

DAVID ELLIOTT HEPBURN
1866 - 1931

David Elliott Hepburn was born in Donaghmore parish, County Donegal October 1866 the fourth son to **Samuel Hepburn**, mason of Castlefin and **Eleanor Elliott**. According to the traditional Irish naming pattern, he would have been named after his mother's father, **David Elliott of Corcullion** townland in Castlefinn.



In September 1882 David sailed from Londonderry and immigrated to the United States working as a miner in the anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania for several years. He then prepared for the **Baptist Ministry** in Philadelphia and attended the **Powellton Avenue Baptist Church** and organized the first temperance society in the church.

In 1890 he submitted his Intention to Naturalize at the Prothonotary Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia and was subsequently naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the Eighth Judicial Circuit Court of the City of Baltimore, Maryland in 1893.

In the same year, David Elliott Hepburn married **Georgia McCord Nuthall** (daughter of **John Nuthall and Sarah Elizabeth Hicks**).

They had six children in all: **Ira Spurgeon, Helen Mae, Marjorie Eutoka, twins Lillian Josephine & Ruth Evelyn and Carroll Virginia Hepburn**. Lillian Josephine Hepburn died at five years old.

In 1900 the family was living in Baltimore, Maryland and by 1903 David was minister at the **Fulton Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia**.

In 1910 they were living in **Ashland, Virginia** and in the same year David was appointed as **Superintendent of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League** and was described by the press as a "militant leader on the cause of prohibition".

In 1920 the family was living in **Chesterfield, Virginia**. In September 1921 on the way back from attending the **International Conference on Alcoholism in Lausanne, Switzerland**, David visited with his brother **William Hepburn**, a bricklayer living on **Shipquay Street, Londonderry, Ireland**.

During the visit, a formal group photo was taken of William Hepburn, William's wife & children, David Elliott Hepburn and a brother **George Elliott Hepburn**. The photo still survives today.

In 1927 David's youngest son, **Carroll Hepburn**, created a national news scandal when he was charged with drink driving and transporting liquor against prohibition after hitting a trolley pole in a car owned by the Anti-Saloon League. He was found guilty and sentenced to ten days in jail and a \$50 fine.

David Elliott Hepburn died in **Richmond, Virginia** the 21st April 1931 of diabetes and is buried in **Oakwood Cemetery**.

Issue:

1. Ira Spurgeon 1893-1967
x Virginia Marion Cogbill
2. Helen Mae 1895-1970
x Percy Theron Curtis
3. Marjorie Eutoka 1900-1951
x Gladstone Oliver Truby
4. Lillian Josephine 1902-1907
5. Ruth Evelyn 1902-1939
6. Carroll Virginia 1904-1989
x Ethel Pleasant

Sources:

1. The Bee, Danville VA 1922, 1924
2. The Frederick Post, Frederick MD 1927
3. The Bridgeport Telegram, Bridgeport CT 1927
4. The Morning News Review, Florence SC 1927
5. Gastonia Daily Gazette 1927
6. New York Times April 1931
7. USA Federal census 1900 to 1930
8. Passenger List SS ALGERIA 28 Sept 1921 L'derry to Baltimore
9. Prothonotary Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia 1890
10. Eighth Judicial Circuit Court of the City of Baltimore, MD 1893
11. Hepburn Photo Archives: 1921 Londonderry; 1920/30s Toronto & Virginia
12. U.S. Passport Applications, 1921
13. Communications:
 - a. Andrew Hepburn, Burton on Trent, England (dec)
 - b. David Hepburn, Culmore, Londonderry, N. Ireland
 - c. James Hughes Hepburn, Rockland, Massachusetts USA
 - d. Helen Hepburn Curtis, Chester, Virginia USA (dec)
 - e. Samuel George Hepburn, Calgary, Alberta, CAN