

Descendants of Lavinia Barry Hibben and James Dill, Jr.

Generation No. 4.4

LAVINIA BARRY⁴ HIBBEN (*Samuel Entriken³, Thomas², John¹*) was born February 11, 1842 in Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH, and died December 13, 1934 in Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH. She married **JAMES DILL, JR.** December 28, 1865 in Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH, son of **JAMES DILL** and **EMILY** (unknown). He was born 1839, and died September 27, 1871 in Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH.

Child of **LAVINIA HIBBEN** and **JAMES DILL** is:

- i. **MAGGIE GALLOWAY⁵ DILL**, b. April 03, 1871, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH; d. March 02, 1874, Hillsboro, Highland Co., OH.

LAVINIA BARRY HIBBEN 1843 - 1934
and
JAMES DILL, JR. 1839 - 1871

*Farewell, Little Maggie,
We shall meet again!
I cannot make her dead!
Her fair, sunshiny head
Is ever bounding round my rocking-chair,
Yet when with eyes now drear, With tears I turn to her,
The vision vanishes—she is not there!
She lives! In all the past
She lives! not to the last,
Of seeing her again will I despair;
In dreams I see her now;
And on her angel-brow,
I see it written, "Thou shalt meet me there."
Yes! we all live to God!
Father, thy chastening rod
So help us, thine afflicted ones, to bear,
That in the Spirit-Land,
Meeting at thy right hand,
"Twill be our Heaven to find that she is there!"¹*

GRAND-PA

Childhood In Hillsboro

Lavinia Barry Hibben,² the seventh child of Samuel E. Hibben and Margaret Galloway, was born February 11, 1842 in Hillsboro, Ohio. (Plate 15) As teenagers Lavinia and her sister, Eliza, often traveled to visit with their many aunts and uncles. These were sociable occasions which they thoroughly enjoyed. Brother Thomas chided her about her pleasures.

From the spirit of your letters we are fully convinced that you are as the little pig in clover enjoying yourself to the full measure, indulging in amusement and variety of association, which are novel and interesting. From your feelings as they are expressed you must have as much fun and some to spare as a person of your dimension can carry for a load. We want you to fill your memory full and furnish us with a long detail of news from your budget. I expect you prefer the school in which you are at present a very apt scholar (that is learning fun and pleasure) to the severe duties of the school of science and art. 'Tis more pleasant to practice in the science and art, of talking and social glee and gay life.³

Lavinia obtained the best education available in Hillsboro, graduating from the Highland Institute in 1861.⁴ (Plate 14)

Marriage And Birth Of A Daughter

On December 28, 1865, at the age of 23, Lavinia became the second wife of James Dill, Jr. James was twenty-six years old, having been born in 1839 and raised in Hillsboro. The

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service was performed in the First Presbyterian Church by Rev. Samuel Steele. Lavinia and James spent the first few weeks of married life in Cincinnati where James was preparing to open a new place of business.

*Mr. Dill, Lavinia, Eliza, Thos, "etal" take tea this evening at your Cousin Williams [William Robinson Smith, son of Samuel Smith and Sarah Galloway Smith]—They have had a general feasting among our kind neighbors ever since their return from Cincin'a. Mr. Dill was down at the City on Monday & Tuesday—Their Business House is not yet ready for them and they consequently delayed in entering into work—They expect to occupy it in a few days—and then Lavinia expects to leave us.*⁵

However, within a few months James Dill was afflicted with an unknown illness. On March 26, 1866 Samuel Entriken Hibben wrote to his son, Joseph, that "*James Dill is still improving, and able to walk out and thinks of going to the City next week.*"⁶ And on October 17, 1866, again to Joseph, he reports "*James Dill is still improving. He is now in Cincinnati.*"⁷ In 1870 Lavinia and James were living with James' widowed mother, Emily Dill, and his siblings, Ella and George.⁸ James' occupation was listed as "none." This would suggest that he still was ill and unable to work. A final implied reference to James' illness is found in the Articles of Agreement between Samuel Entriken Hibben and son, Joseph Matthew Hibben on April 1, 1871 when the firm S. E. Hibben & Son was formed: "*the said firm also agrees to engage James Dill at a Salary of Six hundred Dollars pr annum, who is to render such services as the state of his health will permit. . . .*"⁹

A Mother And A Widow At The Age Of Thirty-one

*A daughter, Maggie Galloway Dill, was born to James and Lavinia (Hibben) Dill, April 3, 1871. She was only six months old when her father died Sept. 27, 1871.*¹⁰ *Little Maggie, according to a note [Lavinia] sent to Kirby Smith¹¹ in Ironton, left Aunt Lavinia all alone on Mar. 2, 1874.*¹²

With the death of her daughter, Maggie Galloway Dill, on March 2, 1874, Lavinia returned to her father's home. "*She [Maggie] was the only child of her mother, and she was a widow, having buried the husband and father, less than two years since.*"¹³

Temperance Worker

Shortly before Maggie's death, Lavinia joined several of her Hillsboro relatives in the 1873 Temperance Crusade.

It was a dark, cloudy, cold and still December day, no sun shining from above, no wind playing around, a little snow leisurely dropping down, and under the magic command of their own leaders chosen on the instant at the hurried previous organization at the Presbyterian church, the procession moved with solemn steps as if each woman had been trained for that day's work from the cradle. . . . No crowd of shouting boys followed, no cliques of consulting men on the street corners were gathered, every countryman halted his team in awe, no vociferous angry words were heard, and no officer commanded the peace—for it was death-like peace. Throughout the day, songs and prayers were heard at all places kept for the sale of liquors, and at night consultation was resumed at the church, from whence the "Phoenix-like body," springing from the ashes of the "funeral

pyre” of woman’s immolation, had emerged in the morning, and there in making reports, prayer and singing in spirit as never before was sung on Christmas Eve.

*“Ring out the grief that saps the mind,
For those that here we see no more;
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.”*

The following are the names of the ladies published in the Highland County News in January, A. D. 1874, who constituted the band at that time; and among the names are the seventy who first marched on the 24th of December, A. D. 1873. . . [list including] Lavinia Dill.¹⁴

Among the original Crusaders who gathered for the fiftieth anniversary of the march on December 23, 1923 was Lavinia Dill. The seven women who attended were photographed on the steps of the new Presbyterian church, the Crusade church having been taken down. Then in 1930 the *Hillsboro Gazette* published a composite photo, the caption under which states:

HILLSBORO PROUD OF BEING CRADLE OF PROHIBITION. Above is a picture of the old Thompson home in which Mrs. Eliza J. “Mother” Thompson was living at the time of the Woman’s Crusade. It is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. George H. Thompson. Mr. Thompson is a grandson of “Mother” Thompson. At the right is a picture of Mrs. Lavinia Dill, one of the four Original Crusaders, still living. These pictures used by courtesy of the Cincinnati Post.¹⁵

Family Care Giver And Chronicler

Lavinia never remarried. She returned to her parents’ home where her younger brother, Joseph M. Hibben was also living.¹⁶ After the death of her mother, Margaret, in 1881 she cared for her infirm father, Samuel. After his death, Lavinia lived with her sister, Eliza (Hibben) Cummings and later with her niece, May Cummings. During a visit to Hillsboro in August 1922, Samuel Entriken Hibben¹⁷ photographed Lavinia and May, along with her brother, Joseph Hibben, and his wife, Hattie. This Samuel was Lavinia’s first cousin, once removed.

Lavinia chronicled the Hibben family and kept a file of letters, photographs and deeds. She helped Dorothy Boake Panzer (Young) with documentation for her book, *The Beech Tree*.¹⁸ Information from her books were also used in the writing of *The History of The First Presbyterian Church of Hillsboro, Ohio*.¹⁹ These documents were ‘rediscovered’ in January 2000 and have been used to substantiate this narrative.

Lavinia died on December 13, 1934. Her obituary reported that she was almost 93 years old and was a member of a pioneer family.

These sorrows of her early life [death of husband and daughter] Mrs. Dill bore with the valiant courage that was always hers. In her passing the community loses one of the last links connecting the present with pre-Civil War days. One of her earliest recollections was when a child of five, she saw a stage coach come into Hillsboro bringing soldiers returning from the Mexican War. She was a member and the last survivor, except Mrs. Robert Duffey and Mrs. Eliza West, of that band of women who started in Hillsboro the crusade against the liquor traffic which resulted in the organization of the Women’s Christian Temperance Union. Mrs. Dill saw Hillsboro grow from a provincial village of a few hundred people to its present place in the social and business life of Southwestern Ohio. She saw

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stage coaches come here, the first railroad train and first traction car, the first airplane and the first automobile.

Surviving Mrs. Dill are: her niece, Miss May B. [G.] Cummings²⁰ of Hillsboro with whom she made her home; Mrs. Robert Scoon²¹ of Princeton, N. J., a grandniece; Fred M. Hibben²² of Cleveland, and Galloway Hibben²³ of Montclair, N. J., nephews; David Cummings²⁴ of Peoria, Illinois a grand nephew; Mrs. Robert Edward Gaul²⁵ of Chicago, and Mrs. Arthur Johnson²⁶ of Des Moines, Iowa, grand nieces.²⁷

Lavinia was buried in the Hillsboro cemetery in the Hibben lot. Her marker is a small stone with initials L H D.

Generation 4.4 End Notes:

- ¹ Newspaper, (unknown), Hillsboro, Highland County, about March 6, 1874. Poem written by Samuel Entriken Hibben.
- ² Given name Lavinia used herein. Often referred to as Venie or Aunt Venie.
- ³ Letter from Thomas Hibben at Hillsboro, Ohio to Lavinia Barry Hibben in care of Rev. John Smith Galloway, Springfield, Ohio, dated September 6, 1859. Letter in possession of Craig Rittenhouse⁶ Hibben (*Samuel Galloway⁵, Joseph Matthew⁴, Samuel Entriken⁵, Thomas², John¹*).
- ⁴ Essay written by Lavinia Barry Hibben at Hillsboro, Ohio, with an added note: "My graduating essay at Highland Institute, 1861." Essay in possession of Craig Rittenhouse Hibben.
- ⁵ Letter written by Samuel Entriken Hibben at Hillsboro, Ohio to Joseph Matthew Hibben at Danville, Kentucky, dated January 18, 1866. Letter in possession of Craig Rittenhouse Hibben.
- ⁶ *Ibid.*, dated March 26, 1866
- ⁷ Letter written by Samuel Entriken Hibben at Hillsboro, Ohio to Joseph Matthew Hibben at Jefferson & Washington College, Cannonsburg, Pennsylvania, dated October 17, 1866.
- ⁸ US Census 1870, M593-1222, page 182, line 5, household 266, Hillsboro, Liberty Township, Highland County, Ohio.
- ⁹ Articles of Agreement establishing S. E. Hibben & Son, dated April 1, 1871. Document in possession of Craig Rittenhouse Hibben.
- ¹⁰ David N. McBride & Jane N. McBride, *Cemetery Inscriptions of Highland Co., Ohio*, 1990, Hillsboro, Ohio, (The Southern Ohio Genealogical Society); Tombstone inscription: JAMES DILL, JR., died Sept. 27, 1871, In His 32nd Year.
- ¹¹ E. Kirby Smith, a first cousin, once removed; grandson of Samuel Smith and Sarah Galloway.
- ¹² Elsie Johnson Ayers, *Highland Pioneer Sketches and Family Genealogies*, 1971, Springfield, Ohio, (H. K. Skinner & Son), page 850.
- ¹³ *Ibid.*
- ¹⁴ James H. Thompson, *The History of the County of Highland, in the State of Ohio*, 1878, Hillsboro, Ohio, (Hillsborough Gazette Job Room), pages 75-77.
- ¹⁵ *Hillsboro Gazette*, Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio, April 17, 1930.
- ¹⁶ US Census 1880, T9-1033, Enum. 46, page 2, line 32, Household 19, Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio.
- ¹⁷ Samuel Entriken⁵ Hibben (*George⁴, Thomas³, Thomas², John¹*).
- ¹⁸ Dorothy Boake Panzer, *The Beech Tree, A History and Genealogy of the Boake Family of England, Ireland, America and Canada from 1333-1970*, 1970, Decorah, Iowa, [Anundsen Publishing], page 227.
- ¹⁹ Francis James Malzard, *History of The First Presbyterian Church of Hillsboro, Ohio*. 1940, Acknowledgment, page 5.
- ²⁰ May Galloway⁵ Cummings (*Eliza Smith⁴ Hibben, Samuel Entriken³, Thomas², John¹*).
- ²¹ Elizabeth Grier⁶ Hibben (*John Grier⁵, Samuel Entriken⁴, Samuel Entriken³, Thomas², John¹*).

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- ²² Frederick Martin⁵ Hibben (*Joseph Matthew⁴, Samuel Entriiken³, Thomas², John¹*).
- ²³ Samuel Galloway⁵ Hibben (*Joseph Matthew⁴, Samuel Entriiken³, Thomas², John¹*).
- ²⁴ David Henebery⁶ Cummings (*Samuel Hibben⁵, Eliza Smith⁴ Hibben, Samuel Entriiken³, Thomas², John¹*).
- ²⁵ Lucille Henebery⁶ Cummings (*Samuel Hibben⁵, Eliza Smith⁴ Hibben, Samuel Entriiken³, Thomas², John¹*).
- ²⁶ Mary Daniels⁶ Cummings (*Samuel Hibben⁵, Eliza Smith⁴ Hibben, Samuel Entriiken³, Thomas², John¹*).
- ²⁷ *News Herald*, Hillsboro, Highland County, Ohio, December 20, 1934.