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Augustana Seniors Fall 1885: Erik Solomon Tjernberg

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Augustana Seniors Fall 1885 : Erik Solomon Tjernberg
Maame Araba Vander-Pallen
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Erik Solomon Tjernberg

Erik Solomon Tjernberg\(^1\) (now Ternberg\(^2\)) was born on 23 November 1858\(^3\), in Junsele Fjällsjö, Västernoorland, Sweden to Solomon Erson (also known as Salomon Ericsson\(^5\)) and Anna Stina(née Pehrsdotter)\(^6\). Tjernberg came to the United States on 1 March 1884\(^7\) to better his education to become a pastor. Before coming to the United States, Erik went to Fjellstedt School in Sweden for three years\(^8\). Tjernberg was admitted into Augustana College on 24 August 1883\(^9\). On his registration card, he stated that he needed beneficiary aid which most likely meant he came from a poor family, or he was living by himself and needed help. While Erik was at Augustana College, he took many courses ranging from math, Latin, history, and geography\(^10\).

Every day, Erik would have to wake up around six in the morning to make sure that his room

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\(^1\) Family Tree contributors, “Eric Solomon Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-PW3, FamilySearch.org, The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints : March 2018


\(^3\) Registration Card for Erik S. Tjernberg, 1883, MSS 241 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

\(^4\) Registration card for Erik S. Tjernberg, 1883, Folder 10 1883 A – Z, Box 1 Early Registration Records, MSS 241c, Augustana College Office of the Registrar records, Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The registration card is a printed form with hand-written information, almost certainly filled in and signed in 1883 by Erik S. Tjernberg.

\(^5\) “Eric Solomon Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-PW3

\(^6\) Conrad Bergendoff, The Augustana Ministerium (Rock Island, Illinois: Augustana Historical Society, 1980), page 146. The Ministerium was compiled from other sources. It is a transcription. When the original sources were in Swedish, it is also a translation.

\(^7\) Registration Card for Erik S. Tjernberg, 1883, MSS 241 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

\(^8\) Beck, My Church, 138


\(^10\) Tjernberg Letter to College Official, 1883, MSS 2 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records, Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The letter is handwritten by Tjernberg that states the courses he will do in Augustana.
was clean for room checks\textsuperscript{11}. Erik would have to make his bed and make sure the room was all tidied up before he could start the rest of his day\textsuperscript{12}. From here, Erik would walk down a couple of stairs or a hallway to get to his classroom\textsuperscript{13}. At this time, all of the classes and dorm rooms were in the same building as one another\textsuperscript{14}. Even the professors stayed just a few floors above the students which is something that one would not see today\textsuperscript{15}. Sometime in the afternoon, Erik would have probably gone to lunch in the dining hall which also located in the same building\textsuperscript{16}. From here, Erik would have time to do school work and possibly socialize, but there was a light out policy at 10:00 pm which forced him to wind down for the night\textsuperscript{17}. While in Augustana, Tjernberg was a part of the Phrenokosmian Society\textsuperscript{18}. He graduated from Augustana in 1886\textsuperscript{19}.

After graduation, Tjernberg went into the ministry to become a pastor. Erik was ordained a pastor in 1888 at Galesburg, Illinois\textsuperscript{20}. Once ordained into the ministries, he became a pastor in

\textsuperscript{11} Transcription from Faculty Meeting Minutes, 1883, Notebook 4F, Box 2 Augustana College faculty and committees records, MSS 243, Augustana College Office of the Registrar records, Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The registration card is a printed form with hand-written information, almost certainly filled in and signed in 1883 by Erik S. Tjernberg.

\textsuperscript{12} Transcription from Faculty Meeting Minutes, 1883, MSS 243 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

\textsuperscript{13} Transcription from Faculty Meeting Minutes, 1883, MSS 243 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

\textsuperscript{14} Transcription from Faculty Meeting Minutes, 1883, MSS 243 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

\textsuperscript{15} Transcription from Faculty Meeting Minutes, 1883, MSS 243 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

\textsuperscript{16} Transcription from Faculty Meeting Minutes, 1883, MSS 243 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

\textsuperscript{17} Transcription from Faculty Meeting Minutes, 1883, MSS 243 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

\textsuperscript{18} Phrenokosmian Society records, MSS 214 Box 7 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records, Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. This record details Tjernberg as a member of this society.

\textsuperscript{19} Commencement Program, 1886, Folder 1 1868–1899, Box 1 Commencement Programs 1868–1936, MSS 248, Augustana College Office of the President Records, Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The twenty-fourth annual commencement program for Thursday, June 10th, 1886, is a small printed leaflet of four pages.

\textsuperscript{20} Beck, My Church, 138
Malmo, Nebraska\textsuperscript{21}. Although he started his career in Nebraska, Tjernberg would move all over the country for different job opportunities. Tjernberg worked in Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Iowa, Minnesota, New Jersey, and even Ontario and Sweden\textsuperscript{22}. During this time, he met his wife named Maria Palmquist\textsuperscript{23} and he would go on to have five children, one boy and four girls. The girls names were Mrs. Anna Natalia Lindberg, Mrs. G.A. Erickson, Mrs. Morris Anderson, Miss Signey Ternberg, and the son’s name was Gotthard\textsuperscript{24}.

After forty five years of being a pastor, Erik may have retired in 1930, three years before his death. Erik Tjernberg passed away on 24 November 1933 from a heart attack\textsuperscript{25}. Tjernberg passed away and was buried near Ramsey County, Minnesota in He was aged 75 years, one month and one day old\textsuperscript{26}. He left behind a wife and five children.

\textsuperscript{21} Beck, \textit{My Church}, 138
\textsuperscript{22} Beck, \textit{My Church}, 138
\textsuperscript{23} “Eric Solomon Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-PW3
\textsuperscript{24} Beck, \textit{My Church}, 139 - 140
Ancestors of Erik Tjernberg

Generation 1

1. Erik Solomon Tjernberg. For more information about Erik, see the biography in the main part.

Generation 2

2. Solomon Erson. Solomon was born 26 January 1825 in Dorotea, Västernoorland, Sweden. Solomon was a farmer in Erik’s home town. Solomon married Anna Christina (3) on the 2 October 1858.

3. Anna Christina. Anna was born in Bjorna, Västernoorland, Sweden in 1835. Anna married Solomon (2) on 2 October 1858. Solomon and Anna had children.
   i. Erik. See 1. above.
   ii. Petrus Salomonsson. Petrus was born 6 May 1861 in Sweden.
   iii. Salomon Salomonsson. Salomon was born 30 May 1863 in Sweden.
   iv. Cajsa Stina Salomonsdotter. Cajsa was born 17 April 1866 in Sweden.

v. Jonas Salomonsson. Jonas was born 20 April 1869 in Sweden and died 6 April 1894.

vi. Anna Märtha Tjernberg Salomonsdotter. Anna was born 10 May 1872 in Sweden.


viii. Oskar Nyman Salomonsson. Oskar was born 3 August 1876 in Sweden and died 20 December 1958.

ix. Ida Maria Salomonsdotter. Ida was born 12 July 1878 in Sweden and died 9 August 1878.

x. Johannes Salomonsson. Johannes was born 9 September 1879 in Sweden and died 22 February 1951.
Generation 3

4. Erik Märtensson\(^48\). Erik was born 22 February 1789 in Dorotea, Västernoorland, Sweden\(^49\). Erik married Karin Mattsdotter (5) in 1811\(^50\). Erik died on 2 August 1847 in Björna, Västerbotten, Sweden\(^51\).

5. Karin Mattsdotter\(^52\). Karin was born 24 February 1788 in Åsele, Västerbotten, Sweden\(^53\). Karin married Erik (4) in 1811\(^54\). Karin died 10 March 1863\(^55\).

\(^{48}\) “Dorotea C:1 (1796–1837)”, database of images, ArkivDigital, (http://www.arkivdigital.net: accessed 5 April 2019), image 73 / page 138, AID: v139217.b73.s138, NAD: SE/HLA/1010031, Solomon Eron (b. 1825) and family in Västernoorland, Sweden; Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The image is a photograph of the original parish register and shows Solomon Eron(b. 1825) and his parents and witnesses / sponsors

\(^{49}\) Family Tree contributors, "Salomon Ericsson", Family Tree locator KLV2-3LZ, FamilySearch.org, The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints : April 2018

\(^{50}\) “Salomon Ericsson”, Family Tree locator KLV2-3LZ

\(^{51}\) “Salomon Ericsson”, Family Tree locator KLV2-3LZ


\(^{53}\) "Salomon Ericsson", Family Tree locator KLV2-3LZ

\(^{54}\) "Salomon Ericsson", Family Tree locator KLV2-3LZ

\(^{55}\) “Salomon Ericsson”, Family Tree locator KLV2-3LZ
Descendants of Erik Tjernberg

Generation 1

1. Erik Solomon Tjernberg. Erik married Maria Palmquist. For more information about Erik and Maria, see the biography in the main part.

Erik and Maria had five children.

+2. i. Eric Gothard Ternberg
+3. ii. Anna Ternberg
+4. iii. Ebba M. Ternberg
+5. iv. Signe E. Ternberg
+6. v. Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg

Generation 2

2. Eric Gothard Ternberg. Eric was born 5 May 1889 in Malmo, Saunders, Nebraska, United States. Eric married Alta Ternberg.

Eric had three children.

7. i. Milton Ternberg
8. ii. Jessie Ternberg
9. iii. Dean Ternberg

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56 Family Tree contributors, "Eric Gothard Ternberg", Family Tree locator LYR6-W7J, FamilySearch.org, The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints : April 2018
57 “Eric Gothard Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYR6-W7J
58 “Eric Gothard Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYR6-W7J
59 “Eric Gothard Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYR6-W7J
60 “Eric Gothard Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYR6-W7J
61 “Eric Gothard Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYR6-W7J
3. Anna Natalia Ternberg. Anna was born in November 1890\textsuperscript{62} in Pennsylvania, United States\textsuperscript{63}. Anna married Walter Lindberg\textsuperscript{64}.

4. Ebba M. Ternberg. Ebba was born in 1895\textsuperscript{65} in Nebraska, United States\textsuperscript{66}.

5. Signe E. Ternberg. Signe was born in 1897\textsuperscript{67} in Rhode Island, United States\textsuperscript{68}.

6. Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg. Dagny was born in 17 July 1901\textsuperscript{69} in Iowa, United States\textsuperscript{70}. Dagny married Mauritz Eugene Anderson\textsuperscript{71} on 14 May 1919\textsuperscript{72} in Sibley, Minnesota, United States\textsuperscript{73}. Dagny and Mauritz had no children\textsuperscript{74}. Dagny died on 2 October 1982\textsuperscript{75} in San Diego, California, United States\textsuperscript{76}.

\textsuperscript{62} Family Tree contributors, “Anna Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYR6-3V6, FamilySearch.org, The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints : April 2018
\textsuperscript{63}“Anna Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYR6-3V6
\textsuperscript{64} “Anna Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYR6-3V6
\textsuperscript{65} Family Tree contributors, “Ebba M. Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-CBP, FamilySearch.org, The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints : April 2018
\textsuperscript{66} “Ebba M. Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-CBP
\textsuperscript{67} Family Tree contributors, “Signe E. Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-J3W, FamilySearch.org, The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints : April 2018
\textsuperscript{68} “Signe E. Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-J3W
\textsuperscript{69} Family Tree contributors, “Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-KTC, FamilySearch.org, The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints : April 2018
\textsuperscript{70} “Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-KTC
\textsuperscript{71} “Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-KTC
\textsuperscript{72} “Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-KTC
\textsuperscript{73} “Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-KTC
\textsuperscript{74} “Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-KTC
\textsuperscript{75} “Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-KTC
\textsuperscript{76} “Dagny Elizabeth Margaret Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYRD-KTC
Questions for Further Research

Given more time, we would have liked to find more information on his mother as the only thing we could find was his mother’s year of birth and where she was born. When looking for his ancestors, all we could find was information on his father but nothing on his mother. If we could have returned to the Swenson Swedish Immigration Center, we might have been able to look for extra information about his mother.

Another question for further research we have is how he came to the United States in 1884, but was enrolled in Augustana in 1883. We think that this was either an error on the person who kept record or, he enrolled in Augustana, then went back to Sweden before fully emigrating in 1884 to America.

Finally, the last thing that we wish we could do if we had more time was to find more information about what Erik did during his time at Augustana College. We know that Erik participated in Phrenokosmian Society, but nothing much beyond that. Going to Special Collections a second time will help us find out about his involvement in his society.

A record for Erik Solomon Tjernberg is in the Family tree on FamilySearch. The record locator is LYRD-PW3.
Source List

*Augustana College Catalog 1885-1886*. Augustana College. Special Collections. Rock Island.


Augustana College of Theological Seminary Office of the Registrar Records (MSS 241 C), Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.

Augustana College of Theological Seminary Office of the Registrar Records (MSS 243), Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.

*Commencement Program 1886*. Augustana College. Special Collections. Rock Island.


Family Tree contributors, “Anna Ternberg”, Family Tree locator LYR6-3V6, *FamilySearch.org*, The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints.


