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### Emerson, Christopher A. (1839 - 1932)

Melba Peterson

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EMERSON, CHRISTOPHER A.

File No. B-333

Christopher A. Emerson was born in Skein, Norway on July 17, 1839. He left for America as a cabin boy on a sailing vessel when he was nine years old. He followed the sea for many years prior to coming to Sauk Centre.

When he was thirteen years old he returned to Norway to bring his parents to America. He located them at Whitewater, Wisconsin. He then returned to the sea. His most notable trip was from New York to San Francisco by way of Cape Horn. On this trip he was the ship's carpenter. The trip took from July until January. When he reached California he searched for gold in the goldfields.

During the Crimean War, he served on a boat carrying supplies from England to Russia.

He finally located at La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he married Jeanie Whyte, of Scotch descent. Soon after their marriage, they moved to Milwaukee, where Christopher Emerson bought a freighting schooner and spent several years traversing Lake Michigan.

About 1880, they located in Sauk Centre. Here, Christopher Emerson was associated with the farm implement firm of Dean and Company. Later he was on the road for many years as salesman and collector for McCormick Harvester Company. He retired when he was sixty-five years old.

About 1892 he became a silent partner of his son-in-law, P. B. Hanson, where there purchased the Corner Drug Store. This was continued until Peter B. Hanson's death in May, 1932.

Christopher Emerson was an active member of the Sauk Centre Congregational Church. About thirty-nine years ago when the church was built, Christopher Emerson and M. F. Woodburg were the sole

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committee in charge of the construction, Christopher Emerson was a member of the Board of deacons.

Six children were born to Christopher and Jeanie (Whyte) Emerson. They are Mrs. Peter B. Hanson, dead; Josephine of Sauk Centre; Walter of Spokane, Washington; Irving of Oakland, California; Annabelle of Sauk Centre; and Jeanie, who is dead. There are four grandsons.

The Misses Josephine and Annabelle reside in the family home on the corner of Fifth and Pine streets during the summer months.

Christopher Emerson died on November 29, 1932.

Interviewed: Donald Hanson(a grandson son)  
Date: January 26, 1937  
By: Melba Peterson

Publication Granted



FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE CHRISTOPHER A. EMERSON BIOGRAPHY

DEATH RECORD BOOK Y. PAGE 23 LINE 580

Christopher A. Emerson Born in Norway July 17, 1839

Died November 29, 1932

Age 93 years 4 months and 12 days