

3-1-2013

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Recommended Citation

Thorsell, Elisabeth (2013) "An interesting obituary - but why?," *Swedish American Genealogist*: Vol. 33 : No. 1 , Article 9.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag/vol33/iss1/9>

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An interesting obituary - but why?

BISHOP HILL.

Carl Johan Nelson was born in Lilsjodahl, Smaland, Kalmar Lan, Sweden, October 9, 1826 and died in Bishop Hill, Ill., August 16, 1914, at the age of 87 years, 10 months, 7 days. He was married to Vandla Isaacson in 1848. She passed away in Chicago four years ago. To this union were born three sons and three daughters. Mr. Nelson and family came to this country twenty-five years ago and settled in Chicago, where he lived until two years ago when he came here to make his home with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Larson. During this time his health has been failing and for the past nine months he has been confined to his bed. He leaves to mourn his departure, three sons, John, Frank and Amel, of Chicago; two daughters, Mrs. Boman of Chicago and Mrs. Eli Larson of this place, besides fifteen grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. The funeral services were held at the Larson home west of Bishop Hill on Tuesday afternoon and were conducted by Rev. A. G. Peterson, many neighbors and friends being present.

Card of Thanks—We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to neighbors and friends for their kindness, help and sympathy during the illness and death of our beloved father.

Children of Carl Johan Nelson.

This obituary appeared in the *Galva News* in 1914 Aug. 20, and was sent to SAG by Bob Nelson of Trempealeau, WI, who has done extensive research on the people from Bishop Hill.

The deceased man is an ancestor of Bob's, but also has a wider interest as being an ancestor of movie star *Greta Garbo*.

The ancestral tables for Greta Garbo were published in 1996 in a book called *24 Famous Swedish Americans*, issued by the Swedish Federation of Genealogical Societies (*Sveriges Släktforskarförbund*). The book is now out of print.

From this we learn that Greta's mother *Anna Lovisa Johansson* was born 1872 Sep. 10 in Lillsjödahl, Högsby parish, (Kalm.), and died 1944 Oct. 18 in Scarsdale, NY.

Anna Lovisa's father was *Johan (John) August Karlsson*, born 1848 Oct. 9 in Applehult in Högsby parish. He left his family in 1882 and came to America. He is mentioned in his father's obituary as living in Chicago

in 1914. The parents of John were *Carl Johan Nilsson (Nelson)*, born 1826 Oct. 9 in Granstugan, Mörlunda parish (Kalm.), who died 1914 Aug. 16 in Bishop Hill, Henry Co., Ill. His wife was *Wendla Isaksdotter (Isaacson)*, born 1826 Oct. 15 in Fröseke, Älghult parish (Kron.), who died 1910 Jan. 18 in Chicago.

The Nelsons left Sweden 1888 Oct. 31 with tickets for Chicago. After the death of Mrs. Nelson her widower moved to Bishop Hill to live with his daughter *Emelie Gustafva*, born 1860 Jan. 5 in Applehult in Högsby, who had immigrated in 1888, possibly in the company of her parents.

Emelie had been married in Sweden, but her husband *Karl August Petersson* ended up in a mental hospital, and she seems to have got a divorce after her immigration. She remarried 1893 July 20 in Chicago to *Elias (Eli) Larsson* from Bishop Hill, and they became the great-grandparents of Bob Nelson.

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