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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 confirmands 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 (*trädgårdsmästare*), 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:

Sam[uel] 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 Hård, quartermaster 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 Rydaholm 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, Häggemåla 1832.

Below is the following:

This book belongs to Jonas Jonsson in Häggemåla Jan. 3, 1865.

Note: Häggemåla 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 Weä.

Note: Weä seems to be an old spelling, difficult to place. It could refer to Vee, a

village in Väse Parish (Värm.) or Vä Parish (Krist.) 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: Claës Gustaf Borre (1786–1869) became a student in Uppsala in 1807. After theological studies he became pastor of the Parish of Åsbo (Ög.). 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. *Betraktelser 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 J[ohan] and Mathilda Larson, who immigrated from Kristda [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. Hoof's Collection of Sermons)* (Örebro, 1846). Has the following notation on the flyleaf:

Johanna Jonasdöter, 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 (*hemmansägare*), and his wife, Carin Maria Jönsdöter 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 Jönsdöter, 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)

Note: Nils Petter Höglund, b. in Luleå 1785; student at Uppsala 1805, graduated in law 1808. Johan Vindician Tranér (1770–1835), professor at Uppsala, a poet and scholar of Latin, won three Swedish Academy awards for translations of Ovid. Knut Wilhelm Almqvist (1819–1878), who after studies at Uppsala became a successful churchman in Sweden. Petrus Olof Bersell (1882–1967), president of the Augustana

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. Bäärnhelm.

On the flyleaf is the following:

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

Andreas Wahrstedt, 1793.

Magnus Thelander Oct. 26, 1804. B.1766; d. Oct. 6, 1832.

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

Note: G. Bäärnhelm may be identical with Gustaf Bäärnhelm (1822–1889) or his grandson, Gösta Bäärnhelm, 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 Nilsson. This book is given to him at the time of his baptism.