

David Hubbard (1861-1946) and Ida Victoria Cordon (1862-1919)

15A

David Hubbard, son of Charles W. Hubbard and Mary Edwards, born 30 Nov. 1861, at Willard, Utah. He married Ida Victoria Cordon, 10 Nov. 1881. They homesteaded at Almo, Idaho, about 1883 where they pioneered. He was a farmer but his first love was sheep. In 1901 he moved to Elba, Idaho, from which place he carried on his farming and sheep raising activities. He filled positions of trust in both civic and church capacity. He filled a mission for the L.D.S. Church in the Southern States. He was Bishop of Elba for five years; County Commissioner for Cassia County, Idaho, for six years. His wife Ida died 28 Jan. 1919. He died 11 Jan. 1946 at Elba, Idaho, where he had lived for 45 years. After death of first wife he married Annie Homer.

8 CHILDREN (HUBBARD)

- 730B. David Charles, b. 22 Oct. 1882; d. 12 Mar. 1883, Willard, Utah.
- 731B. Ida Alice, b. 21 Sept, 1884, Almo, Idaho.
- 732B. Jesse LeRoy, b. 18 Nov, 1885, Almo, Idaho.
- 733B. Alfred Cordon, b. 5 Nov. 1890, d. 28 Mar. 1953. (aka Uncle Fred)
- 734B. Howard Wesley, b. 18 Feb. 1898.
- 735B. Earl Pratt, b. 11 Jan. 1900, died 22 Oct. 1944.
- 736B. Lawrence, b. 7 Feb. 1903, Elba, Idaho.
- 737B. Vern Edwin, b. 24 Aug 1908, Elba Idaho.

(Source: "A Biography of Charles Wesley Hubbard" 1956)

David Hubbard was born to Charles Wesley Hubbard and Mary Edwards on November 30th, 1861 in Willard, Utah. Mary Edwards was the second wife of Charles W. Hubbard, and she was a Welsh immigrant living with her father and brother at the time she married Charles Hubbard. Charles Hubbard was the Bishop of Willard at the time. David was the third child of Charles and Mary Edwards, having a 5 year old sister Mary and a 2 year old brother Joseph when he was born. He also had 12 other half brother and sisters from Charles Hubbard's first wife Mary Ann Bosworth, and a 9-month-old half sister from Charles Hubbard's third wife Sophia Pollard. David was raised living in two rooms of the home built for Mary Ann. In all, David would end up having 8 brothers and sisters, 7 half brothers and 7 half sisters.

In 1864, when David was three years old, his father Charles Hubbard was called by Brigham Young to help colonize St. Thomas, Nevada. David was brought with his mother Mary and family to St. Thomas from 1866 to 1870. Two of David's siblings, Lucynthia and John, were born there. The following was written of St. Thomas in Charles Wesley Hubbard's biography:

"St. Thomas, commonly called the Muddy because of the large amount of sediment in the stream which supplied the colony. Besides the water in this tributary of the Virgin River being bad, the heat, wind, and sand made life almost unbearable in this remote locality. Although the colonists could grow good crops of semi-tropical fruit and could grow five crops of alfalfa, they soon discovered that opportunities for prosperity were very meager. They had no market for the crops they could raise, and, therefore,

much poverty prevailed.”

When Charles brought Mary Edwards and family home, Mary Edwards insisted that she have a place of her own to live, and log house was soon built for her and her children. In 1877 construction was started on a rock house for Mary Edwards. In Charles Wesley’s biography (1956) it says that , “This is one of the few pioneer rock houses in Willard which is still being occupied as a home.” David would have spent his childhood helping out on the farm or tending the animals.

David’s mother passed away in 1893, when David would have been 32, and David’s father Charles Wesley Hubbard died in 1908, when David would have been 47. David died in 1946, at the age of 85.

Ida Victoria Cordon was born the 2nd of December 1862 in Willard, Utah, the 14th child of Alfred Cordon and Emma Parker. She was the last of the 14 children (8 living) born to Emma Parker and Alfred Cordon. Emma was also to have 4 half sisters and 4 half brothers from Alfred’s other two wives, Emily Maria Pridmore, and Mary Ann Voss. Her father was a Bishop in Willard Utah for a time, and also served as city attorney for Brigham City. He died in 1871, when Ida would have been 9. Ida’s mother, Emma Parker, passed away in 1894, when Ida was 32.

Since both the Hubbards and the Cordons lived in Willard, Utah, and both families were active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, it is not too hard to guess how David and Ida might have met. They were married on the 10th of November 1881 in the Salt Lake City Endowment House, David at the age of 20 and Ida being 21 years old.

It seems that David and Ida Hubbard lived in Willard for a time after they were married, because their first child David Charles Hubbard was born the 22nd of October 1882, nearly 1 year after they were married. Unfortunately, David Charles died the 12th of March 1883, being about 6 months old.

Within a year, David and Ida Hubbard had moved to Almo, Idaho, for this is where their first daughter Ida Alice Hubbard was born the 21st of September 1884. Almo, Idaho, is more than 100 miles from Willard, Utah. They lived in Almo for 18 years. Jesse LeRoy was born the 18th of November 1885, Alfred Cordon the 5th of November 1890, Howard Wesley the 18th of February 1898, and Earl Pratt the 11th of January 1900. In 1901 the family had moved to Elba, Idaho (12 miles away), where David Hubbard farmed and raised sheep. This is where Lawrence was born the 7th of February 1903, and Vern Edwin on the 24th of August 1908.

When the Hubbards lived in Almo, Idaho, they would not travel home to Willard Utah to see family. It was too distant. Why did David and Ida choose to move to Idaho? Willard may have been crowded, with farmers and ranchers competing for the same resources. David Hubbard was also adventurous, and would have wanted to get out and see more of the country.

Unfortunately, on the 28th of January 1919, at the age of 57 and after 38 years of marriage, Ida Hubbard passed away, and was buried in the Elba, Idaho cemetery. David Hubbard survived her for 27 more years. David Hubbard married Anna Mary Homer September 3rd 1919. David Hubbard died the 11th of January 1946 at the age of 85, and was buried in the Elba, Idaho cemetery. David's son Earl Pratt died the 22nd of October 1944, and David Hubbard was survived by his other 6 children, Ida Alice, Jesse Le Roy, Alfred Cordon, Howard Wesley, Lawrence "R", and Vern Edwin.

In Charles Wesley Hubbard's Biography, it says the David Hubbard served a mission to the Southern States, was Bishop of Elba for five years, and was County Commissioner for Cassia County, Idaho for six years.

The following are stories related by Marie Hubbard Ahlstrom, granddaughter of David and Ida Hubbard through their son Earl Pratt Hubbard...

Almo

David and Ida homesteaded at Almo first. That's where Earl was born. Then David bought a piece of property from a group of cattle barons that claimed the whole of Elba, I guess. He purchased 46 acres from them. It was platted from an airplane. The plat shows the ground he purchased. He got the water right. It was one of the first water rights up at Elba. He purchased all of this, I guess, from these people who were up there running cattle. Ida died when my Earl was 17. That's when the flu epidemic was very prevalent in the United States. A lot of people up in Elba got the flu. Ida took care of them. She didn't get the flu herself. She had rheumatic fever when she was younger. I'm sure she had a rheumatic heart because she died from a heart attack after taking care of all the people who had the flu. Earl was the next to the youngest. Earl was still 17 when David married Annie Homer.

David had big herds of sheep. When the wool no longer brought in as much money, then David went on to something else, like the fox pelts for the fur market.

Elba

Dave Hubbard had built the big ranch house himself. They found a clay deposit down in this field. They took out the clay and built at least three of the houses, maybe four or even more, in the Elba valley. They made their own bricks, sunbaked them and everything. David was one of the first settlers in the Elba valley. Then he sold six acres of his ground to George Hepworth who was a neighbor for George to build a home on. He didn't have a farm there. Beechers had the one just west of David's 40 acres.

The room on the northeast of the brick ranch house was the bedroom for David and Annie. The southeast room was their front/living room. They had two rooms in the house when we



David William Hubbard

moved in. I was seven at the time. We lived there for nearly three years.

David Hubbard looked like the picture of Charles Wesley Hubbard in his biography. Marie's brother John looks a lot like one of the brothers of Charles Wesley Hubbard. In the picture of David Hubbard shown above (picture taken at Earl Pratt's funeral), it shows ranch house in the background.

Silver Foxes

Dave Hubbard owned silver foxes. He had a large area in the bottom of the garden where there were pens made out of chicken wire. They had hutches about three feet square. The hutches were built on little posts so there was a space underneath them where the foxes could get in and sleep or dust bathe or whatever, or they could go in the hutches and that's where they had the kits, the baby foxes. David would keep a pair of them in each one of these little cages. There must have been about a dozen cages or perhaps more in the garden and they were about eight or ten feet high. Of course, I was small and it looked like the foxes were going up a long ways when they would run across their pens and go clear up across the top of those cages and up partway upside-down and jump down and run to the other side. That's how they got their exercise. They were lean. They looked just like the red foxes you see in the fields now, only they were silver foxes. The tip was silver. It's just like a silver-tipped grizzly. The fur was darker underneath and then the tips of the fur was white so that it looked like silver. And their fur was fairly long, two and a half or three inches long. So they had real good pelts. He raised them for fox fur collars. I guess they would even make fox jackets out of this long fur. As an adult, I had a silver fox coat collar. It was so soft and beautiful. I still have the collar. That's in the cedar chest.

David would go out hunting with his 22 rifle. I don't remember seeing a handgun. He would hunt jack rabbits and they were all over up there at Elba. He'd go a mile up by where the graveyard is now. He'd go up that way and hunt or just turn off into any place where he could onto the BLM land and go hunting jack rabbits. He'd come home with a dozen or so jack rabbits every time. He was a very good shot. He was a dead-eye and he could shoot from the hip just like the "Rifleman." He would keep the jack rabbits in a double-walled wooden shed. It would keep the jack rabbits for two or three days before he would have to go out and hunt again. The rabbits were the feed for the foxes. Anybody that wanted to go out and hunt jack rabbits could bring in the rabbits they killed and he'd use them for fox feed. He'd just throw them in and the foxes would eat everything just like they would in the wild.

The fox pen covered an acre of ground. One fox would run around in a circle in his pen, and would run up to the top of the chicken wire (10-12 ft over the ground) and run partway across the ceiling upside down. The perimeter fence was 10-12 feet high made of chicken wire, and 2 feet under ground. Within this perimeter were the cages. Cages all at least 10 feet, wire enclosed the sides and top. Had a little gate with a complicated latch that the foxes could not reach and unlatch. There were also a little house (6x8 or 8x8) called the meat house, double walled, no insulation. The wood was about 3 in thick with two layers, and cooler on the inside. No glass in windows, just wooden cover and latch hook and double walled door. David would go get rabbits and cut up the rabbits with a hatchet to feed the foxes. In each pen, he kept a male and female pair, or just a mother with the kits. David would pelt the foxes, the ones for sale. He would take

the pelts off, salt them down, and someone else would tan and salvage the pelts. These pelts were used to make jackets and collars. David had one black male fox, and the kits that it would father, all the kits had the proper coloring for the silver fox. The hairs had a bit of white, giving it a silver look. Silver fox fur was more popular than red fox.

The market dropped out of the fur business during the great depression and he lost a lot on the foxes.

David owned a mercantile store in Malta, that sold goods and some groceries. This might have been the time when Rachel went to Elba to teach school.

Earl and Rachel Hubbard knew we were upsetting Grandma and Grandpa so they saved what money they could and bought a 2-1/2 acre piece of ground for \$25 an acre, and that broke us. The land was north of the school on the road up toward the church. Dad had to go out and work someplace else to find the money to buy that property.

When Dave Hubbard died, Annie moved across the street and lived with her one brother that was still living. We referred to the place as the Homer property. I think Rachel bought it from Annie and paid for it before Annie died.

Annie moved all of Grandma Ida Cordon's possessions, her pictures (they had a real nice photo album that we kids would go and look at every once in a while that had pictures of Grandma Ida and the boys as they were little and growing up), and Annie took all of those when she moved across the street. When she died the Pettingills and Annie's people came in and took all of those possessions so we lost them. I don't know who has them now. The photo album was red velvet. It was real plush and had a padded cover. The pictures were placed inside, kind of like there were little frames on the inside of this photo album. Each page of the album was real thick pasteboard, about 1/8 of an inch thick. It used to just fascinate us to look at that photo album of ancestry and history. But its gone. Somebody else has it.

Annie Homer did midwife duty in the valley, she never had any children of her own. She lived with David Hubbard, and every day she crossed the street and cooked for her brothers, Ed and Art Homer. After David died, she went across the road and lived with her brothers in their log house for just a few years before she died. Rachel Fifield took care of Annie and David before they passed away.

The brick ranch house that David Hubbard built is still standing. David Hubbard's granddaughter Anita and her daughter Sandra still live in this brick ranch house. Rachel Fifield sold the ranch house to the children. They worked and started a tree farm in 1970. At the time Rachel died, the debt was considered paid. Marie and Farrell sold the largest share of the land to a farmer who wanted to raise some sheep. Brick ranch farmhouse and 2.5 acres still belong to Anita. Annie Homer's house was purchased by Chuck and Anita, and they deeded the house to Sandy, Anita's daughter so she could have a permanent place at the ranch.

Marie remembers Rachel Hubbard telling that in Elba (or the mercantile store in Malta), that one time after David Hubbard sold the sheep, he came and placed the money on the table, and the

gold pieces covered the entire kitchen table. David Hubbard had lots of money. Apparently David Hubbard also had a store in Malta, purchased by David, where they sold merchandise. Malta is 12 miles West from Elba, and Elba is 12 miles North from Almo.

On Marie Hubbards 8th birthday in Elba, Earl was herding sheep in American Falls (70 miles west of Elba), and Dave and Annie moved to American Falls.

Dave Hubbard used to sit and cry when he saw his granddaughter Anita Hubbard because she reminded him so much of his wife Ida Victoria.



Earl Hubbard's children: Anita Hubbard is 2nd from the left.