILLIAM EDWARD Son of C. L. & E. Kelley died Aug. 18, 1837, aged 1y, 1m, 22d.
- ¹¹ *Journal-News*, [Note 8], "Mary Agness, daughter to Charles and Elizabeth Kelley, departed this life July 9, 1839, aged 1 year, 5 months, 7 days."
- ¹² Tombstone Inscription, [Note 9], SAMUEL EDWIN son of C. L. & E. Kelley died Nov. 8, 1848, age 6y, 1m, 4d.
- ¹³ Elizabeth McManis Magee Hibben letter, November 12, 1848 to William B. Magee near Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois.
- ¹⁴ US Census 1850, M432-668, Household 411, Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio.
- ¹⁵ *Clinton County, Ohio, Court House Records, Chancery and Law*, volume 7, pages 254-255.
- ¹⁶ *Journal-News*, [Note 8].
- ¹⁷ *Clinton County, Ohio, Chancery and Law*, volume 7, pages 345-348.
- ¹⁸ Tombstone Inscription, [Note 9], CHARLES L. KELLEY died March 12, 1853, aged 48y, 9m, 16d.
- ¹⁹ *Clinton Republican*, [Note 1].
- ²⁰ Civil War Pension Records, National Archives and Records Administration, #309391, Declaration for an Original Pension of a Mother, filed by Elizabeth Kelley in 1883.
- ²¹ Civil War Military Records, National Archives and Records Administration.
- ²² *Ibid.*
- ²³ Tombstone Inscription [Note 9], DANIEL F. son of C. L. & E. Kelley died July 14, 1868 aged 27y, 9m, 14d;

THE ELIZABETH HIBBEN LINE

- Clinton Republican*, [Note 1], obituary, July 16, 1868.
- ²⁴ Twenty years later, John Henry⁴ Hibben (*James³, Thomas², John¹*), born 1835, was the vice president of the George W. McAlpin Company of Cincinnati. John Henry Hibben was Daniel Francis Kelley's first cousin. See Chapter VII, Generation 4.4.
- ²⁵ Civil War Pension Records, [Note 20], deposition of Elizabeth Kelley.
- ²⁶ *Ibid.*, affidavit by Amanda R. Marble.
- ²⁷ *Clinton Republican*, [Note 1], January 20, 1870; The original of this framed composite photograph was found while searching for Betsy and Charles' bible in the attic of the Clinton County Historical Society in Wilmington, Ohio on May 12, 1999. Several boxes of Dr. Kelley Hale's medical equipment were also found in the attic.
- ²⁸ Samuel Entriken³ Hibben (*Thomas², Thomas¹*), born 1804.
- ²⁹ Nellie⁵ Stout (*Harriet L.⁴ Hibben, John³, Thomas², John¹*), born ca. 1866.
- ³⁰ See Chapter III, Generation 4.5.
- ³¹ *Wilmington Journal*, Wilmington, Ohio, obituary, June 11, 1884.
- ³² *Clinton Republican*, [Note 1], obituary, June 5, 1884.
- ³³ *Journal-News*, [Note 8].
- ³⁴ Nathan S. Hale, M.D., author of *Cut Boldly Down, Medicine, Nature and a Life of Curiosity, A Surgeon's Memoirs*, 2001, Wilmington, Ohio, (Orange Frazer Press).
- ³⁵ E-mail, January 8, 2000, Denise Frederick <tfred@voyager.net>.