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The Old Picture

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The Old Picture

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Lumbering in Wisconsin

This picture was sent in by *Jörgen Vessman*, Lekevallsgatan 54, S-431 39 Mölnådal, Sweden. E-mail: <jorgen.vessman@alfa.telenordia.se>

Jörgen writes:

“My paternal grandfather had four brothers that all left Sweden for the U.S. The youngest one, Adolf Fredrik Wester, was born 30 March 1871 in Fellingsbro, Västmanland province, and in Örebro county. In September 1888 he immigrated to the U.S.A. together with his next oldest half-brother, August Rober Vester, born 19 Jan. 1864, who went to Chicago.

“Adolf Fredrik soon dropped his first name and was only called Fredrik. It is said that during the first

year over there he worked in a quarry in Illinois. After that he moved to Price County in Wisconsin working at a lumber camp. He stayed there until November 1893, when he married Emma Jakobsson in Ogema, Price County, Wisconsin.

“Later the family moved to the city of Phillips, Price County, Wisc. There were seven children in the family, six daughters and one son, the youngest one named Fredrik and born in 1914. Adolf Fredrik was the only one of the Wester brothers that remained in the U.S. as the three half-brothers returned to Sweden, some of them doing the trip more than one time.

“When I inherited my grandfather’s cottage in Fellingsbro from my uncle in 1968 I found two pictures

that have been quite interesting to take part of. They belong to the period when the forests were harvested for timber. Both deal with lumber felling in Wisconsin and this photo is taken in Ogema, Wisc., by N. Nelson.

“The Ogema picture shows the timber fellers at the camp with the smoke from the chimney of the kitchen in the background.

“I have been in touch with a grandson of Fredrik (born 1914) and presented him copies of the pictures, but there has not been any interest to proceed further.

“If anyone among the readers of SAG does recognize something/someone here or know where this could have taken place I would be very interested.”