

Descendants of Samuel Entriken Hibben II and Elizabeth Grier

Generation No. 4.2

SAMUEL ENTRIKEN⁴ HIBBEN II (*Samuel Entriken³, Thomas², John¹*) was born January 31, 1834 in Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH, and died June 10, 1862 in Peoria, Peoria Co., IL. He married **ELIZABETH GRIER** June 15, 1860 in Peoria, Peoria Co., IL, daughter of **JOHN COOPER GRIER** and **ELIZABETH PERKINS**. She was born February 28, 1841 in Danville, Montour Co., PA, and died August 29, 1899 in Princeton, Mercer Co., NJ.

Child of **SAMUEL HIBBEN** and **ELIZABETH GRIER** is:

- i. **JOHN GRIER⁵ HIBBEN**, b. April 19, 1861, Peoria, Peoria Co., IL; d. May 16, 1933, Woodbridge, NJ. He m. **JENNY DAVIDSON** November 08, 1887, Elizabeth, Union Co., NJ., b. 1863; d. June 18, 1933, New York City, NY.

Revised 05/05, 07/06, 08/07 & 12/09

SAMUEL ENTRIKEN HIBBEN II 1834 - 1862
and
ELIZABETH GRIER 1841 - 1899

*Thy angel presence must be near;
Thy loving face I almost see;
The accents of thy voice I hear;
Oh, come to me!*¹

Samuel E. Hibben, II

Education And Ordination

Samuel Entriken Hibben, II, the fourth child and third son of Samuel Entriken Hibben and Margaret Galloway, was born in Hillsborough, Ohio, on January 31, 1834. He attended the Hillsborough Academy, of which his father was the president of the board of trustees. Isaac Sams was the Academy superintendent and Samuel's professor. At the age of 16 Samuel II and his older brother, Thomas, attended Hanover College in the town of Hanover in southern Indiana. Samuel II then matriculated August 25, 1851 at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He graduated from Miami in 1853 at the age of 19.²

In 1857, at a meeting of Presbytery held at Bainbridge, Samuel Hibben was licensed. Mr. Hibben was born in Hillsboro on January 31, 1834 and received into communicant membership when he was 17. He graduated from Miami in 1853, and from the Danville Theological Seminary in 1858. He was a son of Elder Samuel E. Hibben of our church.

When taken under care of Presbytery as a candidate for licensure on April 17, 1854 he was asked for an exegesis [interpretation of the Scriptures] on "An mors Christi vicarius sit?" and for a criticism on Romans 3:25, a popular lecture on Psalm 15 and a sermon on John 3:16. Fortunately he was given three years to prepare all this and licensure was granted on April 22, 1857. He was not ordained until he had graduated from the Seminary. On this occasion he was required to preach a trial sermon on Act 18:24-25. He was then installed Pastor of Mount Leigh and Eckmansville [Adams County, Ohio].³

After the conclusion of the discourse, the members of Presbytery were called upon in the usual way to express their opinions of the sermon just delivered. Each member when called, instead of criticizing simply gave utterance to their own feelings of unspeakable pleasure, in being permitted in the Providence of God to enjoy such a feast.⁴

Almost immediately word of Samuel's sterling sermons became known and were sought throughout the Midwest. In July, 1860 his father received the following letter.

Hon. S. E. Hibben,

Dear Sir

I understand the Rev. Sam'l Hibben, of Peoria Ill. will be at your home this week and I write to inquire whether he could be prevailed upon to supply the pulpit of the Central Presbyterian Church in this City, on next Sabbath. I am one of the

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Trustees of the Church and write at the request of members of the session. An early answer will much oblige.

Yours respectfully, Rich'd Smith⁵

Marital Life Ends Just As It Was Beginning

Reverend Samuel Entriken Hibben, II was installed as pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois on June 8, 1859. Just a year later, he married Elizabeth Grier on June 15, 1860.⁶ Elizabeth was the daughter of John Cooper Grier, an elder in the Presbytery of Peoria, Illinois. A son, John Grier Hibben, was born to Samuel, II and Elizabeth on April 19, 1861. By 1861 the black clouds of war hung over the Nation. Abraham Lincoln requested the American People set apart Friday, January 4, 1861, as one of humiliation, fasting and prayer. Reverend Hibben assembled his congregation and delivered a sermon on the national crisis. His feelings of grounds for humiliation included "*The Goodness of God*" which had "*enriched the entire American people, North and South, with those exalted elements that have hitherto bound them together.*"

And surely upon the American people God has stamped characteristics pre-eminently excellent and universally possessed, which, if now cemented with love, would form under the temple of our Union a foundation the strongest known to mortals. Those elements are religion, intelligence, enterprise, and the spirit of independence. A union maintained by bristling cannon is worthless: a union maintained for the sole sake of selling cotton in Boston or flour in New Orleans is worth less still; but that a union adorned with such thoroughly pervading elements of moral greatness,—a union christened by religion, illumined by intelligence, animated by enterprise, and dignified by conscious independence,—that such a union should be in ruins under the green eye of mutual jealousy, this is the thought that has saddened me.⁷

Then in rapid order Samuel, II became ill; resigned from his pastoral position; volunteered and rode off to serve in the Civil War; and shortly thereafter, returned home to die.

In the autumn of 1861 the seeds of disease being apparent in their beloved pastor, the church gave him a vacation, and he returned to his native home to breathe for a season its invigorating atmosphere. While in Hillsborough his strength seemed to return, and sooner than was perhaps advisable he went back to his loved charge, eager to resume the armor and renew the conflict. A few short months proved his physical inability to continue his labors. He sought a dismissal from his congregation, which they reluctantly granted, manifesting their love by the most liberal gifts. But to him appeared another field of duty. The chaplaincy of the Fourth Illinois Cavalry having been offered him, he accepted it for two reasons: First, that he might still serve his Master, and second, that he might possibly recover his health. He entered his new duties on the taking of Fort Donelson, in Tennessee, and soon gained the affection of the men and esteem and regard of the officers. Soon after his arrival at the Fort, he writes to his beloved wife thus: ". . . I would rather live in my tent, upon hard crackers, and be exposed to all the hardships of military life, with the privilege of doing some good to these homeless men, than to be a millionaire without such privilege." In his Diary for that date he says: "During this week I busied myself in doing good as opportunity

offered. Sauntering here and there through the encampment, speaking to every soldier I met, frequently attracting their attention 'to the one thing needful;' every day visiting the hospital and cheering and counseling those on whom had come the sad calamity of being sick from home. One day I prepared chicken broth for twelve. I was made happy by their evident refreshment and expressions of gratitude. . . .

Thus his time was spent in active duty sympathizing with and consoling the sick and wounded, the suffering and sorrowing. This constant strain proved too much for his earnest nature, and it is not strange that his frail health succumbed to the disease contracted in the hospitals. After many trials he left Savannah, Tennessee, under the care of Rev. Mr. Barry, a Baptist chaplain, who proved to him a "Good Samaritan," giving him all the care and attention he could, and removing as much as was possible the discomforts attendant upon his long, dreary journey homeward. At last he reached Peoria through the special aid and kindness of one of his friends from Peoria, who providentially found him deathly sick at the hotel in Cairo. . . .The physicians who attended him despaired of his recovery sometime before his decease, but faithfully and affectionately used all their skill to preserve his valuable life. For some ten days his decline was rapid, and yet to the last day he was able to arise from his couch without help. . . .

On Wednesday the funeral services were attended at the church in Peoria by most of the ministers of the city, each of whom took part in the public and solemn exercises, and a large concourse of mourning and sympathizing friends testified their respect for his memory being present. After service, by a previous arrangement of the elders, two of their number were delegated to accompany the body with the relatives to his native town, Hillsborough, Ohio, and on Thursday arrived there, meeting at the depot hundreds of his sorrowing friends and former associates, who, with deep sympathy had repaired thither to pay the last sad tribute of respect to one whom they dearly respected and loved. Next day a funeral sermon was delivered at the Presbyterian Church in Hillsborough, by Samuel Steel, D.D., and some eloquent and deeply affecting remarks by his former Professor in the Hillsborough Academy, Isaac Sams, Esq. From thence, followed by an unusual concourse of friends, his body was taken to the cemetery and committed to the silent grave, there in peace and at rest to await the resurrection of the just.⁸

The deceased Samuel's first cousin, Samuel Milhous Hibben, the editor of the *Wabash Plain Dealer*, wrote in his paper:

It is with deepest feelings of sorrow that we record the death of our relative, Samuel E. Hibben, who died in Peoria, Illinois on Tuesday the 8th inst., aged 28 years. . . . He was the third son of Samuel E. Hibben, Esq., of Hillsborough, Ohio, who had bestowed upon him every advantage which education could afford, and no father had fonder hopes of his son's usefulness, yet a mysterious but righteous Providence has suddenly thrown over those hopes the clouds and darkness of the eternal future, and the young minister and promising son is no more among mortals.⁹

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Also, one noted writer, when advised of Rev. Hibben's death, wrote in the *True Presbyterian*:

*Rev. Hibben was remarkably trained by the grace of God for the special work of guiding the children of God in darkness, trouble and despondency. He was one of the loneliest characters we ever knew, and one of the most gifted. His education and study made him mighty in scriptures. In our blind and limited judgment, why should this young minister of the church, who could ill be spared—in the midst of unparalleled sorrow and suffering—be taken from us?*¹⁰

Samuel's obituary in the *Peoria Daily Transcript* simply confirmed what everyone knew. *Mr. Hibben gave up his pastoral charge last winter on account of failing health, and accepted the appointment of Chaplain to Dickey's Regiment of Cavalry. He arrived at Fort Donelson and throwing his whole soul into the work of ministering to the soldiery, soon came home hopelessly ill, never to recover. . . . The deceased was a man of unspotted purity, a devoted Christian, with an intellect altogether out of proportion to his physical frame.*¹¹

The congregation of the Second Presbyterian Church of Peoria installed a large stained glass window in the church "*In Memoriam Samuel Hibben 1859 Pastor 1862, The Word of the Lord abideth forever. This is the Word of good tidings which was preached unto you.*"¹² At a later time, when the church merged with another and moved, the window was removed and reinstalled in what is currently known as the First Federated Church of Peoria.

Elizabeth, Teacher And Temperance Movement Leader

At the time of Samuel's death his son, John Grier Hibben, was just fourteen months old. The task of raising and educating the infant was undertaken by Elizabeth with the support of the Grier family and the infant's paternal grandfather, Samuel. Samuel had himself appointed guardian of John Grier Hibben July 2, 1866.¹³ In his letters written to his daughter, Eliza Hibben Cummings, in Peoria, Samuel always sent words of love to Libbie [Elizabeth Grier Hibben], little Grier and the Grier family.¹⁴

Elizabeth took her son to Dayton, Ohio at the invitation of Belinda Galloway, widow of Rev. John Smith Galloway. Belinda was the principal of the Cooper Female Seminary and John was a brother of Margaret Galloway Hibben, the senior Samuel E. Hibben's wife.

*In the spring of 1861, the seminary passed into the control of the Rev. John Galloway, of Springfield, Ohio, who had scarcely formulated plans for the greater prosperity of the school, when his death occurred. His wife, Mrs. Belinda Galloway, despite the remonstrance of friends, who thought her health unequal to the burden of responsibility that would naturally rest upon her, decided to carry on the school. Her success was almost phenomenal. Teachers selected were widely known for thorough scholarship. Languages were taught by Mrs. Hibben, who so carefully directed the education of her little son that the future brought him the presidency of Princeton college. . . .*¹⁵

After Belinda Galloway relinquished directorship of the seminary in 1871, Elizabeth returned to Peoria. When the Woman's Christian Temperance Union was established in 1874, Elizabeth enthusiastically joined the cause and was an active participant until the end of her life.

An event, the result of a movement started by the W. C. T. Union occurred in the spring of 1880, which is noted less for its local significance than the wide attention it attracted at the time. On the petition of over 300 men and women, the town board [Keithsburg, IL], in February, passed an ordinance permitting men twenty-one years of age and women eighteen years of age, having qualifications of residence, to vote for or against the licensing the sale of intoxicating liquors, at the election for municipal officers on the fifth of April following, and annually thereafter. . . .When the day came a number of female celebrities in the suffrage and temperance reform had gathered from distant parts of the country to assist the fair contestants to touch off what Miss Frances E. Willard had christened 'the Sumter Gun.' The work of preparation began on Saturday afternoon, when the first meeting was held in the Presbyterian church. A mass meeting followed in the evening. On the Sabbath very solemn services took place at the churches, and the strangers from abroad were conspicuous in all the public exercises. Early on the morning of election day the women assembled for religious worship, after which a procession of forty-seven, headed by Mrs. E. G. Hibben, of Peoria, president of the W. T. C. Union of Illinois, marched to the polls. Committees of women were on the street throughout the day laboring with active and effective zeal in the christian cause, under the incitement of a grave preparation and the first flush of gratitude for their enlarged privileges. Twice in the day the band, with brazen horns, paraded Main Street, discoursing awakening strains. Boys trooped in advance carrying banners with the legends, 'Bad luck to whisky,' 'Down with license,' etc. No opposition was made, and the poll stood 159 Women and 98 men against license. . . .¹⁶

Elizabeth Hibben became one of the most popular teachers in Cooper Seminary. She was long identified with the W.C.T.U. She served for many years as its president and one of the most active members. After her death in 1899, she was honored when the W.C.T.U. paid tribute to her memory as one who gave her time and strength to the cause.¹⁷

Widow's Pension Granted To Elizabeth

The 40th Congress, 2nd session passed bill H. R. 1387 in the Senate. It was an act granting a pension to Elizabeth G. Hibben, widow of Reverend Samuel Hibben, deceased, late chaplain in the fourth cavalry regiment, Illinois volunteers, which was then referred to the Committee on Pensions.¹⁸ Elizabeth filed a Widow's Declaration For Pension. Witnesses to her application were her father, John C. Grier, and siblings Thomas A. Grier and Sarah P. Grier. Since Samuel II was never mustered in, paid or mustered out of the service, she requested Harry B. Dox, former adjutant of the 4th Regiment, Illinois Cavalry, Volunteers, to make the following deposition.

Affiant further said that the said Samuel Hibben entered on his duties as such officer on or about the 14th day of February A. D. 1862, under and by virtue of a commission from the Hon. Richard Yates, then Governor of the State of Illinois bearing date on or about the 10th day of February A. D. 1862. Affiant further says that the said Samuel Hibben, continued in the performance of his duties as Chaplain of said Regiment from the 14th day of February, 1862, the date of entry

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on duty, and continually assisted in caring for the many sick & wounded soldiers. Consequently, after the severe campaign of the Spring of '62 until on or about the 25th day of March 1862 when his strength had become so exhausted from the effects of a camp diarrhea & typhoid fever—that he was sent home to Peoria Illinois to regain his health, but from which he never recovered but died, as aforesaid, on the 10th day of June 1862.

Affiant further saith—that the said Samuel Hibben was never mustered in as Chaplain of said Regiment from the great scarcity of mustering officers in the Western Department at that time, there being no mustering officers, within affiant's knowledge stationed with the army in the field at that time in said Department and that officers in said Dept. could not be mustered when in the field at said time, and that his knowledge of such facts were derived from his having made diligent inquiry for a mustering officer to muster in said Samuel Hibben at two different times at Dept. Headquarters & having been told that there was no mustering with said Army.

Affiant further says that it was from no fault or negligence on the part of the said Samuel Hibben that he was not properly mustered in as said Chaplain of said Regiment, but that it was for the want of a mustering officer as above stated. Affiant further says that his knowledge of the above facts were derived from his having been Regimental Adjutant of said 4th Regt. of Ills. Cav. Vols. at the time of the occurrences herein mentioned, and that he further says that he has not interest—either directly or indirectly, nor in the prosecution of this claim.¹⁹

Elizabeth was granted a pension of \$20 per month on March 23, 1868, retroactive to June 10, 1862. A request for an increase in pension was rejected on August 22, 1873. The pension was terminated because of her death on August 29, 1899.²⁰

Elizabeth Dies

Elizabeth died at Princeton, Mercer County, New Jersey, probably at the home of her son, John Grier Hibben. She was interred next to her husband in the Hillsboro, Ohio cemetery.²¹

Postscript: Ancestors of Elizabeth and Samuel

Elizabeth Grier documented that her great grandfather, Rev. Robert Cooper²², was a chaplain who served in the war of the Revolution. At that time Rev. Cooper was the pastor of the Middle Spring Presbyterian Church in Shippensburg, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. He remained as pastor there until he retired. Elizabeth's research was certified by the Daughters of the American Revolution.²³ Samuel II's grandfather, Thomas Hibben, lived in Shippensburg during the period 1786 through 1795. It seems probable that the Cooper and Hibben families were acquainted at that time.

The following documents place the two families in the same location in the same time frame. First, in his 1773 travel journal a Rev. McClure wrote: “. . .and reached Shippensburg on the 16th, Wednesday. The Rev. Robert Cooper, minister of this place is a plain, sensible, and worthy man.”²⁴ Rev. Cooper remained at Middle Spring for many years and died there in 1805.²⁵ And secondly, Samuel II's uncle, James Hibben, was born in Shippensburg on March 23, 1795. This is recorded in James' bible.²⁶

Generation 4.2 End Notes:

- ¹ Elsie Johnson Ayers, *Highland Pioneer Sketches and Family Genealogies*, 1971, Springfield, Ohio, (H. K. Skinner & Son), page 849. Poem written by Samuel Hibben in a military field hospital shortly before his death.
- ² *Miami University Alumni Catalog, Centennial Edition, 1809-1909*, page 63; Letter from Robert Schmidt, Archivist, University Archives, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, July 9, 1998.
- ³ Francis James Malzard, *History of The First Presbyterian Church of Hillsboro, Ohio*, 1940, page 18.
- ⁴ Joseph M. Wilson, *The Presbyterian Historical Almanac, and Annual Remembrance of the Church for 1863*, volume five, 1863, No. 111 South Tenth Street, Below Chestnut, Philadelphia, (Joseph M. Wilson), page 173.
- ⁵ Letter to Samuel E. Hibben dated July 16, 1860 from a trustee of the Central Church Presbyterian of Cincinnati, OH. Letter in possession of Stuart Galloway Hibben.
- ⁶ Marriage Certificate, Peoria County, Illinois, June 15, 1860, signed by Robt. P. Farris.
- ⁷ Rev. Samuel Hibben, *A Sermon on the NATIONAL CRISIS: Delivered in the Second Presbyterian Church, Peoria, Illinois on Friday, January 4th, 1861*, 1861, Peoria, Illinois, (Benj. Foster, Printer and Bookbinder), page 5.
- ⁸ Wilson, *The Presbyterian Historical Almanac, and Annual Remembrance of the Church for 1863*, [Note 4], pages 174-75.
- ⁹ *Wabash Plain Dealer*, Wabash, Wabash County, Indiana, June 27, 1862, Samuel Milhous Hibben, Editor; Samuel Milhous⁴ Hibben (*John³, Thomas², John¹*), born February 27, 1831.
- ¹⁰ Ayers, *Highland Pioneer Sketches and Family Genealogies*, [Note 1], page 849.
- ¹¹ *Peoria Daily Transcript*, Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois, June 12, 1862.
- ¹² Documented and photographed by Patricia Anne Cummings (Powers) (*David Henebery⁶, Samuel Hibben⁵, Eliza Smith⁴ Hibben, Samuel Entriken³, Thomas², John¹*).
- ¹³ David N. and Jane N. McBride, *Wills, Administrations, Guardianships and Adoptions of Highland County, Ohio, 1805-1880*, Hillsboro, Ohio, (The Southern Ohio Genealogical Society), page 247. Note: Women, including mothers, were not appointed guardians of minor children.
- ¹⁴ Letters from Samuel E. Hibben at Hillsboro, Ohio to Eliza Hibben Cummings at Peoria, Illinois dated December 21, 1876 and September 27, 1872. Letters in possession of Patricia Anne Cummings (Powers).
- ¹⁵ *Memoirs of the Miami Valley*, editors (numerous), 1919, (Robert O. Law Company), Volume II, pages 163-67.
- ¹⁶ *History of Mercer and Henderson Counties, [IL], together with Biographical Matter, Statistics, Etc.*, 1882, (H. H. Hill and Company, Publishers), pages 161-62.
- ¹⁷ Ayers, *Highland Pioneer Sketches and Family Genealogies*, [Note 1], page 849.
- ¹⁸ Electronic: A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: US Congressional Documents and Debates. <http://memory.loc.gov/>
- ¹⁹ Civil War Pension Records, National Archives and Records Administration, Application #32922, Certificate #120958.
- ²⁰ Ibid.
- ²¹ David N. McBride & Jane N. McBride, *Cemetery Inscriptions of Highland County, Ohio*, 1990, Hillsboro, Ohio, (The Southern Ohio Genealogical Society), page 219.
- ²² Born 1732 in Ireland, died 1805 Middle Spring, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.
- ²³ *Daughters of the American Revolution Lineage Book, Vol. 84*, page 328, ID #83866.
- ²⁴ Charles Hanna, *The Scotch-Irish*, 1902, New York, (G. P. Putnam's Son, The Knickerbocker Press), page 86.
- ²⁵ Craig Laird, McComb Family Group Sheet, claird@rma.edu
- ²⁶ *Bible Records, Fayette County, Ohio*, (Fayette County, Genealogical Society), page 80; James³ Hibben (*Thomas², John¹*), born 1795.