**CONTENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Research Center at the Emigrant Institute in Växjö</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swedish Bible Records</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burials in the St. Ansgarius Church (Minneapolis) 1892–1900</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Walloon Contract from 1623</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ancestor Tables</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genealogical Queries</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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The Research Center at the Emigrant Institute in Växjö*

Ulf Beijbom

The formation of the archives and library at the Emigrant Institute in Växjö began in January 1968. It was a natural evolvement, based upon the rich resources of historical material founded on the emigration phenomenon in the province of Småland. America letters, diaries, photographs and other source materials in private hands were collected throughout the Småland parishes, most of it copies, so that the originals could be returned to the owners. The Swedish National Labor Board (Arbetsmarknadsstyrelsen) placed three paid employees at the disposal of the Institute, whose task it became to systematically go through the newspaper files of Växjöbladet and Smålandsposten, excerpting articles, notices and advertisements dealing with emigration. At the same time the essential cooperation with the various local history societies (hembygdsföreningar) and amateur researchers was continuously expanded, of prime importance to the gradual building-up of the archives. Of special importance was the inventory of emigrants from the province of Halland, spearheaded by Nils Johansson in Hässleholm. A basic collection of private emigrant archives from all of Sweden was received as a result of a contest sponsored by the Swedish magazine Året Runt in 1966, entitled “Amerikaminnen.”

The basis for the Institute’s series of statistically important source materials was made with the purchase of microfilmed passport journals and the summaries of census reports. Microfilms of the Swedish American newspapers Hemlandet and Svenska Amerikanaren were bought in 1967. During the same year an inventory was begun, based on the material dealing with emigrants from parish registers, a task which not only occupied the Institute’s staff but also a number of volunteers.

During 1968 an inventory was begun of the research material on emigration existing in other institutions and societies. An appeal was mailed out to about

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2,000 names and addresses. That year was also to become the watershed in the growth and development of the Emigrant Institute. Three major events took place that year. First of all it was the year the House of Emigrants was dedicated. The second important event was the donation to the Institute by Vilhelm Moberg of his manuscripts and source materials dealing with his magnum opus, The Emigrants and it was also the year which saw the beginning of the registration and the microfilming of the Swedish American church records in the United States.

In the House of Emigrants the Institute realized its dream of having highly desirable quarters for its archives and library. The American inventory project as well as the microfilming which followed, was made possible by grants from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation of Stockholm. This project became the focus for much of the activity in the U.S. and Canada. Already by 1968 church minutes and membership records of 73 Swedish American church parishes in Minnesota had been inventoried. This project, begun by Hans Nor­man, an Uppsala historian, was continued the following year by myself. By the time I left for Sweden I had engaged Lennart Setterdahl to continue the registration. During the decade which followed Setterdahl continued and completed one of the most gigantic ethnic archival projects in North America. Approximately 2,000 parish and organizational archives had then been registered and microfilmed.

The American project in the Swedish settlement areas also stimulated a number of other activities. Thus a large collection of printed works began to arrive, the excerpting chore was intensified and the archives were enlarged with a section set aside for photographs and voice tapes.

In 1969 Sten Almqvist initiated a research project called "Emigration to the Antipodes," i.e. Australia and New Zealand, and in 1972 O. R. Landelius, a Swedish writer, donated the first portion of his valuable book and manuscript collection dealing with Swedes abroad to the Institute. This was followed after his death in 1977 by the remainder of his collection. The Landelius collection has thus become the greatest single book collection in the Institute’s library holdings. In 1974 three other valuable collections came to Växjö, the archives of the Swedish American author and poet, Arthur Landfors, the Cappelin Collection, containing the J. A. Edman diaries from the Gold Rush in California and Bertil Woller’s Collection of material on Swedes in Russia.

The first step in the organizing of a microfilm center in southeastern Sweden was started in 1976, when the microfilmed parish records for the län of Kronoberg were purchased. These records reach back as far as records were kept and date until the present day (i.e. the time that they are still confidential, roughly seventy years). By 1981 the goal had been reached, where genealogists, visiting the Institute, could have the use of the microfilmed records of the entire Diocese of Växjö. This has been a great boon to researchers, not least to the visiting Swedish Americans, who have thus been able to discover their roots, thanks to the microfilms deposited at the Emigrant Institute.
In 1976 the registration process was extended to the provinces of Öland and Västergötland and the Institute was in the vanguard in opening the excerpting centers in the county libraries of both Borås and Skara. In 1977 a fortuitous cooperative venture was inaugurated between the Institute and an American couple, Ed and Gerda Sundberg, residing in Watsonville, CA, who had organized their "Ribbons of Memories" project dealing with a series of interviews with Swedish Americans and preserved on tape.

In addition to the major mile posts reached in the development of the Institute archives, there has been a continuous flow of lesser, yet very valuable private collections, which have come to the Institute. The excerpting and the registration activities have been going on apace, and now include a detailed index to each of the archival items, as well as a personal name index to the approximately 100,000 references in the literature. A new grant from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation in November 1979 made it possible to buy literature and microfilms in the U.S., including 150 microfilmed Swedish American newspapers as well as microfilms of the United States Census from 1850 to 1900 for those counties possessing heavy Swedish immigration.

The constitution guiding the foundation of the Emigrant Institute defines the purpose of the Institute’s archival policy as follows: "to advance scholarship at various levels in the history of emigration and to achieve this purpose, to organize archives, indexes and a library of various source materials." This rather general goal has given the Institute relatively free hands in dealing with Swedish emigration during the period of 1845-1930, which was directed mainly to the North American continent. For this reason, this segment of Swedish emigration has had a certain priority, which fortuitously occurred at the same time as an intensive interest in emigration to America occurred at the University of Uppsala, where during the entire 1960s, The Institute of American History developed the most ambitious history project dealing with emigration in all of Europe. The director of the Emigrant Institute was himself an integral part of the Uppsala project and could therefore be helpful in channeling some of the desiderata regarding service and source materials, which proved to be of great benefit to the research program.

Modern research in emigration history has focused mainly on the demographic and social aspects of the emigration phenomenon. This research depended often on population statistics and economic data. Also narrative accounts as documented in the contemporary press regarding emigration were also deemed valuable. But this type of source material was not easily worked and sometimes defied the attempt at unlocking its secrets. Parish records, passenger manifests, census returns and newspapers could serve as sources only after a laborious excerpting procedure. This procedure could be done exceptionally well at a specialized institution such as the Emigrant Institute.

The collection of private source materials in the Institute’s holdings has been of great help in providing an individual centered complement to the many statistical tables. Historians, influenced by ethnology and sociology, were no longer
strangers to such items as American letters, autobiographies, diaries and interviews. The contemporary historian began paying more attention to the special areas in America dealing with Swedish immigration. Not only the rural areas, typified by Moberg in his tetralogy, but also the urban and the industrialized areas of cities caught their attention. This mood, therefore, became the catalyst which triggered the pioneering project of the Emigrant Institute in registering and microfilming the archives of the Swedish American church parishes and secular organizations.

The academics dealing with the phenomenon of emigration history were interested in major population migrations and in constructing descriptive models for the proper understanding of emigration as a social movement and as one of the most powerful forces in history. Most historians were, however, conscious of the fact that studies on the macro level often were suspended in midair, without the individual contact on the micro level. This concept underlined the private story of the emigrant as mirrored in the Institute’s source material.

The donation which Vilhelm Moberg made to the Emigrant Institute, comprising all of his research material for his emigrant novels, has assured for the Emigrant Institute the role of linking its function with the individual emigrant and the conditions which produced him. The America letter, the emigrant diary and other personal documents would become more important in the development of the archives than the enormous statistical series. Thus the Institute was in an excellent position to link up with the important research being done on the local level. The Emigrant Institute thereby functioned not only as a service institution for the professional scholars at the university level, but could also be of help to the amateur doing research on his family or for the local history project. This development has been quite obvious in recent years with the diminishing level of activity in emigrant studies at the universities and the increased level of interest in genealogical research which lately has expanded with an explosive force.

Genealogists on both sides of the Atlantic have become increasingly interested in the unique series of microfilmed Swedish American parish records and the indexes which combine Swedish and American source material. The House of Emigrants has become the place where Swedish Americans search for their “unknown family” and their roots. The research areas of the Institute are more and more being used and the stream of incoming inquiries has become more and more difficult to handle. This amateur interest in the research possibilities of the Institute can be interpreted as the final positive answer to the question whether the creation of the archives was indeed meaningful. At the same time it should be noted that the modest resources of the Institute are being strained to the limit. It is therefore sometimes difficult to live up to the expectations of the general public.

One of these demands deals with inter-library loans of microfilms. The Institute has been forced to restrict these loans for the following reasons: 1) The Institute only possesses one copy of each microfilm series; 2) The Institute has
no funds for postage, and it would be counterproductive to charge for services of this type; 3) The Institute has no funds for replacing or repairing damaged films or their cardboard boxes. For these reasons, all inter-library loans have been restricted to provincial archives and university libraries in Sweden. The same rules apply to the books in the library.

This means of course that research at the Emigrant Institute must be done by personally visiting the center. Here is located a research room with microfilm readers in addition to a special index room, where the collections can be consulted easily. Both an archivist and a librarian are on hand to give assistance in procuring the needed research material. Thus the Emigrant Institute functions very much like a provincial archives. Additionally the guests of the Institute have the opportunity of viewing the exhibits, which give a visuality to the source materials on deposit in the center.

Briefly I wish to describe below the main series available in the House of Emigrants which deal with emigration research, as well as the source materials available in Sweden. This description will give the reader a compressed view of the most general aids in following up Swedish emigration research.

**Swedish Parish Records**

From the beginning of the 18th century, in some cases going back to the 17th, the population of Sweden has been recorded in parish records of one form or another. For the emigration scholar, the household examination rolls (*husförhörslängder*), in which the entire population was recorded, as well as the exit permits, are the most interesting. Nearly all of the emigration statistics build on these primary sources. Since the exit permit rolls have been in use since the beginning of the emigration era, this material is usually the starting point in any genealogical study. The individual who moved from a parish was obligated to procure an exit permit (*flyttningsbetyg*), and this fact was duly noted in the exit permit roll (*utflyttningslängden*). This notation referred to the more detailed information in the household examination roll, where the fact of emigration is also recorded. The exit roll as well as the household examination roll, therefore, give us the most detailed information concerning the emigrants. Of these two sources, the household examination roll is by far the most reliable. It was not until 1885 that the exit permit became obligatory in the procurement of the emigrant contract in a Swedish port. Even so, not all emigrants obtained an exit permit, with the result that the individual’s emigration was not noted in the household examination roll until after the emigrant had left, or if he disappeared altogether, his name was entered in a special roll of absconded parishioners (*obeftinlighetslängden*). Thus emigration research cannot be based solely on the exit permit roll.

Since the parish record material for older periods is spread out at seven provincial and two city archives, and since after the turn of the century the material is spread out in thousands of parish offices throughout Sweden, it is primarily the microfilm which gives us the possibility of overviewing the gigantic
Swedish American Genealogist

source material we are dealing with. The parish records have been microfilmed up to the time that they are confidential (roughly seventy years from a person's birth). As already stated, the Emigrant Institute has purchased the greater portion of the material which deals with the Diocese of Växjö, i.e. the main portion of the three län which comprise Småland, Jönköping, Kalmar and Kronoberg. Emigration from a great majority of these parishes has been mapped with the help of an index card marked "A", with space for information from the exit permit rolls as well as the household examination books. The result of this excerpting has been a chronological, sometimes alphabetical index of names, as a rule brought forward to the end of the microfilming project, but in some instances running well to the end of the emigration era or approximately 1930. These excerpts have been done either at the Institute or by provincial researchers throughout the country.

**Passport Journals**

In connection with our first wave of emigrants 1846–1853, the Swedish authorities became interested in a statistical survey. The Swedish Central Bureau of Statistics (Statistiska Centralbyrån, formerly known as Tabellverket), demanded in 1856 that the various län governments should furnish emigrant lists to the central authorities. The emigration going back as far as 1851 was to be covered in these passport journals.

Already during the 17th century it had been obligatory for a foreign traveller to arm himself with a passport, usually furnished by the län administration. The traveller’s name, age, occupation and place of abode was to be noted in the journals. Notations concerning accompanying relatives were, however, very sketchy. Neither can one judge from the character of these passport journals if the emigrant departed from Sweden for business or personal reasons.

Based upon this rather meager material the statisticians now began to gather in the name lists from the län administrations with the emigrant’s name, age, civil status, occupation, parish where he lived and his destination. Even though these statistics were complemented with material from the parish offices, the whole exercise proved to be a gigantic failure. According to the official Emigrant Commission, which was to produce a report much later, it was found that based upon this material, the unregistered emigration during the 1850s amounted to as much as 119% of the registered portion.

Only the passport journals for the län of Gävleborg and Västernorrland have been accessioned on microfilm. Our earliest organized emigration, that of the erik janssonists, is to be found in this material. The reports from the län authorities consisting of the passport journals for 1851–1860 have been excerpted and indexed alphabetically, thanks to the efforts of the Statistical Bureau in Stockholm and the provincial archives in Göteborg. This index is to be found in the Emigrant Institute. An American copy is also to be found in the library of Nils William Olsson in Winter Park, Florida.

54
Summary Census Report

The passport journals ceased to exist in 1860, when it no longer was necessary to obtain a passport. From this year on the emigration statistics were based upon the summary census lists which the various parish offices were required to keep and forward to the Central Bureau of Statistics. When emigration suddenly boomed after the Civil War in 1865, it was decided that the summary census reports for that year (1865) also should be accompanied by a “specific index of all those persons, who were known to have left Sweden for foreign parts during the five years of 1861–1865 by name, occupation and age, and that, from that time on, each year’s summary census report was to account for the changes within the parish population.” Beginning in 1870 a specially printed form was to be used for these name lists, now to be complemented by also entering the civil status of the emigrant. Beginning in 1875 the parish clergymen were also to register the immigrants into the parish.

From 1861 we thus possess a uniform national emigration statistic based upon the exit lists. As a consequence this material is just as reliable or unreliable as the exit permit lists themselves. Emigration scholars have checked the accuracy of these sources and have found that in general they check out positively by comparing the material in the forwarded name lists with the exit rolls. The older lists are less reliable and the emigration to our neighboring countries — Denmark and Norway — is often poorly documented.

It is of course obvious that the value of this source material is to a great deal dependent upon the person who kept the records. Even an orderly person may have skipped a name on the lists or copied the name of an emigrant incorrectly in transferring his material to the form to be forwarded to the Central Bureau of Statistics. As a matter of fact, the scholar should always go back to the primary source for verification. At the same time it must be admitted that the emigrant lists give us information speedily and present an excellent survey of the material. Since these lists have been microfilmed, they can be consulted without having to visit the archives of the Bureau of Statistics. Certain portions of the material, such as lists for the lään of Uppsala, Södermanland, Östergötland and Stockholm, have been copied and alphabetized by the Bureau.

Swedish Ships’ Lists

In 1869 His Majesty’s Government proclaimed that emigrant agents would have to submit lists of those persons who had signed emigration contracts in Swedish ports for America to the police authorities in such ports. These lists were to contain the number of the contract, the name of the emigrant, his parish of birth, his age, sex and date of departure from Sweden. In the city of Malmö the occupation of the emigrant was also noted.

This registration was an attempt to protect the emigrant as well as to control the emigrant traffic. Today we are fortunate to have at our disposal research material, which is relatively independent and separate from the ecclesiastical emigration statistics. These ships’ lists date from 1869 in Stockholm and Göte-
borg and from 1874 in Malmö. Lesser series are also extant for the cities of Helsingborg, Kalmar and Norrköping. In addition there are ships’ lists and emigration contracts also for the ports in the neighboring countries of Denmark and Norway, which were used by Swedish emigrants. The material in Göteborg is deposited in the provincial archives of that city, whereas the lists for Malmö and Stockholm are to be found in the respective archives of those cities. The material has been excerpted and alphabetized up to the 1890s. Copies of all these indexes are to be found in the Emigrant Institute. At the present time the rest of the material is being excerpted.

The Uppsala project dealing with emigration history has compared the 1874 ships’ lists with the name lists submitted by the parishes to the Central Bureau of Statistics. According to the name lists a total of 3,380 persons emigrated to America in that year, whereas a total of 4,736 travelled to America according to the Swedish, Danish and Norwegian ships’ lists. This computerized test shows therefore a discrepancy of 29% between the two sources.

Berit Brattne has demonstrated that the emigrant agents felt compelled to report all emigrants for fear of losing their licenses to operate. The detailed information contained in these ships’ lists is sometimes unreliable. This is probably due to the fact that it was generally based on oral information submitted by the emigrant. Even if he or she carried an exit permit, one must assume that a harried emigrant agent preferred to get the oral information, rather than having to consult a written document. This procedure could account for both misunderstanding and scribal errors.

The ships’ list material is our only source material which states the destination of the emigrant. Chicago and New York are most often cited as the ultimate goal of the emigrant, which obviously does not really help the scholar. In all probability the emigrant travelled farther afield from these major transit points once he arrived, but where? Thus when smaller places are indicated, such as Andover, IL, Vasa and Lindstrom, MN or Lindsborg, KS, the chances are greater that this information is closer to the truth. In many instances the ships’ lists can furnish the bridge between the port of embarkation and the destination in America. The researcher can thus proceed to the next stage.

**Swedish American Church Archives**

The most complete Swedish American source material is to be found in the church, which with a few exceptions kept records of their parishioners, minutes of their parish meetings and financial records. Generally speaking it can be stated that the parish records of the churches within the Augustana Synod come closest to the norm of the Swedish State Church whereas the Swedish Mission Covenant, Episcopal, Baptist and Methodist churches, in that order, were less interested in statistical records. This does not mean that it is not worth while to examine the records of a Methodist church as an example, but one has to accept the fact that there will be fewer entries concerning the emigrant’s home parish in Sweden and there are also more chances for error.
Beginning in 1968 the Emigrant Institute has to date registered and microfilmed approximately 1,500 Swedish American church archives in states and counties with heavy Swedish populations. The archive indexes as well as the microfilms are to be found in Växjö. Thus the most important source material for emigration research has been concentrated to one place. Earlier one would have had to traverse an entire continent to gather such material. Almost all of the Swedish centers in the United States and Canada are represented in this material, which touches the lives of several million emigrant descendants. The oldest membership roster filmed is that of the Methodist church in Victoria, IL, dating to 1846. The main part of the material in this series covers the period 1880–1930. The last mentioned year is usually accepted as the final year of emigration as well as for the microfilming.

A typical Swedish American parish record should give (at best) the following information: The number of the church member on the roll, his address (mainly in the cities), his or her sex, name, date of birth as well as place of birth, date the member arrived in America and from which place in Sweden, notation concerning his exit permit, date of enrollment in the parish, notations concerning confirmation, marriage, departure from the parish, excommunication, death and sometimes general information. On the other hand there will be no information on the member’s occupation, probably due to the fact that the church sought to stress equality. As in the Swedish household examination rolls, the members were listed by families, including also unconfirmed children (especially in the Augustana Synod). A special list of unmarried members is to be found at the end of the record book. At their best the entries in the American parish record are on the same high level as is to be found in the Swedish State Church.

When the Augustana Synod was founded in 1860 it was agreed that the keeping of church records was to be a duty tied to the clergyman’s office. There is no doubt but that the Swedish model was in the minds of the founders. The constitution and by-laws set up for congregations in 1857 specified that special rolls were to be maintained for ministerial acts within the church, such as baptisms, marriages, confirmations and burials. Such records are to be found in most of the church archives.

Back of this zeal to keep track of the parishioners was not an edict put forth by some central administrative body, but it was a practical means of keeping records of the members in each parish. Without recourse to a system of order, the clergyman could not have collected the church dues and offerings and neither could he have planned for religious and social services. He also wished to check the churchliness of his parishioners and see to it that no one strayed from the fold or joined another church or some other denomination. For this reason the Augustana Synod also adopted the practice of the Swedish State Church of issuing exit permits. When a member moved, the permit was used as a card of admission to the next Augustana parish. During the 1880s these churches were to be found in all areas of Swedish settlement. By that time the Augustana Synod had become a kind of people’s church among the emigrants.
An inventory of the entire church archive material has been done for all of the preserved records up to 1930. The different archival series and their characteristics and time frame have been entered on a special inventory form. The historical, demographic and socially most interesting material has been filmed, in other words the main series of minutes of parish meetings, membership rolls and the various ministerial acts. Sometimes other material, which has seemed especially worth while, has also been filmed. The microfilmed material has been assigned the signum “F” on the inventory form.

Organizational Archives

The most dependable source material dealing with the fates of the emigrants in America can be gleaned from the records of the national organizations which were created within the emigrant enclave. The milieu of the cities was particularly beneficial to the formation of ethnic groups. As early as 1836 the Swedish Society (Svenska Societeten) was founded in New York. It was in the cities that the national orders were founded, groups like the Vikings, Svithiod and the Order of Vasa with lodges everywhere in the areas of Swedish settlement. These societies and mutual aid associations were seen as blue and yellow life preservers in an uncertain urban setting. A host of these organizations saw the light of day up to the time of the beginning of World War I, constituting a veritable flora, now difficult to assess and chart, since most of these groups have now folded and disappeared.

If all of these organized Swedish Americans had been recorded in record books and on membership rosters and if this material had been preserved, we would indeed possess a valuable genealogical source. We know that these organizations kept more or less complete files of their members, but these rosters were often lost with the demise of the organization. Despite this, the Emigrant Institute has been fortunate to microfilm many of these membership registers which emanate from Swedish American societies in Illinois, Minnesota, on the West Coast and even in Vancouver, BC. Most of these organizations maintained membership registers with information concerning members’ names, ages, the date of admission to the society, local address and in some fortuitous cases, the place of origin in Sweden and time of emigration. The membership rosters of the various lodges of the Vasa Order have proved to be most valuable and are often more complete than the church rolls. By 1979 approximately 50 of the 275 lodge archives in the Vasa Order had been filmed through the efforts of the Emigrant Institute. It is earnestly to be hoped that the filming of this valuable material can proceed before the material is destroyed because of the discontinuing of the lodges. Since a member of a secular society or organization often did not belong to one of the Swedish American churches, the organizational archives constitute a valuable complement to the Swedish American church records. The methods used in the filming and inventorying of the organizational archives are in the main similar to those used for the filming of the church records. Minutes from chapter and lodge meetings as well as membership rosters have been filmed.
Tapes and Interviews

Oral history has during the 1970s more and more been noted by historians. Earlier these scholars were very skeptical about oral source material. This type of history seldom provides precise data. What is told is sometimes difficult to document from written sources. On the other hand, the interview is superior to the exact source material when it comes to attitudes, experiences and emotions created by such events as for example emigration. No written source can bring back alive a milieu which has disappeared, or how a tool was used, or how social intercourse was conducted better than the person who was an eyewitness to the happening.

The interview can also add to more concrete source materials, such as information concerning a series of America letters, or a group of photographs from relatives residing in the U.S. In many cases the interview with a returned emigrant can become a primary source. Only he who experienced the difficult decision to emigrate or felt the emotions that surged within him at the time of departure can relate how it felt to emigrate. Few written sources can come up to the immediacy of the interview or express the intensity of this occurrence.

The exact source material can give us sparse information about the exterior characteristics of the emigrant's age, sex, civil status, occupation and place of settlement. But what do we know how he experienced the prairie, the flea infested lean-to shelter, the social intercourse with the neighbors, with whom he could not converse or the plight of the industrial laborer in an urban setting? Bits and pieces of the complicated reality which faced the emigrants can often come to light in written narratives like America letters or the pioneer diary. In the tape section of the Emigrant Institute archives one can listen to thousands of voices who have been able to transmit to us the often complex and difficult emigrant experience.

Because interviews take much time and therefore are very costly, it has not been possible for a small institution like the Emigrant Institute to really cover this important facet as well as we would have liked. Thus we have been only partially successful in capturing some of this oral material, which unfortunately is shrinking very fast. A major effort has been done in the lands of Kronoberg and on Öland, as well as in connection with the field work carried on by Lennart and Michael Setterdahl in the U.S. A number of local historians, foremost of these Sven Adolfsson in Vederslöv, have on their own interviewed persons with keen memories of the emigration era and have generously supplied the Institute with these tapes. Ed and Gerda Sundberg of Watsonville, CA, mentioned earlier, have for many years taped and interviewed persons of Scandinavian origin, mainly in California, Oregon and Washington.
America Letters and Diaries

The registration carried out by the Emigrant Institute has had as its first tangible result the identification of a number of private archives. In one way one can describe this registration as the very air the institution breathes. Were this part of the Institute's activity to cease, chances of finding new sources would evaporate into thin air. The emigrant epoch is so close to us that letters, pictures and documents from the emigration days are still to be found in wellnigh every family collection.

These private archives can be viewed as a parallel case to what I said earlier regarding the still living oral tradition. Those persons responsible for the Emigrant Institute's archival registrations attempt at all times to map the extent of those private archives which deal with emigration. This can often be done at the same time as the interview. Thanks to the assistance of the local history societies and local emigration research centers, it has been possible to carry on on a continuing basis a check of what is to be found in the various villages. Nowadays the Emigrant Institute is so well known that fortunately more and more keepers of emigrant archives come to us offering either to donate the material to the Institute or to allow us to copy the material.

The Institute has always followed up the registration of the collections with a request that the material be provided to the center either in the original or by means of copies. In this manner our most successful archival series, that which consists of private and personally oriented archives has been formed. We thus have in the Institute approximately 20,000 America letters, and with a great deal of certainty the largest collection of emigrant diaries. These private collections also contain large runs of photographs, both of people and places, in addition to different types of documents and official papers dealing with emigration.

Practically all Swedish families harbor America letters in their homes. The America letter, in addition to the statistical source material, is often our sole clue when it comes to researching the fate of the emigrant. Unfortunately the typical America letter gives very little concrete information. The writer concentrated mainly on his health, the weather and on general conditions. If one were to make a general judgment on these letters, there is a tendency for the emigrant to be overly optimistic and to embellish his narrative. One did not wish to discuss bad news. Often America was described in deceptive colors. The reason for this was to impress relatives and friends to join them. Much of the typical America letter deals with asking questions about conditions in Sweden. The most interesting aspect of many of the letters from a genealogical point of view is the date of the letter, the signature and the address of the sender.

Sometimes the writer was carried away by his enthusiasm and would write copiously about the family, the conditions at his place of employment, his longing for Sweden and his hopes for the future. Occasionally we have encountered whole series of America letters, where the kernels of fact in each letter can be linked together to create a total picture of a pioneer fate. Sometimes a single letter can become the missing piece in a puzzle, when combined with other
letters in collections of neighbors or relatives. These missing pieces may tell us
the identity of the letter writer or perhaps describe the milieu in which he or she
lived. Only rarely does the letter lead us directly to the place where descendants
of the correspondent reside. But it can sometimes be placed in juxtaposition to
the American sources described earlier, such as a parish register, an exit permit
or a ship’s list. The America letter is foremost to be considered as a complement
to the statistical material.

The Emigrant Institute contains the largest collection of America letters in
Sweden. The Nordic Museum (Nordiska Museet) in Stockholm, as well as the
Emigrant Register in Karlstad also possess large collections of these documents.
These imposing archival collections, nevertheless, contain but a fraction of the
total of this tidal wave of emigrant letters, the largest such correspondence in
Swedish history. One can almost say that the phenomenon of emigration split the
Swedish nation in two parts, each part sitting down to write letters to the other
part. This situation is quite unique inasmuch as the correspondents of this enor­
mous material came from the depths of the masses themselves.

It has been said that the average emigrant wrote four letters annually home
to Sweden. At the beginning of the present century there arrived in Sweden on
an annual basis several million America letters. According to the unique statis­
tics kept by the Royal Danish Postal Service, a total of 1,800,000 letters were
received during one year from America. Compared with Sweden, Denmark was
not an important emigration country. Thus only a tiny percentage of this gigantic
correspondence which flowed across the Atlantic and which bespoke the strong­
ties that linked Sweden and the United States, has been preserved in the ar­
chives. It is certain that there yet remains, probably hundreds of thousands of
these letters in private hands. This is one reason why the Emigrant Institute is
anxious to inventory as completely as possible this valuable genealogical asset.

Diaries kept by the emigrants are some of the rarest and most living
documentary evidence which we possess. It is of course obvious that most of
these diaries and journals are to be found in America, but often returning emi­
grants took them home with them. The Emigrant Institute has been successful in
gathering in approximately 75 of these diaries and now has in its archives the
originals and copies of these valuable documents. Yet this number must be only
a small part of the total of the material harbored in Swedish homes today, not to
mention what is still reposing in Swedish American homes in America.

When a diary or journal arrives at the Institute it is considered to be a very
valuable addition to our collections. Back of the diary is usually an exciting
emigrant fate. It was true then, as it is today, that only seldom does the hand that
steers the plow or wields the axe take pen in hand to record his experiences.
Many of the diaries in our collection have been written by clergymen, journalists
and other intellectuals, but the main portion of them have been penned by
ordinary emigrants.

As an example I should like to mention the diaries of Andrew Peterson, kept
from 1854 to 1898 in Waconia, MN. This series of diaries is to be found in the
collection of the Minnesota Historical Society and were used by Vilhelm Moberg in 1948, when he was doing his research for his tetralogy, *The Emigrants* and were crucial to his documentation of the pioneering experiences in Minnesota. A copy of this rare document is to be found in the Emigrant Institute. A remarkable counterpart to the Peterson diaries is the journal of Sven Samuelsson, a farmer in Åkerby in the emigrant parish of Ljuder, written by him during his life time and which mirror the conditions in the home parish of Karl Oskar and Kristina during the entire emigration era. A copy of this document is also to be found in the Emigrant Institute.

The largest run of diaries which the Institute possesses came to us in 1973 when Anna Cappelin of Malmö deposited the diaries of J. A. Edman, a distant relative of hers, who had been a gold miner in California. The journals span the years 1857–1900 and contain almost 3,000 pages and describe in detail the difficult days in California.

A diary of this type gives us a living description of experiences and living conditions during a long interval of time. The Edman diaries are often packed with details concerning the workaday world.

What is of special significance in reading a diary is the impression of the immediacy of what is described. It is a subjective narrative, which contrary to the America letter, is not written for a certain forum, but instead represents the thoughts and the meditations of the author himself. The America diary can be seen as a document, framed in time, often free of embellishment and artificial additions.

**Printed Source Materials**

The printed works dealing with emigration and Swedish pioneers is much larger and inclusive than most people think. One of the most impressive productions was the literary works by the emigrants themselves. The first hint of this flora, most of it written in Swedish, is to be found in the bibliography written by Fritiof Oscar Ander in 1956. *The Cultural Heritage of the Swedish Immigrant*, which contains several thousand titles. A complete bibliography, yet to be written, would probably contain at least 15,000 entries. If one looks at the Swedish American newspapers and journals alone, their number ranges between 1,200 and 1,500 titles. Thus this literature is far greater than earlier supposed. The rivalry among collectors for these rarities is great, since the emigration theme and the section dealing with Swedes abroad have become popular collection specialties among bibliophiles around the world. Despite the competition and high bids, the Emigrant Institute has, despite its limited resources, been able to amass a collection over the past fifteen years, which today ranks as the second largest in Sweden. Our total holdings contain about 25,000 titles. However, both the library at Augustana College at Rock Island, IL, and the collection at the Minnesota Historical Society are probably larger than the Institute’s. The holdings of the Royal Library in Stockholm are also larger. The interesting thing about this collection is that it is based upon an agreement made in 1859 by the
Royal Library and Tuve Nilsson Hasselquist, the founder of the Swedish American newspaper, *Hemlandet*, and the first president of Augustana College, that the latter send home to Sweden a copy of every Swedish imprint in America.

The Institute has also endeavored to include in its collection items, which today are almost impossible to procure, such emigrant guides, pamphlets, broadsides and copies of Swedish American newspapers. If it proves impossible to obtain the originals, we have been able to get the material, either via microfilm or by xerox copying the items. We are also attempting to map the enormous collection of articles, essays, studies and narratives found in various Swedish American journals and annuals.

Despite the fact that it is chiefly the interest in Swedish America which has dictated the profile of the Institute, we are also fortunate to have in our holdings valuable literature concerning Swedish activity in other lands than the United States and Canada. Another field is the subject of immigration into Sweden. Another topic we are pursuing and building up is the subject of Scandinavians in America. A representative collection of American local history, foremost then the county histories for those areas of heavy Swedish settlements, is also being assembled.

The Swedish American press is probably the most important narrative source for the emigration scholar. The newspaper *Hemlandet* was founded already in 1855. Following in its footsteps have been about 1,200–1,500 newspapers and periodicals in the Swedish language. Many of these were news sheets and were published once a week. Additionally there were a number of society and organizational bulletins, newsletters and monthly periodicals. In this enormous literary production one can find every point of view portrayed.

The greater portion of this material is now deposited at Augustana College in Rock Island, IL or at the Royal Library in Stockholm. In recent years the most important of these newspapers have been microfilmed.

A Swedish American newspaper allows us to examine every nook and corner of Swedish America. Politics, organizational life, church activities, business news, entertainment and cultural material are mixed with historical essays, travelogues, serials, personals and much advertising. The genealogical items are especially important, articles dealing with birthdays, marriages, death notices, biographies and advertising for lost emigrants. So far no systematic registration of the contents of the newspapers has been done, a task which would keep the staff of the Emigrant Institute occupied for decades. An index would be desirable in order to have access to the abundant genealogical information hidden in this material.
The Emigrant Institute and its Future

The fact that the Emigrant Institute has been able to grow and prosper so swiftly in such a short time is mainly due to the contacts it has had with all facets of emigration research, foremost then with the Department of History of the University of Uppsala. The Institute has been most fortunate to be able to place its research results directly into the hands of the professional scholars. This has brought about a situation that academic research has dominated the activities of the Institute, in the eyes of some, far too much. The Uppsala project is now finished and one can then question whether the Emigrant Institute now will become less university oriented. Everything points to the fact that the high academic level will be sustained. The university activity in Växjö is nowadays well established and the Emigrant Institute is considered to be a valuable ingredient in the research program going on at the University of Växjö. The collections in the archives and library of the Institute, as well as the enormous wealth of contacts, mean that for a long time the Institute can furnish source materials for highly qualified research.

Having said this I do not mean to imply that the professional research will become so top heavy, that it will stifle the ambitions of the amateur scholars who are interested in conducting research. The development of the Institute has shown that the ground rules laid down by the foundation guiding the Institute, which specified that close contacts shall be maintained with local historians, genealogists and other interested laymen, has never collided with the Institute's academic striving. Here, as elsewhere, modern historical approach, beamed as it is at mapping social forces, has admitted its dependence upon the support of the lay people. The archives and the library of the Emigrant Institute would today be of miniscule proportions if emigration research, much of it thanks to the Institute, had not become something of a popular movement. For this very reason the Institute has at all times sought to spur the interest in establishing study circles, lecture series, exhibits, genealogical research and other avenues by which the House of Emigrants can reach the general public. The fact that since 1968 more than a half million persons have visited the House of Emigrants from every corner of the globe is the best proof of the widespread popularity which the Emigrant Institute enjoys.
Swedish Bible Records

Nils William Olsson

Upsala College in East Orange, NJ, a college with a long history of affiliation with the Swedish Lutheran Church, possesses a large collection of Swedish Bibles and other devotional literature, donated to the college by descendants of Swedish immigrants. These books contain much valuable genealogical information, similarly to the collection in the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis (See SAG, Vol. I, No. 1 and 2). This literature has not been accessioned with the general collection of the library, but constitutes a separate grouping and is housed in a special collection. Some of these Bibles, as well as other books have been excerpted for publication here and have been made available through the kindness of Linnea Benson Foster of Madison, NJ. She has had the able assistance of Elizabeth Rumics, librarian at the college. The editor thanks both of these kind persons for making this material available to a greater audience.

As with the earlier material published in SAG, the inscriptions presented here have been broken down into two categories: Type A, in which the owner or owners have entered genealogical data and Type B, in which the clergyman or other officiating person in the parish has written. The information contained in the latter are considered to be more reliable, inasmuch as these New Testaments, Psalmbooks or Bibles were presented to the confirmants as presents from the parish.

This material has been numbered with a series of UC numbers, standing for Upsala College. If a reader desires a xerox copy of the inscription in any of these volumes, a request should be sent to Linnea Benson Foster, 18 Longview Avenue, Madison, NJ 07940. The cost for a copy is $5.00, which includes the service in getting the book out, xeroxing it and mailing it.

UC-1. Type A. A Swedish Psalm and Prayer Book (title page is missing), published in 1837. On the flyleaf is the following:

Catrina Warg b. Oct. 18, 1782. This book was given to me by my youngest son, Carl Petter. After my death I wish that this book should go to him, since he gave it to me as a Christmas gift.

Olof, my son, b. Sept. 13, 1817

Johanna, my daughter, b. Jan. 27, 1821

Carl Petter, my son, b. March 28, 1823

On the inside of the back cover is the following:

Catrina Tinglöf 1855

Johanna Löfgren, Charlottenberg Bruk
Note: Charlottenberg Mill (bruk) was located in Eda Parish (Värm.) and had at one time several Lancashire iron forges.

⭐ ⭐ ⭐

UC-2. Type A. *The Holy Bible* (Stockholm, 1738). On the inside of the front cover is the following:

Eric Sundin, gardener (trädgårdslämare), Karlslund (crossed out)
Johan August Sundin, b. Nov. 24, 1845 at Karlslund (crossed out)
J. A. Thelander, Mellringe Oct. 1857
Hanna Thelander, Örebro 1881

Note: Karlslund is probably identical with an estate by that name in Långbro Parish (Öre.). Mellringe is located in the same parish.

⭐ ⭐ ⭐

UC-3. Type A. *Guds Barna Dageliga Framträdande till Nåda-Stolen* (*The Daily Appearance of the Children of God Before the Throne of Grace*) by P. Hersleb (Karlshamn, 1844). On the inside of the front cover is the following:

This book belongs to Håkan Svensson, hired hand (dräng) on Farm No. 1 in Västanå.

Note: There are a number of farms and villages in Sweden named Västanå.

⭐ ⭐ ⭐

UC-4. Type A. *Historiska Anmärkningar om Kyrcko-Ceremonierna* (*Historical Notes on Church Ceremonies*) by Sven Baelter (Stockholm, 1762). On the flyleaf is the following:

I have received this book as a gift from the learned Theodor Fries, clergyman in Femsjö.
(Signed) Anders Andersson in Stora Tranhult
Jan. 20, 1813.

Below is the following:

I have received this book as a gift from my father Elias Anderson, when I visited my native land at Christmas 1904.
(Signed) A. S. Freeburg, Hartford, CT March 7, 1905.

On the inside of the front cover is the following:

Samuel Apelberg (crossed out)

Note: Stora Tranhult is a farm in Femsjö Parish (Jön.). The pastor was Theodor Fries (1762–1839), whose son Elias Fries (1794–1878) became one of Sweden’s most renowned botanists.

⭐ ⭐ ⭐
UC-5. Type A. Related to item UC-4. A badly mutilated copy of a postil from the 17th century with a printed dedication to Queen Christina of Sweden. On the inside of the front cover is the following:

This Holy Postil was purchased by me at an auction from Lars Fredrik Härd, quarter-master at Yaberg after the demise of Lieut. Johan Gabriel Cederschiöld.

(Signed) Anders Andersson, Stora Tranhult Sept. 27, 1827.

Note: Yaberg or Yaböke is a village in Femsjö Parish. Johan Gabriel Cederschiöld, the owner of the Yaberg estate, died there May 16, 1818.

☆ ☆ ☆

UC-6. Type A. Related to item UC-4. Guds Werck och Hwila (God's Creation and Rest) by Hakvin Spegel (Norrköping, 1745). On the inside of the front cover is the following:

This book belongs to Samuel Andersson in Holmen.

Below this is the following:

I have received this book as a gift from my uncle, Samuel Anderson in Holmen, when I visited my native land at Christmas 1904.

(Signed) A. S. Freeburg, Hartford, CT Feb. 25, 1905.

On a leaf facing the second part of Spegel's poem is the following:

This book belongs to Göran Bengtsson in Elmeliden 1846.

Note: Both Holmen and Elmesliden [sic!] are villages in Rydalhol Parish (Jön.).

☆ ☆ ☆

UC-7. Type A. A badly mutilated copy of a postil (title page is missing). Parts of the book have been hand copied. On the inside of the front cover is the following:

This book belongs to Elizabeth Jonsdotter, Haggemåla 1832.

Below is the following:


Note: Haggemåla is the name of a village in two parishes, both in Kalmar län — Ålem and Gullabo.

☆ ☆ ☆

UC-8. Type A. Mose och Lambsens Wisor (Songs of Moses and the Lamb) (Karlshamn, 1858). On the inside of the front cover is the following:

This book belongs to Botel Andersdotter in Wea.

Note: Wea seems to be an old spelling, difficult to place. It could refer to Vee, a
There is also a village named Vä in Reftele Parish (Jön.),

UC-9. Type A. The Swedish Psalmbook (Stockholm, 1777). On the inside of the front cover is the following:
C. G. Borre, Uppsala, 1807.
Below is the following:
In 1862 given to Mr. Dehlin in Linköping.
Note: Claes Gustaf Borre (1786-1869) became a student in Uppsala in 1807. After theological studies he became pastor of the Parish of Åsbo (Õg.). Carl Johan Dehlin (1823-1891) became a teacher after studies at Uppsala and taught in Linköping 1855-1869.

UC-10. Type A. The Holy Bible (Örebro, 1849). On the inside of the front cover is the following:
This book belongs to Lars Andersson and his wife Maria Olsdotter in Björnhovda. It was purchased at the Algutsrum Fair Oct. 26, 1855 for 8 Riksdaler and 24 Skilling.
Note: Björnhovda is a village in Torslunda Parish (Kalm.) on the island of Öland. Algutsrum Parish, also in Kalmar län, is situated on Öland.

UC-11. Type A. Betrakelser Öfwer Guds Råd om Människornas Salighet (Meditations Regarding God's Counsel on the Blessedness of Man) by Johan Jacob Rambach (Stockholm, 1763). On the flyleaf is the following:
This book belongs to Christina Josephsdotter and Jonas Olsson in Ölvingstorp 1838.
Note: Ölvingstorp is a village in Ljungby Parish (Kalm.).

UC-12. Type A. Martin Luther’s Catechism (Västervik, 1865). The book contains a card with the following notation:
Gift to Upsala College Library in memory of my parents, Swen Johan and Mathilda Larson, who immigrated from Kristdala [la], Sweden to the U.S. of America June 28, 1872.
(Signed) George A. Larson, Galesburg, IL, Sept. 28, 1965.
Note: Kristdala Parish is located in Kalmar län.

UC-13. Type B. The Holy Bible (Stockholm, 1860). Has the following inscription on the inside of the flyleaf, doubtless written by the clergyman of the parish:
Christina Vilhelmina Berggren in Råberg, b. Aug. 9, 1846. In memory of her first Holy Communion in Hylletofta Church June 9, 1862.

Note: Råberg is a farm in Hylletofta Parish (Jön.).

∗ ∗ ∗

UC-14. Type A. Några Sånger samt Böner (Some Songs and Prayers) by Erik Janson. Second edition (Galva, IL, 1857). On the flyleaf is the following:

This book belongs to me, Karin Matson, Bishop Hill. I received it Feb. 27, 1858. I was b. April 28, 1814.

Note: Erik Jansson, the famous Swedish sect leader, who settled in Bishop Hill, IL in 1846 with his adherents, had published the first edition of his Psalmbook in Söderhamn, Sweden in 1846.

∗ ∗ ∗

UC-15. Type A. Bihang till J. O. Hoofs Predikosamling (Addendum to J. O. Hoeft's Collection of Sermons) (Örebro, 1846). Has the following notation on the flyleaf:

Johanna Jonasdotter, Chicago, IL Dec. 25, 1857.

∗ ∗ ∗

UC-16. Type A. The Holy Bible (Stockholm, 1868). Has the following inscription on the flyleaf:

This Bible was purchased in 1868 and belongs to Sven Andersson, farmer (hemmansågare), and his wife, Carin Maria Jonsdotter in Lerkaka.

Note: Linnea Benson Foster, who has kindly furnished this material to SAG, informs us that this Bible belonged at one time to her maternal grandmother’s parents, Sven Andersson, b. June 16, 1814 and his wife, Carin Maria Jonsdotter, b. July 30, 1820. They resided at Lerkaka, Runsten Parish (Kalm.) on the island of Öland.

∗ ∗ ∗

UC-17. Type A. Ciceroni's Opera (The Works of Cicero), Part III, (Leyden, 1692). On the inside of the front cover is the following:

N. P. Höglund, Uppsala, Dec. 1, 1805.

On the flyleaf is the following:

Bought at a book auction after the late Prof. J. Tranér.
K. V. Almqvist, Uppsala 18—.
P. O. Bersell (rubber stamped)

Synod from 1935 to 1951.

UC-18. Type A. *The Swedish Psalmbook* (Stockholm, 1697). On the inside of the front cover it has the following:

Ex Libris of G. Bäärmhielm.

On the flyleaf is the following:

Magnus Wahrstedt, b. April 13, 1778; d. Feb. 24, 1865.

Andreas Wahrstedt, 1793.


To Christer Magnus Thelander from his maternal grandfather, M. Wahrstedt April 13, 1864.

Note: G. Bäärmhielm may be identical with Gustaf Bäärmhielm (1822–1889) or his grandson, Gösta Bäärmhielm, b. Sept. 6, 1890. Magnus Wahrstedt (1778–1865), who after studies at Uppsala became a pastor in Småland. Andreas Wahrstedt is the father of Magnus and was a trumpeter in a Swedish regiment. Magnus Thelander was a builder and architect in Växjö, who m. Maria Wahrstedt. Their s. was Fredrik Thelander, the father of Christer Magnus.

UC-19. Type A. *The Holy Bible* (Stockholm, 1738). On the flyleaf is the following:

Nils Andersson, b. in Kärna Parish and the village of (illegible) Nov. 18, 1751, the s. of Anders Larsson, a farmer (danneman), and Maria Nilsdotter. This book is given to him at the time of his baptism.
Burials in the
St. Ansgarius Church
(Minneapolis)
1892–1900

Arthur Louis Finnell, CGRS

The St. Ansgarius Swedish Episcopal Church in Minneapolis was located at the corner of 5th Avenue and 19th Street South from 1892 to 1936. The first service was held on Oct. 23, 1892 by the Rev. Olof A. Toffteen in Tollefson’s Hall and the mission was organized a couple of months later, on Dec. 26, 1892 by Bishop Mahlon Norris Gilbert, Assistant Bishop of Minnesota. In May of 1893 the membership had reached 100 and the mission was organized as the Parish of St. Ansgarius Swedish Episcopal Church of Minneapolis. Permission was given to use the rites of the Church of Sweden, so long as the parish continued to use the Swedish language. On Sept. 13, 1893 a church building was completed at the cost of $7,000.00.

The membership of the Swedish parish was made up largely of the laboring class among the Swedish immigrants, who, according to Bishop H. B. Whipple, “had given gladly to sustain and support their pastor.”

The following abstract of burials from the St. Ansgarius Church constitutes a unique record for the study of genealogy and family history in Minnesota. These records mirror an effort by the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota to work with one of the largest ethnic communities within the diocese. Because of the interest and activities of Bishop Gilbert, several other Swedish Episcopal churches were organized within the Diocese. In addition to St. Ansgarius Church, there was the Messiah Episcopal Church, founded in 1893, the same year that St. Johannes’ Church was founded, both in Minneapolis. In St. Paul, the St. Sigfrid’s Church was organized in 1898 and in Litchfield the Emmanuel Church was founded in 1891. The St. Sigfrid’s Church in Cokato was founded in 1892 and about the same time small Swedish missions were organized in Eagle Bend, Aitken and Lake Park.

Only the church records of the three churches in the metropolitan area are known to be extant today. The records have been transferred to the Archives of
the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota and are housed at Lane Hall in Minneapolis. The records have also been microfilmed by the Minnesota Historical Society. The church records of the Emmanuel Church in Litchfield are believed to be incorporated within the parish records of the Trinity Episcopal Church of Litchfield.

These records should contribute another genealogical segment to the ever-increasing store of knowledge concerning our Swedish immigrant forefathers. We are indeed grateful to the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota for making this material available to the general public.

A word about the records themselves. The burials from the St. Ansgarius Church are recorded in a volume labelled Vol. II. This book includes among other things all of the burials which took place in the church from the organizing of the mission up to the year 1900. As will be seen, the notations are quite sparse, giving the name of the deceased, the date of death, the date of burial and the age of the deceased, expressed in years, months and days. Occasionally, but very rarely, is the name of the cemetery mentioned. Lakewood Cemetery exists today and is located at 3600 Hennepin Avenue South. Layman Cemetery was a private cemetery named for a person named Layman. Though it is still located on Lake Street and Cedar Avenue in Minneapolis, it is no longer an active cemetery and is now cared for by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

All names are listed as recorded in the material. Where there is a question concerning the spelling, the corrected name has been placed within brackets. Since there does not seem to be a membership book for the church, nothing further can be added to the names listed here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Deceased</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
<th>Date of Burial</th>
<th>Age at Time of Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, Petter Gustaf</td>
<td>Dec. 18 1892</td>
<td>Dec. 20 1892</td>
<td>41 Years 6 Months 18 Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johannsen, Johan August</td>
<td>Jan. 24 1893</td>
<td>Jan. 26 1893</td>
<td>27 &quot; 1 Month 24 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmark, Carl Johan</td>
<td>&quot; 29 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 30 &quot;</td>
<td>8 Months 26 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georg, Betsie Violet</td>
<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>Feb. 12</td>
<td>5 &quot; 5 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klin, Johan Karl</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>27 &quot; 27 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andersen, Hanna Sofia</td>
<td>&quot; 26 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 27 &quot;</td>
<td>2 &quot; 10 &quot; 8 &quot; 3 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nordling, Karla [Karlin]</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>July 9</td>
<td>75 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson, Nels</td>
<td>Aug. 2</td>
<td>Aug. 3</td>
<td>29 &quot; 1 Month 5 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson, Mrs. Mathilda</td>
<td>Sept. 13</td>
<td>Sept. 16</td>
<td>23 &quot; 11 Months 15 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlson, Carl Anton Girdie</td>
<td>&quot; 16 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 19 &quot;</td>
<td>6 &quot; 17 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olson, Mrs. Maria</td>
<td>&quot; 28 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 30 &quot;</td>
<td>21 &quot; 5 &quot; 7 &quot; 4 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reed, Grant Melvil</td>
<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td>2 &quot; 6 &quot; 19 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloom, Olga Regina</td>
<td>&quot; 21 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 22 &quot;</td>
<td>1 Year 1 Month 18 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olson, Andrew</td>
<td>Nov. 3</td>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>38 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holmberg,</td>
<td>&quot; 24 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 25 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andersen, Anna Carolina</td>
<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>&quot; 15 &quot;</td>
<td>2 &quot; 1 Month 11 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anders, Bernhard</td>
<td>&quot; 15 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 17 &quot;</td>
<td>1 Year 1 &quot; 24 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson, Lydia Maria</td>
<td>&quot; 16 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 18 &quot;</td>
<td>3 Years 8 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, Karl</td>
<td>&quot; 19 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 21 &quot;</td>
<td>4 Months 12 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, Anna Maria</td>
<td>Dec. 20</td>
<td>Dec. 21</td>
<td>1 Year 3 &quot; 6 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fjellman, Theresa</td>
<td>&quot; 30 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; 31 &quot;</td>
<td>24 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanson, Agnes Hilma</td>
<td>&quot; 31 &quot;</td>
<td>Jan. 2 1894</td>
<td>24 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goody, Walter</td>
<td>Jan. 1 1894</td>
<td>&quot; 3 &quot;</td>
<td>24 &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Magnuson, Helene [Helen]   " 3 "   " 7 "   12 Years 9 " 20 "
Toften, Baby   " 12 "   " 13 "   —   —   ½ Day
Olson, Edna Maria   " 26 "   " March 1 "   —   —   2 " 7 "
Sauvell [Sandell], Mrs. Alma Mathalia   April 7 "   April 10 "   38   7 " 7 " Days
Lundberg, Hulda Maria   April 29 1894   April 30 1894   —   7 Months 22 Days
Landin, Franc Oscar   Aug. 8 1895   Aug. 9 1895   1   3 " 16 "
Swanson, Signe Maria   " 16 "   " 18 "   —   —   37 Years 8 "
Anderson, Olof Henrik   " 27 "   " 28 "   —   —   1 Month 15 "
Sandberg, Anna Maria   Sept. 1 "   Sept. 2 "   2 Years 5 Months 10 Days
Thor, Baby   " 4 "   " 4 "   31   10 " 29 "
Erickson, Nels Roy   " 2 "   " 5 "   7   5 " 9 " 4 "
Nylander, Mrs. Maria   " 5 "   " 10 "   3   2 " 3 "
Falk, Lilly Louise   " 9 "   " 10 "   —   —   4 "
Lund, Arthur   " 19 "   " 20 "   —   —   2 "
Johnson, Axel   " 24 "   " 25 "   —   —   2 "
Swanson, August Holger   Oct. 26 "   Oct. 26 "   1 Year 8 Months 20 "
Johnson, Peter Oscar   " 27 "   " 28 "   1   4 " 20 "
Nelson, Ruth Hilda   " 31 "   " Nov. 3 "   8 Years 7 " 5 "
Werner, Ruth Hilda Dagmar   Nov. 4 "   Nov. 4 "   —   —   16 "
Petterson, Olof   Nov. 13 "   " 15 "   80   10 " 7 "
Fritzen, Richard Albin   Dec. 2 "   Dec. 3 "   2 Years 11 " 11 "
Olin, Myrtle Alfreda   " 3 "   " 5 "   8   8 " 16 "
Nelson, Anna Maria   " 6 "   " 8 "   31   3 " 6 "
Blomqvist, Frank   " 7 "   " 9 "   —   —   2 "
Erickson, Carl William   " 9 "   " 10 "   3   2 " 4 "
Bohlin, Ellen Linie [Linnea] sofa   " 11 "   " 11 "   1 Year 10 " 10 "
Bohlin, Edgar Forthrief [Frithiof]   Jan. 17 1896   Jan. 18 1896   2 Years 3 " 7 "
Dahlstrom, Lilly   Jan. 19 1896   Jan. 20 1896   —   —   1 Year 3 " 14 "
Erkerstrom [Eckerstrom], Roy August   Jan. 24 1896   Jan. 25 1896   5 Years 1 Month 14 "
Lindeblad, Johan Oscar Theodor   Feb. 3 "   Feb. 2 "   36   4 Months 27 "
Gustafson, Erland Theodor   Feb. 6 "   " 6 "   8 Years 1 Month 15 "
Cederstrom, Mrs. Carl   March 1 "   " 4 "   60   10 " 18 "
Tomkvist [Tornkvist], Emilie Kristina   April 3 "   April 5 "   48   1 Month 28 "
Swenson, John Gustaf   April 15 "   " 15 "   53   3 Months 29 "
Westerberg, Sofia Margareta   April 18 "   " 18 "   3   2 " 27 "
Lindstrom, Lars Peter   May 1 "   " 5 "   14   3 "
Dahlgren, Ado[ld Fredrik   " 12 "   " 15 "   23   3 Months 29 "
Eckerth, Walter Clifford   " 18 "   " 18 "   3   2 " 27 "
Larson, Sofia Clara   " 29 "   " 14 "   2   8 " 12 "
Halvorsen, Emma Kristina   May 14 "   " 15 "   39   19 "
Rosander, Mrs. Hannah Charlotte   " 15 "   " 16 "   34   3 " 7 "
Aman, Gustaf Walentin   " 21 "   " 24 "   —   —   22 "
Petersson, Ruben Thorgald   June 26 "   June 28 "   11   5 "
Pearson, Mrs. N. N.   July 1 "   July 3 "   37   22 "
Lund, Louis   July 11 "   " 15 "   —   7 " 9 "
Syberg, Hulda   " 13 "   " 15 "   1 Year 11 " 4 "
Wallin, Mabel Victoria   " 20 "   " 21 "   —   3 " 20 "
Petterson, Fred E.   " 24 "   " 24 "   50 Years 5 " 7 "
Swenson, Mrs. Frank   " 28 "   " 29 "   40   7 " 28 "
Bergquist, Floyd Harry Robin   Aug. 4 "   Aug. 6 "   1 Year 11 " 20 "
Westling, August   " 7 "   " 9 "   52 Years 2 " 13 "
Nelson, John   " 11 "   " 13 "   40   —   3 "
Landin, Arvid Tobias   " 17 "   " 20 "   —   —   5 "
Bjorkman, Helene   Sept. 1 "   Sept. 1 "   23   7 Months 25 "
Johnson, Carl August   Sept. 4 "   " 7 "   —   —   6 "
Anderson, Martin   Sept. 4 "   " 7 "   32   4 " 22 "
Finsson, Nils   " 9 "   " 10 "   —   —   3 "

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1 Olof A. Tofteleen was born in Hexarve, Sprog Parish (Got.), Sweden June 26, 1863. After studies at the University of Uppsala, he emigrated to the U.S. in 1888, where he joined the Episcopal Church in 1892. On Jan. 1, 1893 he was ordained a deacon. He was ordained pastor in the Minnesota Diocese June 21, 1893 and served the St. Ansgarius Church in Minneapolis until 1901.

2 For background material on the formation of the Swedish Episcopal churches in the Minnesota Diocese see George Clinton Tanner, Fifty Years of Church Work in the Diocese of Minnesota 1857–1907 (St. Paul, 1909), pp. 238–241.

3 Interment was in the Layman Cemetery in Minneapolis.

4 Interment was in the Lakewood Cemetery in Minneapolis.

5 Interment was in the Crystal Lake Cemetery.
A Walloon Contract from 1623*

Hans Gillingstam

As a follow-up to Bernt Douhan's article, "The Walloons in Sweden," published in the March, 1982 issue of Swedish American Genealogist, I should like to present the wording of a typical Walloon contract, entered into in Amsterdam, on the one hand by Louis De Geer, and on the other hand by six charcoal burners and twelve woodsmen, governing their employment in Sweden. The contract, dated October 12, 1623, is one of several such documents on file in the Leufsta Archives in the Swedish National Archives in Stockholm. It is cited here in a translation in order to illustrate the manner in which Walloons were hired for employment in Sweden early in the 17th century.

"In the Name of God, Amen! In the Year of Grace, 1623, on Thursday October 12, in the forenoon, in the presence of witnesses, the following persons appeared before me, Simons Ruttens, official notary, residing in the city of Amsterdam, appointed and approved by the Government of the Netherlands, as well as by the Royal Dutch Court, on the one hand, His Lordship, Herr Louis De Geer, merchant in said city, on behalf of Herr Willem Gillissen, residing in Sweden, and on the other hand, six charcoal burners, Estienne de Pois, Jan Baude, Pasquie Rolant, Nicolaes Cauchort, Jan Doctier and Hubert Everart, and twelve woodsmen, Anthoine Grossé, Matthis Lusset, Pierre du Four, Jan Gorge, Aman Gorge, Hillier Scovaux, Jan Revelart, Anthoine Glaude, Jacques van Tunne, George Evrart, Martin du Fosse and Jan van Waerde. Both parties mutually agreed and declared that they had entered into the following contract, namely that the said Estienne du Pois and his party, consisting of six charcoal burners and twelve woodsmen, as stated above, promise and swear that they will, with the Grace of God, depart from this said city for Sweden, where they will enter into the service of the aforementioned Herr Willem Gillissen, each in his own capacity, and for a period of time of six continuous years, to begin at the time that they arrive at the place of said Herr Willem. During this period of time, those persons named above, promise and swear that they will serve Herr Willem faithfully and obediently, without complaint, criticism and opposition so far as what he demands of them, keeping in mind each man's specialty and capacity.

* The author is one of the editors of Svenskt Biografiskt Lexikon (The National Biographical Dictionary of Sweden) and one of Sweden's foremost genealogists.
A Walloon Contract from 1623

First page of three pages of Walloon contract dated 1623.
During this specified interval of time, the aforementioned men may not leave the service of Herr Willem, nor serve any other person in the Kingdom of Sweden. The said Herr Willem agrees to pay in salary and wages to each charcoal burner the sum of three and one half florins for each sack of charcoal, and to the aforementioned woodsmen a half florin or ten öre² for each cord of wood, eight feet long and five feet high, each log to be four and one half feet long between the cross cuts and of accepted thickness. The aforementioned charcoal burners and woodsmen acknowledge the receipt of (blank) florins as a down payment from the aforementioned Herr De Geer for signing the contract. Additionally they are herewith permitted to bring with them five women and seven children, the oldest of them eleven years of age and the youngest two and one half years, in addition to a grown girl, all of this to be paid by Herr Willem, from the moment they embark in this city and until they arrive at the place in the abovementioned Kingdom, where Herr Willem shall employ them.

From this place they are free to return to our city of Amsterdam, also at the expense of the aforementioned Herr Willem, if they after six years or at a time every other year no longer wish to remain in Sweden. Both parties to this agreement promise and swear to stand by this contract faithfully, otherwise all expenses, injuries and losses of revenues will be in force. The (parties) guarantee this with their persons and properties, real as well as personal, for the present and in the future, with no exceptions, and for this reason they promise that they will abjure every law, privilege, statute, paragraph, legal instrument or request, which they might use against this consummated contract, all in good faith, without subterfuge or deceit. Thus, this agreement was decided upon and confirmed in this city of Amsterdam, in my lawyer's quarters and in the presence of Jeremie Jammarts and Leonard Cole, witnesses summoned for this purpose. Both parties have signed the original documents. . . .³

A codicil signed in Amsterdam on Tuesday, October 17, 1623, is a resume of the October 12 contract and adds no new information. While the names of the charcoal burners and woodsmen are identical, there is some variance in the spellings, as was quite customary in those days.

Of particular interest is the inclusion of five women, seven children and a grown girl. It would appear that of the eighteen men mentioned in the contract, only five were married, or if married, had decided not to take their families to Sweden.

1 Leufsta Archives, Box 44, Fascicle No. 127, Riksarkivet (The National Archives), Stockholm.
2 The Swedish öre had a much higher value in the 17th century than it has today. The Swedish daler, related to the German thaler, contained 32 öre or four mark. Ten öre in silver was therefore slightly more than one mark, a considerable sum in those days.
3 The English translation of a Swedish version of a French contract does not pretend to be an official version of the original document. It is given here as a normalized version, mainly to convey the spirit of the contract. — Editor's note.
Ancestor Tables

Ancestor tables will be printed from time to time on a space available basis and for subscribers only. The editor assumes no responsibility for the material submitted and reserves the right to edit the material to conform to a general format.

V. James J. Olson, 1241 Delaware Ave., Mendota Heights, MN 55118


I. 2. OLSON, Curt Arnold, b. Chicago, IL 1902; m. Granite Falls 1937; resides Granite Falls.

3. BOGLE, Christina Johnson, b. Granite Falls 1911; d. Granite Falls 1944.

II. 4. OLSON, John Alfred, b. Stora Kil Parish (Värmland), Sweden 1868; came to the U.S. 1890; m. Chicago, IL 1896; d. Granite Falls 1953.

5. ANDERSON, Christina Charlotta, b. Berga Parish (Kron.), Sweden 1866; came to the U.S. 1885; d. Granite Falls 1950.

6. BOGLE, James, b. Shettleston (near Glasgow), Scotland 1861; came to the U.S. 1880; m. Granite Falls 1910; d. Granite Falls 1936.

7. JOHNSON, Hilda (Hilma) Maria, b. Sankt Olof Parish (Krist.), Sweden 1883; came to the U.S. 1905; d. Granite Falls 1944.

III. 8. PERSSON, Olof, b. Malung Parish (Kopp.), Sweden 1830; m. Malung 1853; d. Stora Kil 1913.


11. BENGTSDOTTER, Maria Helena, b. Ljungby Parish (Kron.), Sweden 1847; came to the U.S. 1885; d. Hanley Falls, MN 1889.

12. BOGLE, Matthew, b. Cadder (Lanark), Scotland 1832; m. Shettleston, Scotland 1854; came to the U.S. 1880; d. Granite Falls 1900.

13. TURNBULL, Janet, b. Barony (Lanark), Scotland 1825; d. Shettleston 1872.


15. MARTENS DOTTER, Elsa, b. Östra Vemmerlöv Parish (Krist.), Sweden 1849; d. Sankt Olof 1926.
16. (?) MALMÉN, Per Persson, b. Malung Parish 1807; banns pronounced three times 1838; d. Norra Ny Parish (Värm.), Sweden 1838.
17. OLSDOTTER, Anna, b. Malung Parish 1806; d. Malung 1855.
18. DANIELSON, Lars, b. Malung Parish 1785; m. Malung 1815; d. Malung 1843.
22. PERSSON, Bengt, b. Ljungby Parish 1810; m. Ljungby before 1837; d. Berga Parish 1858.
24. BOGLE, b. Scotland (?); d. before 1841.
25. ANGUS, Christina, b. Scotland ca. 1786; d. after 1841.
26. TURNBULL, James, b. Old Monkland (Lanark), Scotland ca. 1779; m. Avondale (Lanark), Scotland 1816; d. Old Monkland 1868.
27. MORRISON, Janet, b. Avondale, Scotland 1795; d. Tollcross (near Glasgow), Scotland 1855.
28. HINDRICKSSON, Hans, b. Smedstorp Parish (Krist.), Sweden 1788; m. Smedstorp 1818; Sankt Olof Parish 1850.
29. JONSDOTTER, Hanna, b. Smedstorp Parish 1801; d. Östra Herrestad Parish (Krist.), Sweden 1877.
30. ANDERSSON, Märten, b. Tommarp Parish (Krist.), Sweden 1804; m. Östra Vemmerlöv Parish 1845; d. Östra Vemmerlöv 1858.
31. PERSDOTTHER, Hanna, b. Östra Vemmerlöv Parish 1821; d. Östra Vemmerlöv 1874.
32. (?) PERSSON, Knut Per, b. Malung Parish 1779; m. Malung 1802; d. Malung 1827.
33. (?) ERSDOTTER, Brita, b. Malung Parish 1779; d. Malung 1853.
34. ISAKSSON, Olof, b. Malung Parish 1778; m. Malung 1802; d. Malung 1813.
35. SVEDELIUS, Anna Margareta, b. Malung Parish 1780; d. Malung 1856.
36. OLSSON, Daniel, b. Malung Parish 1752; m. Malung 1779; d. Malung 1814.
37. LARSDOTTER, Brita, b. Malung Parish 1757; d. Malung 1835.
38. LARSSON, Halvard, b. Malung Parish 1748; m. Malung 1773; d. Malung 1814.
39. HANSDOTTER, Kerstin, b. Malung Parish 1753; d. Malung 1834.
40. MÅNSSON, Johan, b. Angelstad Parish (Kron.), Sweden 1757; m. Berga Parish 1786; d. Berga 1825.
41. NILSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Berga Parish 1766; d. Berga 1821.
42. NILSSON, Peter, b. Berga Parish 1763; d. Berga 1825.
43. NILSDOTTER, Ingeborg, b. Dörarp Parish (Kron.), Sweden 1773; d. Berga Parish 1856.
44. JONSSON, Per, b. Ryssby Parish (Kron.), Sweden 1779; m. Ljungby Parish 1805; d. Ljungby 1866.
45. ERIKSDOTTER, Lisa, b. Ljungby Parish 1789; d. Ljungby 1861.
46. LARSSON, Jonas, b. Angelstad Parish 1778; m. Berga Parish 1807; d. Berga 1847.
47. PETERSDOTTER, Britta, b. Berga Parish 1788; d. Berga 1830.
48. (?) BOGLE, John.
49. (?) PATERSON, Janet.
50–51. —
52. TURNBULL, John.
53. DICK, Janet.
54. MORRISON, James, b. (?); m. Avondale, Scotland 1782; d. Avondale 1819.
55. ALLISON, Catharine, baptized Avondale, Scotland 1761; d. Avondale 1825.
56. OLSSON, Hindrick, b. 1754; d. Smedstorp Parish 1809.
57. HÄKANSDOTTER, Karna, b. Smedstorp Parish 1759; d. (?).
58. INGEMARSSON, Jon, b. 1761; d. Hammenhög Parish (Krist.), Sweden 1840.
59. SVENSDOTTER, Ingar, b. 1769 (?); d. Hammenhög Parish 1838.
60. JONSSON, Anders.
61. MÄRTENSDOTTER, Karna.
62. PERSSON, Per, b. Östra Vemmerlöv Parish 1783; m. Östra Vemmerlöv 1809; d. Östra Vemmerlöv 1857.
63. NILSDOTTER, Elna, b. Östra Vemmerlöv 1786; d. Östra Vemmerlöv 1856.
Genealogical Queries

Queries from subscribers to Swedish American Genealogist will be listed here free of charge on a "space available basis." The Editor reserves the right to edit the question to conform to the general format.

Knutsdotter
I am seeking information concerning two sisters named Knutsdotter, Augusta, b. Dec. 7, 1879 and Ida, b. March 23, 1882. Both came from Jämshög Parish (Blek.) and emigrated to Chicago in 1893. Did either marry and have children?
Ruth Swanson Baxter,
10502 Tropicana Circle,
Sun City, AZ 85351

Ericson
Desire information concerning Frank (Freeman) Ericson, b. ca. 1912. He resided in Ossining, NY, near his grandfather, the Rev. Olin Swanson. Later he resided at 96 Haven Ave., New York 32, NY.
Ruth Swanson Baxter,
10502 Tropicana Circle,
Sun City, AZ 85351

Engström
I need information concerning the following family:
Olof Jonsson Engström, b. Sept. 18, 1826
Kerstin Olsdotter, his wife, b. March 3, 1825
Olof, son, b. Nov. 25, 1861
Anna Stina, daughter, b. Dec. 11, 1864.
All of the above were b. in Gräsmark Parish (Värm.) and emigrated from Kristiania (Oslo), Norway in August, 1881 aboard the SS Angelo, destined for Hastings.
Bertil Grundström,
Långgaään 4,
573 00 Tranås, SWEDEN
Björklund, Carlson, Charles


According to Norelius, some or all of the Björklunds were at West Point, IN in 1855. Frans Wilhelm went to Rusheba, Chisago Co., MN in 1856 and later to Welch, MN, where he appears in the church register as Frans Wilhelm Carlson. He d. in 1906. Sara Stina and Juliana went to La Porte, IN in 1856, where Sara Stina m. a Mr. Peterson. Gottfried Björklund is named in the 1858 charter of the Vista Lutheran Church, New Richland, MN as “Gottfried Charls.” Norelius states that Gottfried and Anders went to Idaho Territory and became wealthy and prominent there. Is Gottfried the 48 year old Swedish quartz miner enumerated in Owyhee Co., ID in 1880 as “Godfrey Charles”?

Ronald J. Johnson,
4517 Pawnee Pass,
Madison, WI 53711

Pettersson

I am looking for information concerning Anders Patrik Pettersson, b. in Vällda Parish (Hall.) April 1, 1856. He had the following children: Carl Johan, b. in Timrå Parish Feb. 10, 1883, Anders Hilding, b. in Timrå Sept. 7, 1885 and Dagmar Mathilda, b. in Timrå Feb. 25, 1890. The family emigr. to the U.S. June 7, 1905.

Mrs. Lisbeth Johansson,
Daltorp, Slätthultsvägen 21,
44303 Stenkullen, SWEDEN

Nilsson

Desire information regarding Bertha Nilsson, b. in Varberg Jan. 8, 1869 and Carl Johan Nilsson, also b. in Varberg March 5, 1871. Bertha emigr. to Chicago March 22, 1889 and Carl Johan to the same destination in March 1890.

Mrs. Lisbeth Johansson,
Daltorp, Slätthultsvägen 21,
44303 Stenkullen, SWEDEN

Berg

John Bertil Berg, b. in Duluth, MN Feb. 1, 1912, is said to have owned a
cotton plantation in California ca. 1950. He was m. to Ruth Murphy and he had three children, Gordon, b. July 2, 1941, and twins Thomas and Virginia, b. April 12, 1945. At that time the family resided in Sanger, CA. The family belongs to the Arta Olofsgård Family, originally from Fristad Parish (Ålvs.). Any information concerning members of the Berg family would be appreciated.

Karl Svånsson,
Edsbergsvägen 8,
191 51 Sollentuna, SWEDEN

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**Svensson, Waldner**

Three brothers named Waldner, all tailors, emigr. to the U.S. in 1891 and 1899. Ernst Conrad was b. in Karlstad Dec. 25, 1869, Gustav Leonard, was b. in Kil Parish (Värm.) Nov. 5, 1872 and Carl Johan, was b. in Sunne Parish (Värm.) June 21, 1878. Gustav Leonard Waldner visited Sweden in 1900 and brought the mother, Anna Lisa Svensson, b. Carlsson in By Parish (Värml.) Oct. 15, 1835, to Boston, MA. The brothers Waldner belonged to the Arta Olofsgård Family from Fristad Parish (Ålvs.) through their father, Johan Fredrik Svensson, b. in Fristad June 9, 1839. Any information concerning the Waldner brothers and their descendants would be appreciated.

Karl Svånsson,
Edsbergsvägen 8,
191 51 Sollentuna, SWEDEN

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**Brandberg, Brenneberg**

Seeking information concerning Peter Brandberg, b. in Västmanland, Sweden in 1736.

Karin E. Palmer,
Box 475,
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

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**Mork, Ravlon, Ferm**

I need information concerning Ellida Mork. She was the half sister of my grandfather, whose name was Herman Bror Ferm. I am not sure whether her maiden name was Ravlon or Ferm. I believe she came to the Chicago area and then went west. According to what we heard she became a Mormon and settled in Utah. She had one son, named Mork, but we don't know his Christian name. Of the five people in my family who came from Sweden to the Chicago area, we can account for four. Any lead as to what happened to Ellida Mork would be appreciated.

Mrs. William G. Forster,
1801 6th Avenue, N.E.,
Menomonie, WI 54751
Jonsson, Pahlsson
Seeking information concerning Anders Jonsson, b. in Vomb Parish (Malm.) in 1752; d. in Veberöd Parish (Malm.) Nov. 23, 1826. His wife, Elisabeth Pahlsson, was b. in Vomb 1751, m. in Vomb June 15, 1777 and d. in Veberöd June 6, 1830. They had the following children, all b. in Silvåakra Parish (Malm.), except the eldest, b. in Vomb — Nils, b. Sept. 4, 1777, Maria, b. Nov. 13, 1779, Pahl, b. March 20, 1782; Boel, b. Feb. 21, 1784; Johan, b. Dec. 17, 1790, Jon, b. Feb. 7, 1793 and Hanna, b. Dec. 16, 1795.
Betty Jane Larson,
2943 South 94th Street,
West Allis, WI 53227

Knutsdotter
Seeking information about Elna Knutsdotter, b. in Veberöd Parish (Malm.) April 17, 1836 and d. in the city of Höör Oct. 4, 1907. Her mother’s name was Kerstina Jonsdotter.
Betty Jane Larson,
2943 South 94th Street,
West Allis, WI 53227

Åberg, Soderberg, Lindstedt
I am looking for information concerning the following emigrants who left Saxån in Värmland for America:
  b. His sister, Maria Charlotta Åberg, b. Nov. 11, 1841, who emigr. April 11, 1870 together with her husband, Albert Soderberg, and dau. Anna-Maria, b. in 1860.
Pastor Kjell G. Åberg,
Stomgatan 27,
464 00 Mellerud, SWEDEN

Korsgren
Information desired concerning Clas Victor Korsgren, b. in Falun, Sweden Dec. 29, 1870. He emigr. to the U.S. April 25, 1880 together with his foster parents, Erik Eriksson Holmsten and his wife, Maria Gustava. They emigr. from Stora Tuna Parish (Kopp.) and are supposed to have gone to Le Mont, IA.
Anderson

My father, Nels Anderson, was b. in Stockholm, Sweden Dec. 6, 1883, the s. of John and Anna Anderson. We don’t know too much about him, except that he came to America in 1890 with his parents and an older brother, whose name we do not have. The family was known to have resided in Fargo, ND, Hudson or River Falls, WI and Adrian or Detroit, MI. Any information concerning him would be appreciated.

Mary L. (Anderson) Stephenson,
132 Conradt Avenue,
Kokomo, IN 46901

Selling

I am anxious to know the fates of two individuals, father and son, who emigr. to America July 13, 1886 via Copenhagen. They were:

Harald Waldemar Selling, b. in Copenhagen Dec. 22, 1841, the s. of Christian Krogh and Marie Christine Svendsen. In 1847 young Harald Waldemar moved to Göteborg, Sweden, where he became the foster son of Jens Rasmussen Selling, a tobacco manufacturer. In 1867 Harald Waldemar Selling opened a coin shop in Göteborg under the name of Selling & Sahlström, situated at Torggatan 22. On June 26, 1875 Selling, the coin dealer, was united in marriage to Othelia Fredrica Zelin, b. in Brooklyn, NY July 25, 1857. Their s., Daniel Harald Selling was b. in Göteborg Dec. 4, 1876. On Aug. 20, 1883 the Sellings were divorced and on July 13, 1886, Harald Waldemar Selling emigr. to America with his three-year old son. Since that date there has been no trace of the Sellings. Who can help?

Ulf Nordlind,
Box 5132
102 43 Stockholm, SWEDEN

Jonsdotter, Eriksson

Seeking information regarding descendants of Engla Olava Jonsdotter, b. in Ragunda Parish (Jämt.) in 1861, who was m. to Israel Eriksson, b. in Häsjö Parish (Jämt.) in 1858. The couple emigr. sometime between 1891 and 1900 and lived for a while in Rush City, MN.

Inger Nemeth,
Turbingränd 20
175 75 Järfälla, SWEDEN
Carlsson
Seeking information about my uncle, Oscar Bror Amandus Carlsson, b. in Berg, Edsele Parish (VN). He emigr. to the U.S. in 1906 and resided at first in Cloquet, MN. In 1956 he was living in Boise, ID and in 1961 in Spokane, WA.
Inger Nemeth,
Turbingränt 20,
175 75 Järfälla, SWEDEN

Johansson, Bengtsson
Looking for information concerning the four children of Erik Johan Bengtsson in Övre Ullerud Parish (Värm.) who emigr. to the U.S.:  
c. Maria Christina Bengtsson, b. June 8, 1889; emigr. July 8, 1905 via Hull on board the ship Calypso, bound for Chicago, via New York.  
d. Ernst Valdemar Johansson or Bengtsson, b. June 1, 1892, who emigr. to Chicago April 27, 1912. It is believed that he called himself Ernest Benson.  
In 1975 a person named Willard Benson, s. of the above Ernest Benson was residing at 2507 North 39th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210. A letter written to this address in 1979 was never answered.
Jan Larsson,
Box 56,
651 02 Karlstad 1, SWEDEN

Anderson, Lundin
Seeking the birth place in Sweden of my grandfather, Nels Anderson, b. June 10, 1871 and my grandmother, Augusta Swanson, b. Dec. 9, 1870. They emigr. to the U.S. in 1889 (The U.S. Census says 1892), landed in New York and were m. upon arrival. They worked for a while on Ellis Island in New York, Nels as a carpenter, Augusta as a housekeeper. At this time Nels changed his name to Nels A. Lundin.
The couple moved to Estherville, IA, where their first child, Nels William was b. June 15, 1893 (according to the baptismal record).  
Nels Anderson Lundin had two brothers, Fred Anderson, b. in June 1880 and Jens Anderson, both of them returning to Sweden. Jens may have been in the Swedish Army around 1900. Nels Anderson Lundin d. in Tacoma, WA in 1928 and his wife Augusta Lundin in Seattle, WA 1948. We believe that they both originated near Helsingborg in the province of Skåne.
May Lundin Charbonneau,
Forest Grove, MT 59441
Andersson

I am hoping that some reader of SAG will help me locate descendants of the following persons, who emigr. to America April 11, 1880. They were all b. in Hällestad Parish (Ög.) and according to the police records in Göteborg they intended to go to Stillwater, MN. They were:

Israel Andersson, b. Sept. 18, 1831
Johanna Johansdotter, b. Sept. 6, 1837
Anna Lotta, dau., b. Aug. 13, 1861
Anders Peter, s., b. Feb. 10, 1864
Israel, s., b. March 22, 1867
Johan Albert, s., b. Jan. 2, 1875
Emma Mathilda, dau., b. March 1, 1878

Ivar Andersson,
Myrمالمsvägen 17a,
612 00 Finspång, SWEDEN

Remmer

We are trying to locate the family of Carl Remmer, my grandfather. He served in the Swedish Army for 29 years, was discharged in 1893 and arrived in the U.S. in the same year. He applied for U.S. citizenship, which was granted him in 1898. We are told that he came from Engelholm. His wife, Mathilda Polson (Paulson) was b. in Örkeljunga, Sweden. They had three dau., of which Signe Ingegerd, b. in Broby Parish (Krist.) in 1888, was my mother.

Dale Trout,
R.D. # 2 BY 2208,
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Johnson

Need parish name for birth place of Eric John Johnson, who with his family came from Småland to America in 1852. The father, Eric, was b. in 1819, mother, Britta Elisa, b. 1815, s. Augustus William, b. Sept. 28, 1847, s. Charles Alfred, b. March 16, 1850 and dau., Clara M., b. in 1850. The latter may have been twins. There may have been an additional child in the family. The Eric John Johnsons settled on Goose Island in Chicago. In 1876 they had the Johnson Brothers Coal and Ice business in Chicago.

Carol Miller,
1395 Parkside,
Park Ridge, IL 60068
Wikstrom

I am searching for my grandfather's family. He came to Mendocino Co., CA before 1890, where he m. my grandmother, Charlotte Marie Dahl, who was b. in Amnehårad Parish (Skar.). My grandfather left for the gold rush in the Yukon in 1898 and never returned to his family (wife and four daughters). We have a paper which he wrote in order to get a pension in Canada, which tells something about him, although we cannot make out his parish of birth. The document was sent to the British Consul in Strömstad, Sweden and was dated Dawson, Yukon Territory, Canada Oct. 1, 1930. Here is his my grandfather's statement:

"My name is August Gustave Wikstrom. I am a Swede by birth. I was born April 29, 1858. I adopted the name of August Gustave Wikstrom after running away from a Norwegian ship in Liverpool, England. I was born in Rose Sterno Socken, Bohuslän. My Christian name was August Andreasson and my father's name was Andreas Anderson, often called Wikstrom after the place where we were living, called Wiken. My mother's name was Helena Mattias, before marriage to my father. When I left Sweden I had a brother Lorentz and a sister Mathilda."

My grandmother's sister, Ottilia Dahl was m. to a chap named Bock. She had two sons, Gunnar and Kurt. Gunnar was living in Borås, Sweden, but we have not heard from them since my grandmother's death in 1944.

I would appreciate any help that your organization can give.

Ethel-Marie Halverson,
2110 Buena Vista Avenue,
Healdsburg, CA 95445

Noren, Noreen, Kullenberg, Click

Seeking descendants of two brothers of my great grandfather who emigr. to America in the 1880s.

a. Carl Abraham Noren, b. in Norsjö Parish (Vb) Dec. 18, 1858, m. to Evelina Mathilda Kullenberg, and emigr. to San Antonio, TX in 1883 with his wife's parents and siblings. Evelina Mathilda lived in Seattle, WA as late as 1933. Carl Abraham had then been dead for some time. A dau. was possibly m. to a chap named Willie Click, with whom she had a s., Arfa Click.

b. Pehr Olof Noren, b. in Norsjö Parish May 7, 1851. He was m. to Ulrica Wilhelmina Stenmark and had children Gustaf Hjalmar, Anna Wilhelmina and Hedvig Josephina. His family emigr. to Kansas in 1884. Pehr Olof Noren was active in the temperance movement in Kansas for a number of years.

Kenneth Norén,
Gyllengripsgatan 32,
902 50 Umeå, SWEDEN
Anderson

I have a relative who emigrated to the U.S. from Sweden and have been unable to find his parish of birth. His name was Olof Anderson, b. in Sweden March 11, 1848. He settled in Lancaster, Dallas Co., TX, m. ca. 1875 Nancy Combs of Illinois. He d. in Dallas Co., TX Oct. 17, 1903. He was naturalized after filing his declaration of intent on Aug. 2, 1887. According to a family tradition he is supposed to have returned to Sweden in 1900 due to a death in the family. Any help I can get to determine his birth place in Sweden would be appreciated.
Ann Goar,
Route 3, Box 134,
Gilmer, TX 75644

Johnson or Jonsdotter

My great grandmother, Minnie Christina Wilhelmina Johnson or Jonsdotter was b. in Göteborg, Sweden May 26, 1878, the dau. of Lars Johnson and Mary Larson. She emigrated to the U.S. in 1896 at the age of 18. I would very much like to know more of her family background in Sweden.
Lawrence D. Peterson,
3309 Murray Ridge Road,
San Diego, CA 92123

Andersson

I am trying to find out something concerning my relatives who were living in Minneapolis, MN. Alfred Andersson was b. in Sweden September 11, 1852 and emigrated to the U.S. March 22, 1880. He settled in Minneapolis, where he was foreman for road work, a job, which I believe he had from the very beginning. In 1932, at the time he was 80 years old, he had a picture taken at the Nordin Studio at Lake and Nicollet, which he sent home to Sweden. He must have had at least four children.
Kerstin Lindström,
Vassvägen 12,
702 31 Orebro, SWEDEN

Larsson

My grandmother was b. in Dalen Svanskog (Värm.) Jan. 1, 1888 and emigrated supposedly to New York in Sept., 1909, and then lived briefly in New Jersey, before settling in Chicago and later in Gary, IN. I wish to locate her on the passenger manifests. I believe she may have sailed to New York by way of Southampton, England as my search of Scandinavian departures for period has been unsuccessful. Also I should like to know something concerning my great grandparents, Johan Alfred Larsson (1857–1937) and Maria Kajsa Andersdotter (1862–1955) of Dalen and Bollsbyn, Svanskog (Värm.).
Nelson

Urgently need information on Alva Nelson, medal engraver, who emigrated to the US from Sweden between 1885 and 1890. He engraved the Sternberg medal for the Surgeon General of the Department of War in Washington, DC in 1921. The medal had been designed by Dr. Richard Lee. Nelson is supposed to have had a studio in New York City before he died. He is reputed to have been an excellent engraver.

Francis Pessolano-Filos,
Venus Numismatics,
P.O. Box 313, Parkchester Station,
Bronx, NY 10462

Bengtsson

Desirous to find out what happened to my great grandfather's brother, Tufve Bengtsson, who arrived in the U.S. in 1854 from the parish of Knislinge in Kristianstad län. He was 26 years old at that time.

Jos. B. Rosenbery,
337 Niagara Street,
Park Forest, IL 60466

Nordling, Erickson

I am seeking information concerning Stina Nordling and her ancestors and descendants. She was born in Vase Parish (Värmland) Dec. 5, 1812 and came to America in 1876 with her son, August E. Nordling (my husband's grandfather). They went first to Varna, IL and then to Geneseo, IL in 1879. In 1887 she went to Holdrege, NE. Stina Nordling had eleven or twelve children, of which most became clergymen or married clergymen. Some used the name of Nordling and I believe that some used the name of Erickson.

Mrs. Keith C. Nordling,
Highway 82 N, Box 5 B,
Geneseo, IL 61254

Bergman

I am searching for information concerning my relatives in the U.S., with whom we lost contact many years ago. The first generation consisted of Olof Olsson Bergman and his wife Anna Sjöberg. They had two children, Anna Erika, b. 1864 and Erik Olof, b. 1866 and emigrated to Lansing, IA in 1868, where the
Bergmans bought a farm. In Lansing three additional dau. were b., Mary, Carrie and Hanna. The family attended the First Baptist Church in Lansing and the oldest daughter, Anna Erika, served as a missionary in India for seven years. Of the four girls, only Hanna m. She was m. to Oscar (?) Carland and lived in Minneapolis. I have been in contact with a lady in Lansing who tells me that she had visited Hanna Bergman Carland in Minneapolis and I have also learned that Carrie Bergman was living in Minneapolis in the 1940s and that she had a niece also living there, in which case Oscar and Hanna Carland must have had a child.

Seth Sjöberg, % Jönsson,
Herserudsvägen 4 B, nb.
181 34 Lidingö, SWEDEN

Jönsson
I wonder if someone can help me find out what happened to Erik Jönsson, b. in Trönö Parish (Gäv.) Sept. 25, 1822. On June 28, 1870 he left for America. During his first year in America he was in contact with his family and there are many letters extant. On Aug. 12, 1871 he wrote that he was going to come home in September of that year. He was never heard from again. He seems to have been a stone mason. His last address was Miami Station, Carroll Co., MO.

Gösta Berglòw,
Borg 3087,
826 04 Norrala, SWEDEN

Jansson
I should like to know if there are any descendants to this family which emigr. to America in 1884:

Jan Erik Jansson, b. in Hällefors Parish (Öre.); his wife Ida Carolina Andersdotter, b. in Hjulsjö Parish (Öre.) July 17, 1850 and their two children, Elin Carolina, b. 1873 and Carl Oscar, b. 1876.

Viktor Andersson,
Övermoravägen 22,
781 95 Borlänge, SWEDEN

Nilsson
Who can help me find descendants of the following family which emigr. to the U.S. in 1884:

Carl Adolf Nilsson, b. in Hjulsjö Parish (Öre.); his wife, Sophia Albertina Andersdotter, b. in Hjulsjö Feb. 22, 1855 and their children, Sophia Vilhelmina, b. 1875 and Anna Maria, b. 1877.

Viktor Andersson,
Övermoravägen 22,
781 95 Borlänge, SWEDEN
Andersson
I am looking for descendants of the following family which emigr. to U.S. 
Johan Ulrik Andersson, b. in Hjulsjö Parish (Öre.) July 1, 1863 and his wife, 
Selma Maria Björk, b. Jan. 26, 1866.
Viktor Andersson, 
Övermoravägen 22, 
781 95 Borlänge, SWEDEN

Andersdotter
Hilda Maria Andersdotter, b. in Hjulsjö Parish (Öre.) Nov. 11, 1866, emigr. 
to the U.S. 1886. Can anyone tell me what happened to her?
Viktor Andersson, 
Övermoravägen 22, 
781 95 Borlänge, SWEDEN

Anderson, Florine
I am seeking information on three brothers, who were uncles of my grand­ 
father Robert Johnson Florine. They were s. of Andreas Ericsson of Noltorpet, 
Närunga Parish (Ålvs.) and his wife Maja Stina Andersdotter. The brothers used 
the surname Anderson in Sweden, but may have taken the name of Florine 
(Floren) in America. Johan Edvin, b. Feb. 20, 1858, arr. in America 1880; Erik 
Alfred, b. Nov. 5, 1860, came in 1880 and Linus, b. April 21, 1864, arr. in 1891. It 
is believed that they settled in Iowa.
Howard W. Florine, 
1111 Bonnie Brce, Apt. 3 W, 
River Forest, IL 60305

Johnson, Florine
I am seeking information concerning Axel R. Johnson, s. of J. A. Jonsson 
and his wife Charlotta, b. in the city of Alingsås, Sweden Jan. 16, 1881. He was 
the brother of my grandfather, Robert Florine, and may also have taken that 
name upon arrival in the U.S. It is believed that he settled in California.
Howard W. Florine, 
1111 Bonnie Brae, Apt 3 W, 
River Forest, IL 60305
Announcement

Unfortunately, it proved impossible to hold the Genealogical Workshop in Jönköping this summer. We received several enthusiastic letters from readers who wished to participate, but alas, not many enough to make it economically feasible. It was also ironic, that once the decision had been made to cancel we received three or four additional applications.

We are not discouraged, however. We are already at work planning a similar institute next summer. This time we hope to get out a detailed program early, perhaps soon enough to include the announcement in the September issue of SAG.

Correction

Bertil Grundström of Tranås, Sweden has called attention to an error in SAG, Vol. 1, No. 2, p. 62. The entry for No. 204, C. Nordström, should read as follows:

Erik Eriksson, b. Feb. 27, 1856 in Järperud, s. Erik Olsson, farmer and Anna Lisa Claesdotter Lindgren, not Olsson.

NOW, finally, we have a reprint of the famous Swedish gazetteer, C. M. Rosenberg's

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