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The report card and its owner

SAG reader Hugh Johnson of Rock Island, Ill., offered his grandmother's report card from her school in Kälvene, Västergötland, from 1886, as a handwriting example, which of course was accepted.

His grandmother was *Anna Elisabeth Hermansdotter*, born 5 Nov. 1871 in Kälvene [old spelling: Kelfvened]. She was child #2 in the family of *Johan Herman Carlsson* (born 15 Aug. 1847 in Vartofta-Åsaka, Vägö.; died 9 Dec. 1899 of typhoid) and his wife *Anna Stina Johansdotter* (born 31 Aug. 1844 in Kälvene. The Carlsson family lived at Skällaregården in Kälvene with their children and Johan Herman's mother *Johanna Johansdotter* (born 12 July 1817 in Valstad, Vägö., she died 13 July 1897). They had the following children, all born in Kälvene:

- 1) *Hilda Olivia Theresa Johannesson*, b. 3 Apr. 1870. In 1900 she lived alone in Skörstorp, Vägö. She married later and moved to Valtorp. She died in 1947.
- 2) *Anna Elisabeth*, the owner of the

the report card. She emigrated in 1891, and left her home on 25 May. In her report card she is listed as *Hermansdotter*, but when emigrating she is listed in *Emibas* as *Johansdotter*. In the moving out records she is listed as *Johansson* (!), and in America she probably was a *Johnson*. So it is not easy to find out the last name of a person who lived at the end of the "patronymic era." She worked as a pie cook at Rockford College, Rockford, Winnebago County, Ill. before her marriage.

- 3) *Fritz Hjalmar Johansson*, born 7 Feb. 1873. He emigrated in 1893, and left his home on 17 February. He is then listed as *Frits Hjalmar Johansson*. He changed his name in the U.S. to *Fred Johnson* and was a chemist in Los Angeles.
- 4) *Carl Johan Johansson*, born 25 Sep. 1875, moved later to Säffle, Värm., where he was a tailor. He died there in 1972.
- 5) *Maria Charlotta Karlsson*, born 6 Dec. 1877. She left her home in 1897, on 19 Jan. She travelled in

the company of her sister *Anna Elisabet*, who had been home for a visit. *Maria* also became a cook at Rockford College. She lived with her sister and brother-in-law in Rockford in the 1900 Census.

- 6) *August Wilhelm Johansson*, born 10 Aug. 1880. In the Swedish Census 1900 he is a farmhand in Dimbo, Vägö. He died in 1948 in Tidaholm, Vägö.
- 7) *Aron Linus Karlsson*, born 15 Sep. 1883. He emigrated in 1902, as *Linus Karlsson*. He changed his name to *Linus Aron Herman*, and went to Augustana College and got a B.A. in 1913, and then took a B.D. at Augustana Seminary, and then served in many congregations in the Midwest. He died 20 Feb. 1965.
- 8) *Otto Leon*, born 15 Sep. 1886, died 17 Oct. 1895 of jaundice.

More on Anna Elisabeth

Anna Elisabeth married on 23 June 1899 in Rockford to fellow Swede *Carl Alfred Johnson (Johansson)*, born 8 July 1870 in Vartofta-Åsaka, son of *Claes Johan Andersson* and his wife *Christina Andersdotter* of Hulegården. After *Carl Alfred's* emigration his parents and brother *August Natanael*, born 8 Sep. 1874 in Vartofta-Åsaka, moved to Marbogården in Kälvene, where they still were in 1900.

Carl Alfred and *Anna Elisabeth* lived their lives in Rockford, where he is listed as a machinist. They had a house on 9th Avenue, and two daughters, *Mildred*, born around 1903, and *Marian*, born around 1909. In 1930 the girls were still at home, both working as stenographers.

Hugh Johnson, son of *Marian*, has the following e-mail: <PapaHoo@aol.com>

Translation of the report card is to be found on page 22.



The kitchen staff at Rockford College, Rockford, Ill., ca 1895. (Hugh Johnson collection).