

3

families when Mother was in her teens. Anna, with her four oldest, Gustav, Anna, Oscar and Thora, lived upstairs in the family home while Anna's Husband, Petter was off to make a home for them in the United States. Later, he came for them, but while they were at home, Moster Katrin stayed with the children many hours because Anna "did like to flit around a bit". They settled in Worcester, Mass.

Ida, and her husband Petter lived nearby. They were blessed with eleven children, one of whom is the Hedvig we knew in Chicago. The children often stayed at Mother's home so they wouldn't have so far to walk to school in bad weather. Hedvig writes again:

"As I very often stayed at Grandma's I saw her [Katrin] very much during my early childhood. I saw her at work in the fields, in the barn milking cows and at the loom. One evening at milking time a wanderer stopped by the barn. He carried a canary in a cage all covered up. It looked mysterious. He talked to Moster and Grandma a bit and finally asked if he could spend the night. After some consultation between mother and daughter, he was allowed to stay. Come morning the man offered Moster "et lycka brev" [a lucky note] in line of pay. I can see the bird cage uncovered, a little door opened and a drawer in the cage pulled out with little slips of paper tucked in it. The little bird stepped on the edge of the drawer and started pecking at the papers, just as if he wanted to select a real special one for Moster. Here it was at last and she read the message and giggled and Grandma did the