

2017

Augustana Seniors Fall 1884: Augustus G. Olsson

Max McComb

Augustana College, Rock Island Illinois

Marielena Castillo

Augustana College, Rock Island Illinois

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/fyiaugiebio>



Part of the [Education Commons](#), and the [Genealogy Commons](#)

Augustana Digital Commons Citation

McComb, Max and Castillo, Marielena. "Augustana Seniors Fall 1884: Augustus G. Olsson" (2017). *Augustana Seniors Fall 1884 (Class of 1885)*.

<https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/fyiaugiebio/17>

This Student Biographies is brought to you for free and open access by the Historical Augustana Student Biographies at Augustana Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Augustana Seniors Fall 1884 (Class of 1885) by an authorized administrator of Augustana Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@augustana.edu.

Augustana Seniors Fall 1884: Augustus G. Olsson

Max McComb

Marielena Castillo

3 February 2017

Augustus Gaufred Olsson

It's easy to forget that every person has their own unique life going on. Most of the time, we forget about the lives that do not belong to us or the people around us. Studying Augustus Gaufred Olsson reminded us that even those long gone existed as real people, with thoughts and hopes; not numbers or faces off an old sepia picture. Olsson was born in Tampico, Illinois¹ to Johannes (John) Olofson and Britta Rebecca Daniieldotter in 1859.² He was a Scandinavian clergyman with blue eyes and was five feet and ten inches tall.³ He also had something in common with us: he went to school at Augustana College.

Augustus G. Olsson was registered under the theological program during the 1885- 1886 school year, when he was a junior. We assume he registered for this programs with the intentions of being a priest or a preacher. Curiously, he was not enrolled in any classes during years 1886-1887, when he would have been a senior. We are not sure if he graduated early or if he just dropped out because, as stated in the first paragraph, he became a clergyman at some point in his life.⁴

¹ "Vermont, St. Albans Canadian Border Crossings 1895- 1954," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:QS7-99DQ-GXV1?cc=2185163&wc=3KMC-C68%3A1018494101%2C1018729101> : 9 October 2015), (M1461) Soundex Index to Canadian Border Entries through the St. Albans, Vermont, District, 1895- 1924> image 3393 of 8178; citing NARA microfilm publications M1461, M1463, M1464, and M1465 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.). 7 Dec. 2016.

² "Augustus Gaufred Olsson." Ancestry.com. N.p.,n.d. Web 7 Dec. 2016

³ "Vermont, St. Albans Canadian Border Crossings 1895- 1945," ...<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:QS7-99DQ-GXV1?cc=2185163&wc=3KMC-C68%3A1018494101%2C1018729101>... Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d. 7 Dec. 2016

⁴ Augustana College, College and Theological Seminary Catalog, 1884- 85, 1885-86, 1886-87. N.p.: Augustana Book Concern, Book and Job Printers, 1884-86. Print.

After finishing his career at Augustana, he moved to Indiana, and worked as a clergyman. We found him on many records being the pastor at numerous weddings⁵. In 1900, Olsson applies for a passport to go to Sweden⁶. We assume he lived there from 3 years because he moved to Canada in December, 1903⁴. Olsson didn't stay in Canada very long, as he returned through New York City, to Vermont on April 27, 1908, when he was 47 years old. He was accompanied by his wife and daughter Tilda Emerentia and Saga Ebba Lilliani, respectively. The three of them lived in New York⁷. As we found them on the 1910 census. This finding was particularly interesting because on the census record Saga's birthplace is listed as being in Canada and Tilda's birthplace being in Sweden. From this we must assume that Augustus met and married Tilda in Sweden. Then, they had a daughter (Saga) while living in Canada. Augustus was married three times and had five children total. We assume all his marriages happened after leaving Augustana College, but we have no proof. He had one child each with Clara C Carlson and Mathilda Emerencia Nyval. In between those marriages, he was married to Emma Dolk; with her, he had three children⁸.

All this information comes to prove that Augustus Gaufred Olsson existed and left a traceable mark on this world. He went to school for about fifteen years, assuming the schooling

⁵ "Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/27GH-1MH> : 21 January 2016), Augustus G Olsson in entry for Claus G Rydeen and Catherine Olson, 23 Mar 1888; citing Porter, Indiana, United States, various county clerk offices, Indiana; FHL microfilm 1,686,210.

⁶ "United States Passport Applications, 1795-1925," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/QVJP-H2W5> : 4 September 2015), Augustus G Olsson, 1900; citing Passport Application, Illinois, United States, source certificate #19544, Passport Applications, 1795-1905., Roll 544, NARA microfilm publications M1490 and M1372 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm 1,514,029.

⁷ "United States Census, 1910," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/M5SV-CQC> : accessed 23 January 2017), Augustus Olsen, Richmond Ward 3, Richmond, New York, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 1308, sheet 5B, family 107, NARA microfilm publication T624 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1982), roll 1073; FHL microfilm 1,375,086.

⁸ "Augustus Gaufred Olsson." Ancestry.com. N.p.,n.d. Web 7 Dec. 2016

system was the same when he was going up as it is now, and spent three of those years at Augustana College studying theology. Also, Olsson got to see more of the world than most people did at that time. He went from Tampico, to Rock Island, to Indiana, to Chicago, to Sweden, to Canada, to New York, and finally Michigan. For unlisted reasons, Olsson was married three times and had five children. Augustus Gaufred Olsson finally died on March 27, 1937 in Lawton, Michigan, meaning he saw yet another place in his lifetime⁹. To conclude, all these documents come together to prove that Olsson existed in his own unique way.

⁹ “Augustus Gaufred Olsson.” Ancestry.com. N.p.,n.d. Web 7 Dec. 2016

Ancestors of Augustus Olsson

Generation 1

1. Augustus Olsson. For more information about Augustus; see the biography in the main part.

Generation 2

2. Johannes "John" Olsson. Johannes was born on 5 April 1818 and died on 11 February 1888¹⁰.
3. Britta "Rebecca" Danielsdotter was born on 1 April 1822 and died on 2 Sep 1901¹¹.

Generation 3

4. Olaus "Olof" Nilsson was born in 1768¹².

Generation 4

8. Nils Grelsson was born on 18 October 1738¹³ and died on 9 April 1816¹⁴.
9. Malin Olofsdotter was born 7 January 1735 and died on 18 June 1810¹⁵.

¹⁰ "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org:1/29/2017>), Johannes Olsson, 1888; Burial, Whitesite, Illinois, United States of America, Tampico Memorial Cemetary; citing record ID 127834843 Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

¹¹ "Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org:1/29/2017>), Britta Rebecca Danielsdotter, 1901; Burial, Whitesite, Illinois, United States of America, Tampico Memorial Cemetary; citing record ID 127827313 Find a Grave, <http://www.findagrave.com>.

¹² (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/27GH-1MH> : 1 January 2017); Found on family search. Information entered by Elenor Rebecca Antoniak.

¹³ (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/27GH-1MH> : 1 January 2017); Found on family search. Information entered by JulieLindmarkGarbarino.

¹⁴ (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/27GH-1MH> : 1 January 2017); Found on family search. Information entered by Elenor Rebecca Antoniak.

¹⁵ (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/27GH-1MH> : 1 January 2017); Found on family search. Information entered by JulieLindmarkGarbarino.

Descendants of Augustus Olsson

1. Augustus Olsson and Tilda Emerentia were a couple. For more information about Augustus and Tilda, see the biography above. Augustus Olsson and Clara Carlson were also a couple. For more information see the biography above.

Augustus and Tilda had one child.

+2 Saga Ebba Olsson

Augustus and Clara had one child.

+3 Vona I Olsson

2. Saga Ebba Olsson was born in Canada in 1907¹⁶.

3. Vona I Olsson was born 28 Feb 1919 in Illinois¹⁷. After Augustus Olsson died in 1937, Vona and her mother lived in Illinois¹⁸.

¹⁶ "United States Census, 1910," FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org>: accessed 30 January 2017).

¹⁷ "Illinois, Cook County, Birth Certificates, 1871-1940," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/N79P-MZ4> : 18 May 2016), Vona Olsson, 28 Feb 1919; citing Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States, reference/certificate 7620, Cook County Courthouse, Chicago; FHL microfilm 1,308,878.

¹⁸ "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/KWR6-DDH> : accessed 5 February 2017), Vona I Olsson in household of Clara C Olsson, Normal Town, Normal Township, McLean, Illinois, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) 57-69, sheet 9A, line 29, family 206, Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012, roll 842.

Questions for Further Research

We would like to research and know more about his descendants. We know only two of his children's names for certain. We would like to get a more complete picture of the people who are related to him.

We would also like to sort out what happened with his wives. We are fairly certain that he had at least two wives. However, we are not sure they were the only ones. We would like to know what other wives he had and what happened to his ex-wives. Were they divorced? Did their death cut off the marriage?

We would also want to find more information on when his parents immigrated to the United States. They were both born in Sweden, so we know that they must have immigrated. We would like to know when.

We have created a record for Augustus G. Olsson in the Family Tree on *FamilySearch*. The record locator is LRZK-S9W.

Source List

Augustana College, College and Theological Seminary Catalog, 1884- 85, 1885-86, 1886-87.

N.p.: Augustana Book Concern, Book and Job Printers, 1884-86. Print. 7 Dec 2016.

“Augustus Gaufred Olsson.” Ancestry.com. N.p.,n.d. Web 7 Dec. 2016

“Vermont, St. Albans Canadian Border Crossings 1895- 1954,” database with images,

FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:QS7-99DQ->

[GXV1?cc=2185163&wc=3KMC-C68%3A1018494101%2C1018729101](https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:QS7-99DQ-GXV1?cc=2185163&wc=3KMC-C68%3A1018494101%2C1018729101) : 9 October

2015), (M1461) Soundex Index to Canadian Border Entries through the St. Albans,

Vermont, District, 1895- 1924> image 3393 of 8178; citing NARA microfilm

publicationsM1461, M1463, M1464, and M1465 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.). 7 Dec. 2016.

“Indiana Marriages, 1811-2007,” database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org>:

21 January 2016), Augustus G Olsson in entry for Claus G Rydeen and Catherine Olson,

23 Mar 1888; citing Porter, Indiana, United States, various county clerk offices, Indiana.

“United States Census, 1910,” database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org>:

accessed 23 January 2017), Augustus Olsen, Richmond Ward 3, Richmond, New York,

United States; (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1982).

“United States Passport Applications, 1795-1925,” database with images, FamilySearch

(<https://familysearch.org/>: 4 September 2015), Augustus G Olsson, 1900; citing Passport

Application, Illinois, United States, source certificate #19544, Passport Applications,

1795-1905.