

Elizabeth Skelton Thompson Bennett

13 Sep 1854 – 09 Feb 1899



Elizabeth Skelton was the daughter of Barnes Skelton and Lucinda Mauck and the granddaughter of James C Skelton and Mary Montgomery. Of historical note, James and Mary were also the great grandparnets of Richard Bernard 'Red' Skelton, the comedian and actor. Barnes died shortly after the birth of Elizabeth and her mother, Lucinda, wed Larkin Price Forbis on 03 Dec 1857 in Gibson County. Elizabeth had a sister, Nancy, that died before 1860. Elizabeth was raised by Larkin and Lucinda with half-siblings; Barnes, Marian, Jane, Samuel, William, Thompson, and Eliza. Sometime after 1870, Larkin and Lucinda moved to Texas.

On 28 Jan 1872, Elizabeth married Joseph Humphrey Thompson, son of John Thompson III and Sarah Garner. They were the parents of Maria Forbis Thompson, born 19 Dec 1872 in Owensville, Gibson County, IN. Joseph died 10 March 1873.

Elizabeth married Augustus Newton 'Gus' Bennett on 28 Dec 1876. Gus was the son of Enoch Newton Bennett and Virginia C Vaughn. His parents lived in White County, IL and were the parents of Malinda, George, Jackson, Albert, Pamela, Charles and Virginia in addition to Gus.

Gus and Elizabeth were the parents of Albert, Cuba, Frederick, Barnes, Vaughn, and George plus a child that died as an infant. Gus accepted Maria as his child and Maria accepted Gus as her father. Sometime after her death in 1899 and before the 1910 census, Gus moved to Musselshell, Montana. Elizabeth, Barnes and the infant were buried in the Owensville IOOF cemetery. Maria married Perry A Keith on 02 Dec 1892, Cuba wed James R Morton on 26 Dec 1905 and Vaughn wed Louise W Schimmelmenn on 18 Dec 1907; all in Gibson Co. Cuba, Vaughn and George followed there father to Montana. It is interesting that Maria and several of her children appeared on the 1920 census records with both her father in Montana and her husband in Stoddard County, MO. Gus died in 1941 in Montana and was buried beside his daughter, Cuba, who was accidently killed in 1921. (See news report/obituary below)

May 13, 1921

Mrs. James R. Morton accidental death

Neck broken when hit on the jaw by heavy timber during an attempt to repair a well pump on the Morton Ranch on Sixteen Mile Bench about 18 miles North of Roundup. Her father A.N. Bennett was also present at the time of her death. Cuba Morton had lived in the area for 12 years. Born in Owensville, Indiana November 2, 1880. 40 years old at the time of her death. She married James R. Morton on December 26, 1906 in Gibson County, Indiana. They came to Montana in 1909. They homesteaded in the heart of the Devils Basin oil field in the NE 1/4 of section 26-11-24. She taught school for 6 years.

Four brothers George G. Bennett of Miles City, Montana, Vaughn Q. Bennett of Miles City, Fred R. Bennett of Salt Lake city, Utah, A.B. Bennett of St. Louis, Missouri, sister Mrs. Maria Keith of Missouri. Funeral services on Sunday afternoon by Rev. Jesse Bunch at M.E. Church. Interment in Odd Fellows Cemetery in Roundup

