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# Destination - Oskaloosa

Kjell Nordqvist\*

During the 19th century many Swedish immigrants participated in and helped develop America's infrastructure as railroad workers and bridge builders. Quite a few labored in the coal mines to produce the fuel for the heavy locomotives which thundered along America's newly constructed railroads. Some of these miners are the main characters in this presentation.

On an April day in 1879 the steamship *Rollo* left the pier in Göteborg to begin its journey across the North Sea to Hull in England. Most of the passengers were emigrants, who from Hull would continue the journey via railway to Liverpool and from there board an Atlantic vessel, destined for America. One of these passengers was Victor Petersson, a 20-year-old son of a furnace foreman living in Brickegården in Karlskoga. He was accompanied by his 12-year-old sister, Maria. They had informed the emigrant agent that their destination in the new land was Oskaloosa. When I caught sight of this very distinctive Indian name on the emigrant lists in Göteborg, I was fired by the idea of attempting to follow both of these emigrants to their final destination. There are many places in America named Oskaloosa, but I soon found from some source materials that the destination of the siblings was Oskaloosa, the main town in Mahaska County, IA. In the immediate vicinity of this town there was a densely populated and well constructed mining camp, named Muchakinock, and that is where Victor was to reside during the 1880's and the 1890's. Back in his native Sweden one produced iron with the help of charcoal. Thus Victor must surely have participated both in the manufacture of charcoal as well as the transportation of the product to the smelters. In the U.S. anthracite and bituminous coal were used.

Soon the population in Muchakinock received reinforcements from Karlskoga. If one studies the genealogical tables at the end of this article one can see that the emigration of the two siblings from Brickegården was not an accident. Within a few years all of the children in the Petersson family, save one son, had crossed the ocean, and finally the mother, Maria Jacobsdotter, a widow since the death of her husband, Peter Petersson, in 1869, joined her children in Iowa. The desire to emigrate spread to the cousins in Våtsjötorp, the children of the uncle, Anders Petersson. Carl Carlsson from Aggerud, who for a time had worked as a hired man in Brickegården and there had learned to know the Petersson siblings, soon followed the stream of emigrants and in turn succeeded in getting his brother and two sisters to depart for America. From the tables it can be seen that others from our community of Karlskoga also belong to this emigration complex. Totally the group included no less than 26 persons. We have here an excellent example of what the emigration scholars call "successive emigration."

During the 1870's a number of coal mines were developed in Mahaska County

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as well as other areas in south east Iowa. The coal mining area exploited in the Muchakinock valley had a surface comprising 700 acres. The production in this coal field soon passed the production of all other counties in Iowa. The growing railroad traffic demanded an increased quantity of coal. Many immigrants from Wales were recruited, but many Swedes also came here, among them a group, which earlier had been employed on a canal construction project in Keokuk in eastern Iowa. It is highly possible that there were some Karlskoga immigrants in this group. Someone from our section of Sweden must have informed Victor Petersson concerning the job opportunities in Iowa. It is quite possible that it was Olof Larsson and his wife, Carolina, the aunt of Victor (Tab. 14), who led the way. They had departed for America ten years before Victor. Descendants of the Petersson siblings living today do not recollect having heard about them. I have not had the opportunity of checking the census lists of Mahaska County in order to find a lead as to who could have been Victor's informant. The fact that Victor's teen-age sister accompanied him to America may point to the possibility that a relative in the U.S. had promised to take care of her. She resided in this area and also married here (Tab. 6).

The mines in Mahaska were bought in 1881 by Chicago & Northwestern Railroad and the mines were worked by the Consolidated Coal Company. The C.&N.R.R. was an enormous user of coal, and all of the fossil fuel mined in Iowa was used for the operation of the railroad.

At the turn of the century the coal company in Muchakinock decided to close the mine. The houses were moved and today the city of Oskaloosa uses the site for a garbage dump. Now the activities of the company were concentrated to neighboring Monroe County. Here the center was Buxton, a swiftly developing mining community, which had received its name from the mine superintendent. It is estimated that ten mines or so were developed in the area, connected to Buxton by rail, so as to provide transportation for both coal and personnel.

Buxton was far from an ordinary mining camp. It developed into a city-like community with well laid-out streets and residential areas with well-built houses, constructed by the company. The services provided were extensive. In one company store alone there were no less than 130 sales clerks who waited on the customers and sold goods of all sizes and shapes. There were large areas set aside for leisure activities, among other things a Y.M.C.A. building, three stories tall, with facilities for athletics, social activities and education. There was an abundance of schools and churches. There has been much discussion concerning the speed at which Buxton grew and how large the population was, when it was at its peak. Several scholars have arrived at a figure of between 5,000 and 6,000 persons in the year of 1910. Ten years earlier Buxton was not even on the map. Since the time of its zenith, it steadily diminished and by the middle of the 1920's the place was a ghost town. Today the area is used for farming and cattle raising. Where the city once stood there now grow corn, soy beans, oats and cattle fodder. Lately a family with Swedish roots by the name of Blomgren has acquired some of the land. In 1984 an interesting report concerning an archeological dig of the former city was

prepared, entitled *Exploring Buried Buxton*. One of the field workers on this project was Nancy Wallace, a great granddaughter of Anders Petersson (Tab.5).

Buxton is interesting also from an ethnic point of view. Here was a large black population, greater than what was the case both earlier and later in Iowa. This had come about because thousands of black workers were recruited in the South for work in the coal mines of Muchakinock around 1880. Part of this work force had even been slaves. The company had a positive attitude to racial integration. The wages were the same, and the mingling of blacks and whites at work and play seems to have worked very well and without friction. The blacks, who later moved to other areas, stated that it was first after having left Buxton that they encountered some form of racial discrimination. One looked back on the Buxton years with nostalgia. In cities like Des Moines special groups were created called Buxton Clubs, made up of former residents from the mining area and their descendants.

A successful black merchant had been in charge of the recruitment of black workers and had belonged to the top echelon in the Buxton community along with many other well-educated blacks who were lawyers, doctors and teachers. Buxton was an unincorporated town and hence lacked a mayor, police force and other forms of local government. The mining company shouldered the whole responsibility for running the town. "Consolidated" was seen as a progressive and generous company, which fully understood that the welfare of its work force was essential if the day-to-day operation was to be successful. There were of course cases of drunkenness and violence with an occasional murder, but on the whole, society functioned without great dramatic interludes.

The company houses with their five to six rooms were surrounded by large lots, where tenants could raise fruit and vegetables for themselves and their animals. It was customary that the miners had a cow, pig and some chickens. Whether Victor Petersson, the immigrant mentioned in the beginning of this article, ever lived in one of these company houses is not clear. According to the descendants of the Peterssons, both Victor and his brother Anders rented farms in the Buxton area. Victor arrived in Buxton from "Old Muchy" in 1901 and is supposed to have lived there until 1917. His son Ed remained here until the middle of the 1920's. He became a well-known figure in the mining community, both as a labor union member and constable, and not least as the trainer and manager of the baseball team, "The Buxton Wonders," whose black ball players scored big successes in the surrounding communities. Even teams from the big cities had difficulty matching the dexterity of the Buxton players on the diamond. Another resident of Buxton was Martin Petersson, deceased a few years ago, who was a nephew of Victor's (Tab.5).

The Swedes in Buxton as well as in Muchakinock were numerically an important group. They were concentrated in two sections of the town, West Swede Town and East Swede Town. The Swedish Lutheran Church was situated in the latter settlement, probably the church where Victor worshipped.

Southeast of Buxton the Wapello Coal Company began operations in a coal field around 1890. The center of this area was Hiteman. The company had worked

mines earlier in Wapello County, east of Monroe County, and workers from that place had followed the company to Hiteman. Other miners, however, from other coal fields, among them Muchakinock, also rushed to the new site. Among these was Carl Carlsson (Tab. 12), who belonged to the earlier Muchakinock miners, who in the beginning of the 1890's settled in Hiteman. One of the early settlers here was Anders Petersson (Tab. 5). Children born to him are recorded as having been born in Hiteman during the years 1895-1897. Karl (Charles) Andersson (Tab. 8) seems to have been living in Hiteman in 1892, Anders Carlsson (Tab. 13) lived in the area by the end of the 1890's and by the end of the 1910's Victor Petersson had also settled there. There was a "Swede Town" also in Hiteman, and a couple of Swedish churches were founded here in the 1890's. The mining center was not demolished when the mining operations ceased and about 100 persons still reside in Hiteman. Every year many former residents return here for the annual reunions.

Work in the mines was hard and filled with risks. The possibility of cave-ins was always great with the resultant cut-off of oxygen. Accidents also struck the immigrants from our area. Thus in 1900 Carl Carlsson was killed in a cave-in of one of the mines in Hiteman. Around 1914 Victor Petersson's back was injured in an accident in Buxton. His obituary states that the effects of this accident remained with him to the day he died. Earlier he had been a very robust person. His son Ed also experienced an accident and he carried a blue scar on his face as a reminder of that episode.

The Briccegård siblings were many and it was unthinkable that they should all share in the farm. Karl, the oldest brother of Victor's, farmed a part of the land in addition to working for the Bofors Company in Karlskoga. Victor could surely have secured employment there also, but the stories from relatives and friends, and what they had to say about America, decided his course of action. Not even when he had tried the risky labor in the dusty, dark and narrow passage-ways of the coal mines, had he flinched from welcoming others to follow him to America. It is a certain fact that the emigrants from Karlskoga as well as others who flocked to the mines were better off economically than they were before. The information I have been able to elicit concerning the wages paid in the mines toward the latter part of the time the mines were in operation demonstrate that in 1915 a miner earned about \$450.00 per year. Often more than one person in each family worked. According to the federal reports for 1920 a family needed an annual income of \$2,000.00 to make ends meet. There were in Buxton quite a few families, both black and white, whose total income for the year varied between \$2,000.00 and \$2,500.00 per year. A mine historian has related that when the mining in Buxton was at its peak, the workers were paid in gold and silver and it was not unusual to see a \$20.00 gold piece dangling from a coalminer's watch chain.

Those immigrants who have been mentioned in this article doubtless had as their goal in life the earning of enough money to acquire a farm. Many of them began at an early stage to do part-time farming on the side. Carl Carlsson acquired land in Round Lake, MN and stayed there a few years in the 1890's. He returned to Hiteman, however, ostensibly to earn more capital in order to return to his farm at

a later date. He had come from an impoverished croft on the outskirts of Aggerud near Karlskoga and must have dreamed of one day running a farm under more fortuitous circumstances. The accident in the mine cut those plans short. Descendants of Anders Petersson claim that even he for a time owned and operated a farm in Round Lake. The brother Erik (Tab. 1) had already in 1885 become a farm owner and had obviously tempted others to try the same thing. Anders Petersson and Anders Carlsson (Tab. 13) were brothers-in-law and in 1898 they bought land together in Troy Township southeast of Hiteman, but soon separated. Later we find Anders Petersson as a farmer in the neighborhood of Albia, centered in Monroe County. Karl (Charles) Andersson is mentioned in the census of 1900 and later as a farmer in Union Township, north of Hiteman. Towards the end of his life Victor Petersson operated a farm on the outskirts of Hiteman. That farm had an area of 80 acres, while Anders Petersson's land comprised 40 acres. Considering the fact that those who homesteaded were given 160 acres, the Karlskoga immigrants had quite modest holdings. But the settlers had realized their dreams of owning their own land, and so long as the farm chores had to be done in combination with the work in the mines, the area cultivated was about as much as they could handle.

During several decades the immigrants in the coal fields who had their origins in the Karlskoga area were in close contact with each other. They met at their daily work, they visited each other in their homes, they attended the same churches. In the parish register of the Munterville Lutheran Church we find the names of Victor Petersson, his brother Anders and his sister Maria, as well as Carl Carlsson and their next of kin. Through marriages between members of the family groups, in no less than three cases, these families were knit even closer together.

In the meanwhile the younger generations scattered in various directions, to Des Moines to the north and to more distant areas of the U.S. There are still some descendants of the Karlskoga families residing in Monroe County, and in the Oak View Cemetery near Albia many of the Peterssons as well as members of the other families have found their final resting place.

Several of these latter-day descendants have begun to document their relationships and we have been able to aid them in this process. A couple of Petersson descendants have visited Karlskoga and others are planning to come here. After a century the ties connecting these Americans with their origins in Karlskoga and environs are being strengthened and deepened.

## Genealogical Tables

Tab. 1

**Peter Petersson**, b. 10 Sept. 1817, the s. of Peter Nilsson (1785-1840) of Våtsjötorp, Karlskoga Parish; d. 31 Dec. 1869; m. Maria Jacobsdotter, b. 30 May 1824, dau. of Jacob Olsson (1786-1862) of Linhult, Karlskoga. Maria emigr. to the U.S. 1881 together with the children, Per Gustaf and Amanda Carolina. She d. in Monroe Co., IA 7 March 1912 and is bur. in the Oak View Cemetery of Albia, IA. Peter Petersson was a smelter foreman in Immetorpshyttan, later part smelter owner in Brickegården, Karlskoga.

Children:

Carl, b. 17 Nov. 1844, part smelter owner in Fältet, Brickegården; worker at the Bofors Company in Karlskoga; had children in U.S.

Eric Johan, b. 2 Oct. 1846; to the U.S. 1881; see Tab. 2.

Maria Ulla, b. 27 June 1849; d. 29 Sept. 1853.

Per Gustaf, b. 30 May 1852; to the U.S.; unmarried.

Emma Lovisa, b. 8 June 1855; to the U.S. with husband and children; see Tab. 3.

Olof Victor, b. 29 July 1858; to the U.S. 1879; see Tab. 4.

Anders Conrad, b. 30 March 1861; to the U.S. 1880; see Tab. 5.

Amanda Carolina, b. 20 Sept. 1863; to the U.S. 1881; see Tab. 8.

Maria Ulrica, b. 26 April 1867; to the U.S. 1879; see Tab. 6.

Tab. 2

**Eric Johan Petersson**, b. in Brickegården 2 Oct. 1846, the s. of Peter Petersson (see Tab. 1); d. in Round Lake, MN 1932; m. Mary Erickson, b. 1856; d. 2 Feb. 1928. He emigr. to the U.S. 1881 and owned a farm in Sec. 32, northern part of Round Lake Township.

Children:

Ellen Marie, b. 18 June 1893; m. Henry Conrad Cordes (1883-1965).

Tab. 3

**Emma Lovisa Petersson**, b. 8 June 1855, the dau. of Peter Petersson (see Tab. 1); m. August Emil Sjögren, b. 1839. Emigr. to the U.S. in 1880. According to information of relatives, the family settled in the mining camp of Muchakinock, Mahaska Co., IA upon its arrival in the U.S.

Children:

Emilia Augusta, b. 1873.

Carl August, b. 1877.

Elin Lovisa, b. 16 Feb. 1880; d. 11 March 1969; m. Frank Enoch Johnson (1874-1947). They had two children, who left no descendants.

Tab. 4

**Olof Victor Petersson**, b. 29 July 1858, the s. of Peter Petersson (see Tab. 1); d. in Bucknell, Monroe Co., IA 10 Feb. 1926; bur. in Oak View Cemetery, Albia, IA. He had injured his back in a coal mine 12 years before his death. He never fully recovered and the injury seems to have hastened his demise. He was married 29 July 1882 to Augusta Wilhelmina Pettersson, b. in Säterbo Parish (Väst.) 12 March 1859 and d. 18 Aug. 1930 in Monroe Co.; bur. in Oak View Cemetery, Albia. Olof Victor was a coalminer in Muchakinock, Mahaska Co. In 1901 he lived in Buxton and finally in Hiteman, Monroe Co. He owned a farm in Sec. 1 of Guilford Co. He became a U.S. citizen 1886 and was a member of the Munterville,

IA Lutheran Church. Emigr. to the U.S. in 1879 together with his sister Maria Ulrica, their destination being Oskaloosa, IA.

Children:

Edward, b. 28 Nov. 1885; d. 25 Nov. 1956.  
 Herbert, b. 21 Aug. 1888; d. in an accident 1913.  
 Elna, b. 6 Jan. 1900; d. 5 Feb. 1979; m. D.E. Shepard.  
 Clarence (1901-1964).

#### Tab. 5

**Andrew (Anders) Conrad Petersson**, b. 30 March 1861, the s. of Peter Petersson (see Tab. 1); d. 17 Sept. 1944; bur. in the Oak View Cemetery, Albia; m. 1883 Christina Carlsdotter, b. 24 April 1862, the dau. of Carl Nilsson, Aggerud, Karlskoga (see Tab. 11); d. 17 Dec. 1931 and also bur. in the Oak View Cemetery. She emigr. to the U.S. in June 1883 together with Johan Andersson (see Tab. 9), their destination being Givin, IA. Andrew Petersson emigr. to the U.S. in 1880 with Oskaloosa as the destination. He was a coalminer in Muchakinock during the 1880s after which he moved to Hiteman, Monroe Co. He owned a farm in Troy Township, Monroe Co. Member of the Munterville Lutheran Church.

Children:

George, b. 3 Oct. 1884; d. 2 Sept. 1924; unmarried.  
 Martin, b. 12 March 1889; d. 21 May 1983; m. Dena Berquist.  
 Hilda, b. 27 Sept. 1895; d. 24 April 1975; m. Dwight Ware Packard (1894-1958).  
 Elmer, b. 1 Oct. 1897; d. 21 June 1962; m. Kittie Marie McKibben, b. 1903.  
 Adele, b. 9 Oct. 1904; unmarried.

#### Tab. 6

**Maria Ulrica Petersson**, b. 26 April 1867, dau. Peter Petersson (see Tab. 1); m. John Henry Larson. She d. 1936, her husband 1946. She emigr. to the U.S. together with her brother Olof Victor Petersson (see Tab.4) in 1879. She and her husband were members of the Munterville Lutheran Church in Wapello Co., IA. According to the parish records the family moved to Minnesota in 1913. John Henry Larson left the mining job and ran a farm in Round Lake, Nobles Co., MN.

Children:

Harry  
 Chester  
 Arthur

#### Tab. 7

**Anders Fredrik Petersson**, b. 10 Sept. 1817, son of Peter Nilsson of Våtsjötorp, Karlskoga and brother of Peter Petersson (see Tab. 1); d. 11 Oct. 1905; m. Johanna



Petersdotter, b. in Amnehärad (Skar.) 21 Aug. 1831; d. 22 Nov. 1917. Anders Fredrik had been a crofter in Våtsjötorp.

Children:

Carl, b. 19 July 1858; emigr. to the U.S. 1882; see Tab. 8.

Johanna, b. 10 Aug. 1860; remained in Sweden.

Mathilda, b. 22 Feb. 1864; emigr. to the U.S.; see Tab. 13.

Johan, b. 19 July 1866; emigr. to the U.S. 1883; see Tab.9.

Christina, b. 30 May 1869; emigr. to the U.S. 1887; see Tab.10.

Tab. 8

**Carl (Charles) Andersson**, b. 19 July 1858, the s. of Anders Fredrik Petersson of Våtsjötorp (see Tab. 7); d. in Gillespie, IL 25 Feb. 1953. He was m. to his cousin, Amanda Carolina Petersson, b. 20 Sept. 1863, dau. of Peter Petersson (see Tab. 1); d. 22 Sept. 1925. Charles was a miner and farmer in Hiteman, Monroe Co.

Children:

Alvin, b. in Jan. 1885; unmarried.

Gerda, b. 11 March 1890; d. 28 Nov. 1963; m. Gus Cadell (1887-1974).

Arthur, b. 15 Feb. 1892; d. 11 March 1981; m. Minnie Benson, b. 1895.

Elsie, b. 31 Dec. 1894; d. 19 July 1933; unmarried.

Mae, b. in May 1900.

Edna, b. 6 June 1903; m. Glenn Garrett, b. 3 Dec. 1899.

Helen, b. 27 Dec. 1906; m. Al Snyder, b. 24 March 1908.

Tab. 9

**Johan (John) Andersson**, b. 19 July, 1866, the s. of Anders Fredrik Petersson of Våtsjötorp (see Tab. 7). He is recorded as having left Karlskoga Parish in 1883, destination being Givin, IA. According to one source he res. in St. Louis, MO. A picture of him exists, taken in Grant City, MO.

Tab. 10

**Christina Andersson**, b. 30 May 1869, the dau. of Anders Fredrik Petersson of Våtsjötorp (see Tab. 7); d. in the 1920's; bur. in Oak View Cemetery, Albia in the 1920's. She was m. to August Johnson, b. 9 Feb. 1854; d. 1925. August and Christina Johnson res. in Ottumwa, IA.

Children:

Judith

Oscar Carl, b. 25 Jan. 1898; d. in Springfield, IL 10 Sept. 1978.

Arthur

Edith

## Tab. 11

**Carl Nilsson**, b. 1818; d. 1870; m. to Christina Eriksson (1822-1888). He owned a small farm in Aggerud, Karlskoga Parish.

## Children:

- Maria, b. 1852; emigr. in 1888; not traced.
- Carl, b. 16 March 1856; emigr. to the U.S. 1881; see Tab. 12.
- Anders, b. 1858; emigr. to the U.S. 1882; see Tab. 13.
- Christina, b. 1862; emigr. to the U.S. 1883; see Tab. 5.

## Tab. 12

**Carl (Charles) Carlsson**, b. 16 March 1856, the s. of Carl Nilsson, Aggerud; d. in a mine accident in a coal mine in Hiteman, IA 29 March 1900, caused by the fall of slate; bur. in the Oak View Cemetery, Albia; m. Severina (Sina) Carlson, b. in Halland, Sweden in 1864. She remarried after the death of her husband. Karlskoga Parish records show that Carl Carlsson was listed as having emigr. to the U.S. in 1881 together with Maria Jacobsdotter (see Tab. 1) and her children, Amanda Carolina and Per Gustaf. He became a coalminer in Muchakinock, Mahaska Co. during the 1880s, later in Hiteman, Monroe Co. During a couple of years in the 1890s he owned 80 acres of farm land in Round Lake, MN. He was a member of the Munterville Lutheran Church in Wapello Co., IA.

## Children:

- Carl Algot, b. 6 Sept. 1885.
- Sigrid, b. 7 March 1894; d. after 1978; m. Ludvig Johnson of Albia, IA.
- Emma, b. 2 Sept. 1896; d. 13 Sept. 1976.
- Selma, b. 11 March 1899; m. Ernest Norley of Pontiac, IN.

## Tab. 13

**Anders (Andrew) Carlsson**, b. 1858, the s. of Carl Nilsson in Aggerud; d. in Fairfield, Jefferson Co., IA 19 Sept. 1931; m. Mathilda Anderson, b. 22 Feb. 1864, the dau. of Anders Fredrik Andersson of Våtsjötorp (see Tab. 7); d. in Jefferson Co. 19 Oct. 1934. He came to America in 1882 and became a coalminer and farmer in Troy Township in Monroe Co., IA; later settled in Jefferson Co., also in Iowa. He was a member of the Munterville Lutheran Church in Wapello, IA.

## Children:

- Roy Leonard, b. 19 Aug. 1890; d. 7 Aug. 1978.
- Ellen Christina Amelia, b. in 1892.
- Mabel Lilly Kreesa, b. 15 Oct. 1893; m. J.R. Rupp.
- Hjalmar Herbert (Jim), b. 29 July 1897; d. 10 June 1977.
- Ralph Harry, b. 10 Nov. 1904; d. in May 1946.
- Lawrence Eugene, b. 7 Oct. 1900; d. 6 June 1908.
- Homer Harold, b. 20 June 1907; d. 11 Aug. 1908.

Tab. 14

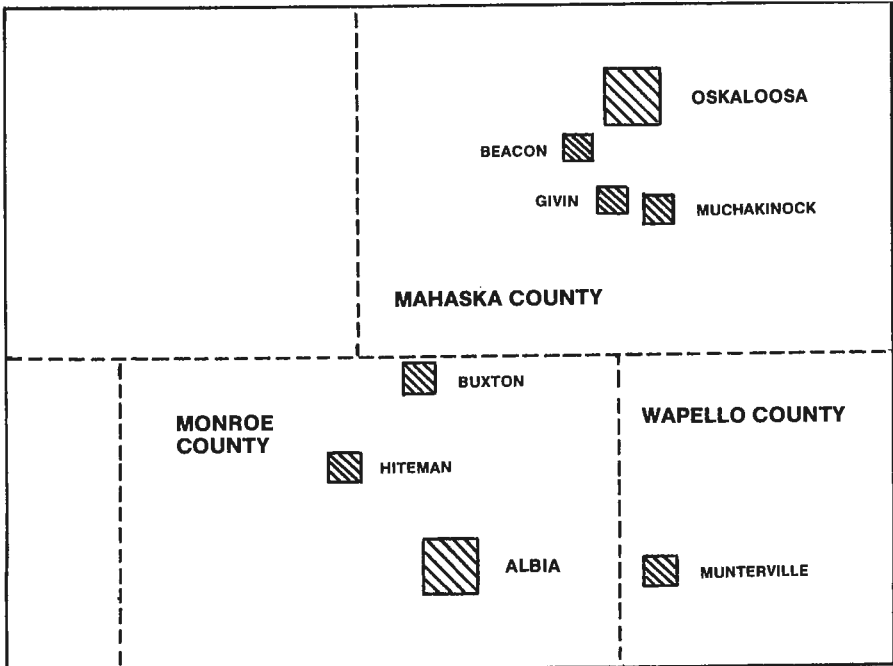
**Olof Larsson Löf**, b. 6 Jan. 1833, the s. of Lars Larsson Löf (1797-1874) of Baggetorp, Kvistbro Parish (Öre.). He was a brother of Sophia Löf, who was m. to Eric G. Eliasson (see Tab. 15). He was m. to Carolina Jacobsdotter, b. 8 June 1833, the dau. of Jacob Olsson of Linhult, Karlskoga Parish and a sister of Maria Jacobsdotter (1824-1912) (see Tab. 1). Olof Larsson Löf and his wife Carolina emigr. to America from Karlskoga in 1869.

Tab. 15

**Eric G. Eliasson**, b. 1 June 1849, the s. of Elias Andersson of Norrgrytstorp in Karlskoga Parish. In the household examination roll of Karlskoga for 1883 it is stated that Eric G. Eliasson was dead. He may have died on the journey to America or soon after having arrived. He was m. to Christina Löf, b. in Kvistbro Parish 27 March 1845, the dau. of Lars Larsson Löf of Baggetorp and a sister of Olof Larsson Löf (see Tab. 14). The family departed from Sweden destined for Givin, IA in June 1883 and consisted of the parents and the following children:

Hanna Sophia, b. 14 Nov. 1877 (the illegitimate dau. of the wife).

Frans Oscar, b. 20 Sept. 1882.



**The area in south east Iowa where the Petersson siblings from Brickegården in Karlskoga and their cousins as well as friends established their new homes.**