

CHRISTIAN FERDINAND OLSSON

July 17, 1848 – July 11, 1930

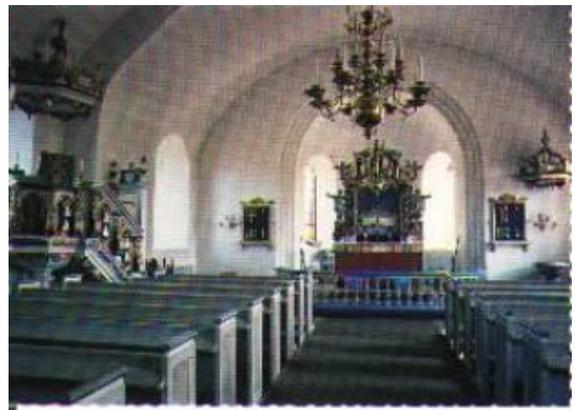
MATHILDA PETTERSDOTTER

June 28, 1853 – September 30, 1933

Christian Olsson, son of **Ola Nilsson** and **Anna Eskilsdotter**, was born on 17 July 1848 at Maglehult 1, Matteröd Parish, Skåne, Sweden. He was baptized on 22 July 1848. Godmother was Johanna Eskilsdotter, wife of Åbo Åke Svensson, from Skålsböke [Matteröd]. Godfathers were Torpare Sven Pehrsson from Haringstorp [Matteröd] and Dräng Pehr Nilsson from Isakstorp [Matteröd].

Christian Olsson's birth and baptismal record from the Matteröd Parish birth book for the year 1848. Chris's mother was 39 years old at his birth. **Christian's** baptism took place in the Matteröd Parish church.

1748 Christian Ferdinand Olsson föddes den 17 Julij 1848
 Nr 1 Maglehult Ola Nilsson och Hustruns
 Anna Eskilsdotter. 39 årig i Skålsböke.
 Åke Svantorp Luffen Johanna Eskilsdotter,
 Torparen Haringstorp Sven Pehrsson Dräng
 i Isakstorp. Pehr Nilsson 49 år.



Matteröd Kyrka (Church)

Christian appeared in the Matteröd clerical surveys for the years 1846-51. He moved from his birth home (Maglehult) to the farmstead Skålsböke with his parents and older brother Pehr. His retired grandfather **Eskil Hurtig** was living also with the family at Skålsböke.

Ola Nilsson	31	1801	Linnep.	48
Anna Eskilsdotter	29	1813	Skålsböke	48
Pehr Nilsson	17	1829	Isakstorp	48
Christina	17	1839	Skålsböke	48

Ola Nilsson	31	1801	Linnep.	48	67
Anna Eskilsdotter	29	1813	Skålsböke	48	67
Pehr Nilsson	17	1829	Isakstorp	48	67
Christina	17	1839	Skålsböke	48	67
Eskil Hurtig	29	1785			

In 1871 he moved to Tågeröd, Matteröd, which was the location of a mill where he may have worked for the year he lived there. A year later **Christian** moved from Tågeröd back to his parents' home at Skälsböke. A notation in the Matteröd clerical survey indicates that in April 1873 laborer **Christian** obtained a work permit to move to the city of Ängelholm, but it is not likely that he did. There is no further information about this move and neither is there a notation that he might have returned to Matteröd.

Christian developed quite the reputation during his younger years, so much so that it is preserved in a book entitled "Uppa På Åsen" ("Up the Hill"), a chronicle of Matteröd Parish written by Ivar Johansson and published by the Matteröd Historical Society in 1973. The book contains snippets of the history of the farmsteads and settlements in Matteröd. In the context of the history of Skälsböke, which also mentions **Christian's** father, **Ola Nilsson**, the author had this to say about **Christian**:

... Christian ("Sjö-pågen") blev en beryktad slagskämpe, särskilt iaktagen då "han var på rus."

... Christian ("Lakeboy") became a notorious brawler, especially noticeable "when he was drunk."

Christian became acquainted with his future wife, **Mathilda Pettersdotter**, probably during the 1880-81 timeframe. Their acquaintance led to cohabitation, which resulted in their daughter **Alma's** birth in October 1882.

Christian "fled" to Denmark in 1888 along with Elander Olsson, **Mathilda's** first cousin. They were joined by a Martin Pettersson (no known relation with **Mathilda**), and departed Copenhagen on 1 May 1888 with a declared destination of Sioux City, Iowa. Each was designated a "worker" (Arbejder) followed by his age, destination, contract number, emigration date, country of origin, country going to, and a contract number. (The "I" preceding the contract number indicates they were taking an "indirekt" route meaning they were bound for an intermediate port where they would board another ship for the U.S.)

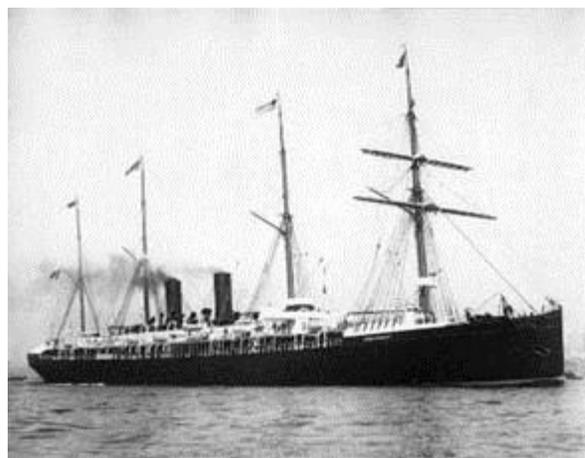
Olsson, Elander, Arbejder, 21, Sioux, Iowa, 4161, 5/1/1888, , -, Sverig, USA, , I8889O0801
Olsson, Christian, Arbejder, 39, Sioux, Iowa, 4158, 5/1/1888, , -, Sverig, USA, , I8889O0802
Petersson, Martin, Arbejder, 25, Sioux, Iowa, 4160, 5/1/1888, , -, Sverig, USA, , I8889P1807

Name:	Olsson, Christian	Occupation:	Arbejder
Age:	39	Destination:	Sioux, Iowa
Contract no.:	415800	Registration date:	5/1/1888
Last res. parish: ?		Last res. county:	- Sverige
Last residence:	Sverig	Destination country:	USA
Destination city:	Sioux City	Destination state:	Iowa
Name of ship:	Indirekte		
IDcode:	I8889O0802		

Name:	Olsson, Elander	Occupation:	Arbejder
Age:	21	Destination:	Sioux, Iowa
Contract no.:	416100	Registration date:	5/1/1888
Last res. parish: ?		Last res. county:	- Sverige
Last residence:	Sverig	Destination country:	USA
Destination city:	Sioux City	Destination state:	Iowa
Name of ship:	Indirekte		
IDcode:	I8889O0801		

However, the three evidently took different routes, or at least **Christian** took a different route than Elander and Martin. **Christian** arrived in America at New York City on 7 August 1888 aboard the French Line ship SS La Normandie from Le Havre, France. Neither Elander Olsson nor Martin Pettersson was listed on the passenger manifest for the SS La Normandie.

SS La Normandie



Christ F(erdinand) Olson and Mathilda Peterson were married on the 7th of September 1891 at Denison. This date – about three weeks after Mathilda's and Alma's arrival in America – indicates the marriage occurred soon after Mathilda reached Denison.

REGISTER OF MARRIAGES.

LEGAL NOT FOR PURPOSE

Clerk & Deputy, Ministers, Deacons.				
1 No. of License	1 By whom Affidavit, if any, is made	1 Full Name of Groom	1 Age next Birthday	1 Father's Name
2 Date of License	2 By Whom Consent to Marriage is Given	2 Place of Residence	2 Race or Color	2 Mother's Maiden Name
		3 Occupation	3 Place of Birth	3 No. of Groom's Marriage
1498		Christ F. Olson	35 years	Olof Nelson
		Denison Iowa		Anna Eskeloun
		Arkkan		First

1 Full Name of Bride	1 Age next Birthday	1 Father's Name	1 Where and When Married	1 Date of Return
2 Maiden Name if a Widow	2 Race or Color	2 Mother's Maiden Name	2 Witnesses	2 When Registered
3 Place of Residence	3 Place of Birth	3 No. of Bride's Marriage	3 By Whom Certified, Name and Office	
Mathilda Peterson	36 years	Peter Eskeloun	Denison Iowa	Sept 9 1891
		Lesla Olson	September 7 th 1891	Sept 11 1891
Denison Iowa		First	E. Lundgren Mrs. S. Ben	Rev. T. Skulat Pastor of Denison Ch.

The 1900 Crawford County (Denison) Iowa census reflects that Chris and Mathilda had then been married 9 years, i.e., from 1891.

On the 8th of December 1893 Christ F. Olson purchased Lot Twelve (12) in Block Seventy-Eight (78) in the Town of Denison for \$65. He and Mathilda built their home on this lot which became 1924 Broadway.

142 Providence Western Land Co. Deed Record.

S. MILLETT THOMPSON, Trustee,
Christ F. Olson
 Filed for record the 8th day of December 1893 at Denison Iowa
W. H. Lundgren
 Notary Public
 Entered for taxation this 8th day of Dec
 A. D. 1893. Fee 25 Cts Auditor

NOT FOR LEGAL PURPOSES

Know all Men by these Presents:

THAT I, S. MILLETT THOMPSON, of the City of Providence, and State of Rhode Island, Trustee, under and by virtue of that Trust Deed from the PROVIDENCE WESTERN LAND COMPANY, dated October 10th, 1878, duly recorded, and with the approval therein required as is shown by the signatures by the approval hereto annexed, for and in consideration of the sum of Sixty Five Dollars, to me paid by Christ F. Olson of the County of Crawford and State of Iowa, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby sell and convey unto the said Christ F. Olson his heirs and assigns, the following described property situated in the County of Crawford and State of Iowa, to-wit:

Lot Twelve (12) in Block Seventy Eight (78) in the Town of Denison, as shown by the map of said tract.

AND I, the undersigned S. MILLETT THOMPSON, Trustee, do covenant with the said Christ F. Olson his heirs and assigns, that I will warrant and defend the aforesaid premises against the lawful claims and demands of all persons claiming by, through, or under me.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 8th day of December A. D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and ninety three

Signed and sealed in presence of
Silvanus C. Jeff } S. Millett Thompson Trustee
 Approved, this 8th day of December A. D. 1893 } Geo. S. Phillips Successory Trustee

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, Providence, ss.
 BE IT REMEMBERED, that on this 8th day of December A. D. 1893 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County, personally came S. MILLETT THOMPSON to me personally known to be the identical person whose name is subscribed to the within Deed as Trustee and acknowledged the same to be his voluntary act and deed.

Witness my hand and Notarial Seal, the day and year last above written.
Silvanus C. Jeff Notary Public
 W. H. Lundgren



Chris & Mathilda c. 1910

Building Plan for Chris and Matilda's Home



Christian "Oleson" and his family appeared in the 1900 Census for Denison, Crawford County, Iowa:

Last Name	First Name	Relation	Race	Sex	Birth Month	Birth Year	S-M Age	W-D	# Years Married	# of Children Living	Children	Father Birthplace	Mother Birthplace	Year Immigrated	
Oleson	Chris	head	w	m	Jul	1851	48	m	9			Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	1887
Oleson	Matilda	wife	w	f	Jun	1856	43	m	9	1	1	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	1891
Oleson	Alma	daughter	w	f	Oct	1881	18	s				Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	1891
Bensen	Adolph	boarder	w	m	unk	1877	23					Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	1898
Catton	John	boarder	w	m	Feb	1844	56	s				England	England	England	1875

It is obvious that some information was either incorrectly given or entered in the census. For example, the birth years for **Chris**, **Mathilda**, and **Alma** are all incorrect, as is the immigration year for **Chris**. They had two boarders living with them – a Swede and an Englishman.

In the 1910 Federal Census for Denison, 3rd Ward, Crawford County, Iowa, **C. F. Olson** and **Matilda Olson** were living on Broadway. **Chris** was 61; **Matilda** was 56, both Swedish with Swedish parents. **Chris** was a railroad laborer.

In the 1920 Federal Census for Denison, East Broadway, 3rd Ward, Crawford County, Iowa, **Christ F. Olson** age 71, immigrated in 1888, naturalized in 1897 Swedish with Swedish parents, general laborer. **Matilda Olson** age 66, immigrated in 1891, naturalized in 1897, Swedish with Swedish parents. Living with **Chris** and **Matilda** was "nephew" Benjamin Olson age 38 single immigrated in 1887, naturalized in 1892, Swedish with Swedish parents, general laborer.

In the 1930 Federal Census for Denison, East Broadway, 3rd Ward, Crawford County, Iowa, **Christ F. Olson** and **Matilda** were living on East Broadway in a home valued at \$4,500. **Christ** was 81; **Matilda** was 77. **Christ** had been in the U.S. 39 years; **Matilda** 35 years. Both were Swedish with Swedish parents. Both were naturalized in 1892.

Chris and **Mathilda** were surrounded with family and friends. Old family photos depict them as well as **Alma** with relatives and other persons who today are unidentifiable. The photo below was taken at the 25th wedding anniversary celebration for Elander (“Ed”) and Assarina Olson in October 1917. (Elander was **Mathilda’s** first cousin who immigrated with **Chris Olson** in 1888.) Elander is not in the photo; he was evidently the photographer. Assarina is the second lady from the left in the middle row.

Back row: Orville Olson, probably Sherman Olson, Chris Olson, Edwin Olson, **Carl Storjohann**, and unknown

Middle row: unknown, Assarina Olson, unknown, Selma Nyland, **Mathilda Olson**, **Alma Olson Storjohann**

Front row: unknown, Amy Olson, Lillie Olson, **Raymond Storjohann**, **Isabel Storjohann**, **Lillie Storjohann**, **Elvera Storjohann**, **Julia Storjohann**



Edwin, Sherman, Lillie, Amy, and Orville were the sons and daughters of Elander and Assarina Olson. Selma Nyland was Assarina’s daughter from her first marriage to Oliver Nyland.

Chris Olson died on 11 July 1930 in Denison, Iowa.

CERTIFICATE OF VITAL RECORD			
STATE OF IOWA			
Certificate of Death			
DECEDENT'S NAME <u>Chris F Olson</u>			Certificate No. <u>24-30-82</u>
DATE OF DEATH <u>July 11, 1930</u>	TIME OF DEATH <u>3 PM</u>	AUTOPSY <u>Unknown</u>	
SEX <u>Male</u> AGE <u>81</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Under 1 year, most/days	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Under 1 day, hrs/min	Date of Birth <u>July 17, 1848</u>
PLACE OF DEATH <u>Crawford County</u>	<u>Denison</u> City, Town or Location	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Facility of Residence
HISPANIC ORIGIN <u>No</u>	RACE <u>White</u>	EDUCATION <u>X</u>	SOC. SEC. NO. <u>X</u>
BIRTH PLACE <u>X</u> <u>City</u>	CITIZENSHIP <u>Sweden</u> State/Foreign Country	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Country	VETERAN <u>Unknown</u>
MARITAL STATUS <u>Married</u>	SURVIVING SPOUSE <u>Mrs Mathilda Olson</u>		
INDUSTRY <u>Retired 12 Yrs</u>	OCCUPATION <u>Laborer</u>		
RESIDENCE <u>Iowa</u> State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County	<u>Denison</u> City, Town or Location	
FATHER'S NAME <u>Ole Nelson</u>	MOTHER'S NAME <u>Anna Eskelson</u>		
INFORMANT <u>Carl Storjohans</u>			
BURIAL <u>Burial</u> Method	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Place	<u>Denison</u> City	<u>Iowa</u> State
FUNERAL HOME <u>X</u>	DIRECTOR <u>Chas Bartcher</u>	F.D. LICENSE # <u>1297</u>	
ATTENDING PHYSICIAN <u>H.B. Wilkinson</u>	CERTIFIER <u>X</u>		
MANNER OF DEATH <u>Natural</u>	IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF DEATH <u>CEREBRAL HEMORRHAGE</u>		
DUE TO (Consequence of) _____			
DUE TO (Consequence of) _____			
DUE TO (Consequence of) _____			
DATE RECEIVED BY REGISTRAR <u>July 14, 1930</u>	"X" Indicates not shown on record		
NOTATIONS			
This is to certify that this is a true and correct reproduction of the original record as recorded in this office, issued under authority of Chapter 144, Code of Iowa.			
OCT 21 2002 DATE ISSUED 50488897 FORM #568-0285 (2002)		Thomas J. Vilsack GOVERNOR, STATE OF IOWA Sally J. Pederson, Lt. Governor Stephen C. Gleason, D.O.	
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“Mr. Chris F. Olson Died in Denison Home After Being Invalid for Five Years

The many friends in this community will regret the death of Mr. Chris F. Olson, which occurred at his home on East Broadway, Monday, July 11, 1930, at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Olson was a citizen of Denison for fifty years. For many years he has been engaged in the milk business and delivered milk to a loyal number of customers year after year. He was faithful to the last degree and no weather was too severe to stop him from making his rounds. He was unusually well versed in current events and loved to visit with his customers, friends and neighbors and with his fund of information and ready wit he was a most interesting companion.

Five years ago he suffered a stroke and since that time his faithful wife has looked after his welfare and continued his milk business.

The deceased was a staunch Democrat and it was his delight to have a political argument. He was always good natured and was greatly pleased to have his friends try to best him in an exchange of pleasantries. During the years that he has been almost helpless, he has been a patient sufferer and his loving wife has administered to his care and comfort in a most self-sacrificing way, aided as much as possible by his daughter and granddaughters.



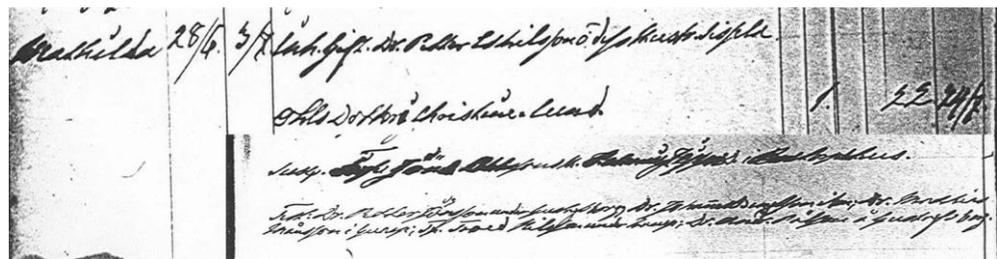
Chris Olson c. 1920

Chris Ferdinand Olson was born July 17, 1848, in Mattrod, Skane, Sweden. He came to America in 1889, first living at Sioux City, where he remained for a year. He then came to Denison and this city has been his home. In August, 1881, he was married to Miss Mathilda Peterson, in Sweden, and to this union one child was born, namely Alma, wife of Mr. Carl Storjohann, of Goodrich township. Besides his faithful wife and loving daughter, he leaves to mourn his demise, one sister, Elna Frieberg of Malmo, Sweden, four grandchildren and many friends.

His funeral was held at the Bartcher Funeral Home, Monday July 14th, at 2 p.m., Rev. William Freese officiating and his body was laid to rest in Oakland cemetery. Pallbearers were Ed Olson, Henry Dreesen, Henry Jacobsen, Fred Underwall, Chas. P. Larson and Nels Pearson.”

Mathilda Pettersdotter was born on 28 June 1853 in Kristinelund (Guvarp), Färingtofta Parish the daughter of **Petter Eskilsson** and **Sissela Olsdotter**. She was baptized on 3 July 1853 in Färingtofta. Godmother was ?Kahrin? Jeppasdotter, wife of Jöns Ohlsson from Perstorpshus. Godfathers were Dräng Petter Jönsson from Gustafsborg, Dräng Johannes Bengtsson from Gustafsborg, Dräng Mathias Månsson from Guarp, Torpare Troed Nilsson from Guarp, and Dräng Anders Pålsson from Gustafsborg.

Mathilda's
birth record from the
Färingtofta Parish birth
book 1853:





Mathilda was baptized in the Färingtofta Parish Church



Färingtofta Village

Mathilda and **Alma** emigrated from Malmö on 6 August 1891 aboard the S/S Malmö for England where they transferred to the White Star Line (Vita Stjärnan Linien) steamship RMS Teutonic for their trans-Atlantic voyage. According to the passenger manifest, **Mathilda Petterson**, age 35, wife, and **Alma O. Petterson**, age 7, arrived at New York on 19 August 1891. They probably traveled by train from New York to Denison.

Mathilda Olson died on 30 September 1933 in Goodrich Township, Crawford County, Iowa.

CERTIFICATE OF VITAL RECORD

STATE OF IOWA

STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1. PLACE OF DEATH
 County Crawford State IOWA Registered No. 10161
 Township Goodrich at Village _____ Ward _____
 City _____ (If death occurred in a hospital or institution give its name instead of street and number)

2. FULL NAME Mathilda Olson (Mrs.)
 (a) Residence No. 120 East Broadway (If non-resident give city or town and state)
 (b) Usual place of abode _____ Ward 3rd

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3. SEX Female 4. COLOR OF HAIR White 5. Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced (write the word)
Widowed

6. DATE OF BIRTH (month, day, and year) June 21, 1863
 7. AGE Years 80 Months 3 Days 9

8. Trade, profession, or occupation
Housewife

9. Industry or business in which work was done at time of death
None

10. Date deceased last worked at this occupation (month and year) _____ (11. Total time (years) spent in this occupation) _____

11. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Sweden

12. NAME Peter Eskelson

13. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Sweden

14. MAIDEN NAME not given

15. BIRTHPLACE (city or town) Sweden

16. INFORMANT Edith Johnson
 (Address) Denison, Iowa

17. BURIAL, CREMATION, OR REMOVAL
Denison, Iowa Date Oct 2, 1933

18. LICENSED EMERALGIST
 (Address) Denison, Iowa

19. FILED Oct 2, 1933 Denison, Iowa
24-74 (COVER)

12. DATE OF DEATH (month, day, and year) SEP 30 1933
 13. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from 9/28/33 to 9/29/33
 I last saw a 90 year old on 9/29/33 at _____ death is said to have occurred on the date which above is set forth.
 The principal cause of death and related causes of importance in order of their causality are:
Terminal Ed. of lungs
Chronic Myocarditis
Gen. Arteriosclerosis
Gen. Senile changes
 Contributory causes of importance and related to principal above: _____

Name of physician _____ Date of operation _____
 Was test confirmed diagnostic? Yes Was there an autopsy? NO

13. If death was due to external cause (trauma): Fill in also the following:
 Accident, violence, or homicide? _____ Date of injury _____ If _____
 Where did injury occur? _____ (Specify city or town, county, and state)
 Specify whether injury occurred in industry, in home, or in public place.

Manner of injury _____
 Nature of injury _____
 If not specified, was disease or injury in any way related to occupation of deceased? NO
 If so, specify: _____
 (Signed) J. James Neff M. D. (Address) Denison, Iowa

This is to certify that this is a true and correct reproduction of the original record as recorded in this office, issued under authority of Chapter 144, Code of Iowa.

OCT 2 1 2002

DATE ISSUED S0488003
 F004 888 0000 0000

Thomas J. Visack
 GOVERNOR, STATE OF IOWA

John C. Gleason
 STATE REGISTRAR OF VITAL RECORDS

S. J. Peterson, Lt. Governor
 Stephen C. Gleason, D. O.

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ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE

Her obituary from the Denison Review, October 5, 1933:

“Mrs. C. F. Olson, a pioneer resident of Denison, passed away Saturday, September 30, at the home of her only child, Mrs. Carl Storjohann, residing in Goodrich township. She has been in failing health all summer but was only serious ill for one day.

Last rights were conducted Monday afternoon at the Bartcher Funeral Home at 2 o'clock, Reb. Wm. Frese officiating. She had requested three songs be sung, namely: “Abide With Me,” “The Old Rugged Cross” and “Nearer My God to Thee.” These songs had been sung at the funeral of Mrs. Olson’s grandson, Carl Raymond Storjohann, who died Jan. 17, 1929, and also at the funeral of Mr. Olson who preceded his wife in death July 11, 1930.

The floral tributes were many and beautiful, expressing silently the esteem in which she was held by her many friends. Interment was made in Oakland cemetery by the side of her husband. The pallbearers were Sears Nelson, Carl Lundquist, Frank Hain, Ed Olson, A. H. Brogden and Henry Jacobsen. Among those from out of town who attended the services were Mr. and Mrs. Nels Gergman of near Arthur, Mrs. and Mrs. Emil Olson and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Johnson of Kiron.



Mathilda Olson c. 1920

Matilda Peterson was born June 21, 1853, at Smedeboda, West Torup, Sweden, where she was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. She was always a devout Christian and exemplified the teachings of her youth in her deeds.

She was married to Chris F. Olson in August, 1881, and they continued to make their home in Sweden for a number of years. Mr. Olson came to the United States in August, 1889, and his wife joined him just two years later. They made their home in Denison continuously and lived in their home on East Tremont Street since 1893.

Mrs. Olson was beloved by all who knew her for her generous nature, her willingness to help others and her interest in her home and loved ones. Here has been a life of usefulness to those near to her and friends who are legion will always treasure the memory of a true neighbor and friends.

In addition to her only daughter, Mrs. Alma Storjohann, she is survived by four grandchildren, Lillie Caroline, Isabelle Mathilda (Mrs. Carl Beymer), Julia Marguerite and Elvera Eleanor, one great grandchild, Carl Edward Beymer, two brothers, Bengt and Nels Peterson in Sweden, and scores of friends.”