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Genealogically Speaking

With this issue Swedish American Genealogist begins its second year, a good time to look back in order to assess what we have done, as well as to take a look at the future.

Thanks to the loyal support which has been shown so far we can assess the first year as an unqualified success. Our subscribers number slightly below 950, of which 125 are in Sweden, with a dribble in Canada, England, Norway, Rumania, and Japan. Our printing run of 1,000, which we believed would be ample for several years, is thereby almost exhausted.

Printing costs being what they are and with a large boost in the postal rates, SAG is still not self supporting, but we are closing the gap and hopefully 1982 will be the year that we go into the black. This gives us the opportunity to ask our readers to help spread the word about the journal, to subscribe for interested family members, and why not donate a subscription to your local genealogical library.

We have been very pleased with the number of letters received telling us how much you like the journal. If you have comments on how to improve the quality, please let us know.

We believe the future looks bright. Interest in genealogical research has not abated, here nor in Sweden. With the continued support from our readers we are committed to providing you with an even better product.
The Walloons in Sweden*

Bernt Douhan

At the beginning of the 17th century Amsterdam was the main trade and commercial center of Europe. The businessmen of that city had constructed a wide network of business contacts which gave them influence in the economic and political life of Europe. Persons such as Hans de Witte, Louis De Geer, Elias Trip, Pieter Spiering, Conrad van Klaenck, the Marcelis family, Jan Hoeufft, and many others (all Hollanders), were able, thanks to their social position and capital, to gain control over the industrial development of various countries as well as to function as the principal money lenders to these countries. Their economic interests also made it possible for them to gain political influence indirectly.

The two brothers-in-law, Elias Trip and Louis De Geer, were able during the first half of the 17th century to create a monopoly so far as control over the production of copper and saltpeter was concerned. These raw materials were of fundamental importance in the manufacture of cannon and gunpowder. The brothers-in-law were to become the most important money lenders to the Swedish Crown and the guarantee for these loans was Swedish copper. The Swedish debt to these two was of such magnitude that at the beginning of the 1630s Sweden was totally bankrupt. Later on Trip was to create a Dutch and German copper manufacturing company, whereas De Geer, alone, was to develop the Swedish interests. From the end of the 1610s, the Netherlands thus became the largest money lender and grantor of subsidies to Sweden. Despite this, Swedish interest groups sought to hinder De Geer from establishing a direct foothold in Sweden, but by buying up notes receivable, he was able to place such economic demands on Sweden that the resistance collapsed. Early in the century he had been in contact with a fellow Hollander, active in Sweden, Wellem de Besche, becoming the latter's guarantor, when de Besche in 1618 leased the Finspång manufacturing plant. De Geer was therefore able, as a result of this transaction, to establish for the first time, a direct relationship with Swedish industry.

During the period that De Geer was developing his Swedish interests, the iron industry in the Walloon district of the Netherlands was wrestling with big production problems. The area in question was hit hard by both political and social unrest, due much to its geographical position, situated as it was between

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*This is a slightly abridged version of an article, "Wallonerna i Sverige", published in Fataburen (Stockholm, 1981), pp. 66-90. The author is a well-known authority on the Walloons and has given his permission to have the article translated and published in SAG.
the Spanish and the free Netherlands. The problems raised by the warring factions were very unsettling, which together with the lack of raw materials were the direct reasons why the iron mills stood idle for long periods of time, thereby causing wide unemployment.

The economic interest groups, first of all the businessmen of Amsterdam, thus began looking around for other acceptable production areas, which could be substituted for the lacking Dutch manufacture of war material and other manufactured goods. This resulted in de Witte’s becoming the economic guarantor of General Albrecht Wallenstein, Duke of Friedland and Mecklenburg, and the Catholic powers which supported him. Jan Hœufflt was able to create a similar position for himself in France, while the Marcelis family concentrated on Denmark, Trip in the Netherlands and parts of Germany and De Geer in Sweden. All of these persons were Calvinists and Hollander, but this fact did not stop them from taking service with states having a different religious point of view. The economic interests were the determining factors which resulted in a situation where they ended up on opposite sides in the religious conflict which during this period devastated large areas of Europe. This situation did not prevent them from selling war material to all of the belligerents. During this entire period, Amsterdam, together with Antwerp (where Trip was located) were the economic centers, with the exception of Prague, where de Witte was active.

In order for De Geer to win support for his interests in Sweden, he had to find men within the country who were willing to aid him as well as to derive some benefits from this transaction for themselves. De Geer and his companions were capitalists, a new breed in Sweden. He and his friends made use of working capital, with the purpose in mind that this would increase as the profits, to a large extent, were reinvested in more working capital. Up to this point capital in Sweden had been handled in a rather static manner, mostly in the form of investments in real property. Only on a smaller scale had working capital been used for investments in manufacturing plants, and even in such instances, it was usually aimed at a limited production, of the kind that could service an estate or a manor. One exception to this was Jacob de la Gardie, who together with De Geer, were to be responsible for the development of the Swedish iron industry.

Those in Sweden who at the outset supported De Geer were King Gustavus Adolphus and his chancellor, Axel Oxenstierna and the latter’s relatives. It is therefore no accident that it was in the county (lään) of the Oxenstierna interests, Östergötland, where De Geer was to begin his Swedish activities.

The fact that made Sweden an interesting substitute country for the Netherlands was the availability of raw materials such as iron ore, forests and water power. In addition to his capital, De Geer also had access to the production techniques developed in the Netherlands and the possibilities of enlisting trained personnel among the unemployed Walloons. Also, Sweden was at this time a relatively stable country, whereby the risks of unrest on the labor market, due to wars and social conflict, were fairly minimal.

In the beginning phase of the economic expansion in Sweden, the foreign
interests headed by De Geer, de Besche, Lemmens, Depken and Vervier sought to increase their influence in Sweden by means of economic power. They were quickly assimilated into Swedish society. The majority of them were ennobled by the King and as time went on they were to influence directly the affairs of state both nationally as well as internationally. They made up the economic elite class of the immigrant Walloons, and their activities were to create a positive economic development in Sweden, based on the exports of malleable iron, copper and war material. Sweden thus was the country, which because of the Dutch initiatives, now became Europe's new arsenal and as time went on was to rise to the status of a big power in Europe of that era.

In order to succeed with the development outlined above, it was necessary to utilize the manpower of the Walloons. They possessed the technical capabilities which were necessary to transfer the Dutch manufacturing innovations to Sweden. They were a chosen elite of workers and artisans and were destined to fill the role of the founders of new production techniques in an expanding and economically profitable metal industry.

Wallonia

Wallonia is an area which consists of parts of the present-day France and Belgium, consisting of the provinces of Artois, Belgian and French Flanders, Cambrai, Tournai, Hainaut, Namur, Luxembourg and Liège. This is the principal area of settlement by the Walloons and is therefore called Wallonia. The people living here are considered to be a separate people, with a distinctive language and literature. The language is supposed to have had an influence on north French literary texts as far back as the Middle Ages, but it was not until the middle of the 17th century that a separate literature developed in the form of public plays and presentation of indigenous ballads. The language remains to this day one of the two major languages of Belgium (the other language is Flemish) and is usually referred to as “High French.”

The origin of the people is not known. It is generally thought that the people came here at the time of the great migrations, probably via Switzerland. They settled along the Schelde, Meuse and Senne River valleys and in the forests of the Ardennes. Because of the location of their settlements, they were called the people of the valleys. (Etymologists believe that the word Walloon stems originally from the French vallon, going back to a Latin stem Wallon, which in turn is related to the Old Germanic *walkhaz, meaning “foreign, Roman or Celtic.” The same root as is to be found in the geographical name of Wales. In other words, the people settling in the river valleys were strangers and foreigners, hence Walloons. — Ed. )

Nationalism has always been strong among the Walloons, which has caused them countless problems in the past, as for instance during World War II, when several Walloon legions were organized in order to fight on the side of Nazism. The idea was of course to set up an independent Wallonia, but instead the
conflict between the two major population groups in Belgium, the Flemish and the Walloons, has worsened, particularly in the area of the language struggle.

In Sweden the name Walloon came to be used to describe the workers, artisans, clerks and merchants, who were to migrate and settle in Sweden during the 17th century. This group consisted for the most part of those people who hailed from Wallonia, but it also included people who migrated with them, Flemings, Germans, Hollanders and Frenchmen, but these categories were, in contrast to the number of Walloons, definitely in the minority. This presentation deals with all of the segments of this migration.

The Walloons came chiefly from two main areas, the cities of Sedan and Liège, together with their satellite communities.

Sedan is located in present-day France and was at that time surrounded by a number of iron working communities. The migrants to Sweden came from no less than 27 different towns surrounding Sedan, such as Balaives, St. Menges, Haraucourt, Pour-aux-Bois, Floing, Franceval, Givonne, Saponje, Vendresse, Montregny, Boulzicourt and Omont. All of these places can be found on a modern map quite easily. Sedan was responsible for the migration during an
early period, from about 1610 to 1625. The Walloons from this part of Wallonia represented a number of occupations which specifically dealt with lumbering and the manufacture of wood products. Sedan had direct contact with the city of Liège via the Meuse River.

During the 16th century Liège had developed into one of the chief centers in Europe for the iron working industry. Iron mines, water power and forestry products from the Ardennes had created a natural basis for this development. New production methods and innovations were brought in to upgrade the production. Specifically this meant that when a new blast furnace was developed, it had a longer life and was considerably larger than previous types used and could therefore produce more iron. When it came to charcoal burning, a new type of coal kiln had been developed which gave a higher quality coke, which was necessary in the new Walloon forges. This progress was a most important event, for it gave a malleable steel of a new type and with a toughness which broadened its usefulness.

During the early period of migration to Sweden Liège remained neutral in the face of the warring operations which had smashed the remainder of Dutch steel production. The area was in fact passing through an era of relative prosperity, but the military events soon caught up with the city, and when Liège was cordoned off from the outside world and it became more and more difficult to get raw materials and supply the markets, the city saw its production slide catastrophically. To add misery to a bad situation, hordes of unemployed workers streamed into the city from other areas hit hard by the war.

When the war flared up between the United Netherlands and Spain in 1621, Liège was drawn into the conflict and its industrial production soon stopped. At the various iron and steel manufacturing centers around the city industrial life came to a halt and the employed had no other choice but to join the rest of the unemployed in Wallonia. This area, therefore, became the main supplier of migrants who were to arrive in Sweden during the period 1625-1655. They came from thirteen towns in addition to Liège, places like Aubley, Plainevaux, Franchimont, Durbuy and Manhay.

In addition to these two chief areas, there was an additional third, which was also responsible for a larger part of the migrants, who departed for Sweden, namely the area around Chimay. Because of its geographical location and its great distance from Liège, it was entirely independent of that city. Eleven communities surrounding Chimay contributed migrants to the move northward. Some of these towns were Forgé, Couvin, Virelles, Momignes, Baileux and Boutenville. Additionally a few migrants also came from three larger cities, one from Dordrecht, two from Aachen and 45 from Amsterdam. The latter group was probably made up of migrants from Wallonia, but since the contracts were signed in Amsterdam, they carry this name and we have no knowledge as to the migrants’ original place of residence. Thus we have seen that during the early period of migration the majority came from the area around Sedan, while during the latter part of the period from the Liège and Chimay districts.
Early immigration

Already during the reign of Gustavus Vasa (1521–1560) and his sons, smiths, and other artisans had been called to Sweden for the purpose of working the iron ore, which heretofore had been exported, and which because of the lack of a domestic industry had been imported into Sweden as finished iron and steel products at prices several times that of the export price of the ore. Hence Germans had been brought into Sweden during the last half of the 16th century and were responsible for what was called the “German” method.  

Mester Wellem de Wijk moved from Antwerp to Sweden and became active in the iron industry. In 1580 he was asked to develop these possibilities for the Swedish Crown. Two letters from the Royal administration regulating this task were given to de Wijk in Linköping during the spring of 1580.  

De Wijk was specifically asked to bring into Sweden experienced craftsmen from Germany, which at this time also included among other countries the Netherlands. During the 1580s Walloons (Frenchmen), well grounded in the techniques of working iron, were brought into Sweden. This migration was quite small and consisted mostly of master smiths who could supervise the native work force and develop the German art of forging iron. A specialty group among these were the iron founders.  

Wellem de Besche left Liège in 1595 and settled in Nykoping in 1597. He succeeded in enlisting several Walloons during the years after his coming and thus a small colony of Walloons was established at a fairly early time in Södermanland.  

De Besche was thus to become responsible for an activity in Sweden which made him the connecting link between Wellem de Wijk and Louis De Geer. The threesome can thus be seen as the founders of the Swedish iron and steel industry.  

De Besche had had earlier connections with De Geer and used the latter’s ships for freight shipments between Amsterdam and Sweden, but it was not until 1618, when De Geer decided to become the financial backer for de Besche’s leasing of the plant at Finspång, that the actual cooperation began. De Besche had made an agreement with the Swedish Crown that he would develop the Swedish iron industry and in order to fulfill that promise he began to secure Walloons for the first period of Walloon emigration to Sweden. This is also the period of the earliest contracts. As the 1620s dawn, however, Louis De Geer became engaged in the Swedish iron industry in the ore rich county of Östergötland, particularly at Finspång and Norrköping. De Geer expanded the iron industry at Finspång to a degree heretofore unknown in Sweden, and the flow of Walloons into Sweden began to increase.  

An additional early migration of Walloons to Sweden should also be noted. Paschilius Dionysis Chenon arrived in Sweden at the beginning of the century and was active at Nykroppa in the county of Värmland in 1601. In 1608 he was given the mandate to secure Walloons for the iron working districts in Värmland.
particularly the districts of Karlskoga and Färnebo and by 1609 the Walloons were arriving there.\textsuperscript{14}  
The number of Walloons who came to Sweden in this early period was not large and they were probably younger persons, who had not yet established families, but were fully trained within their special fields, and who, through their move to Sweden, could achieve the status of a master’s position rapidly. The occupations varied widely and included, among others, armor smiths, cannon ball founders, nail smiths, pipe smiths, brass founders, smith’s helpers, chain makers and carpenters as well as masons. It was solely at Nyköping that de Besche established the traditional collection of iron workers consisting of Walloons.\textsuperscript{15}  
The desire of the Swedish Crown to develop the iron industry by establishing mills and factories could only be fulfilled by bringing in professional people from Germany and the Netherlands. Up to this point the country had been ill prepared and the foreigners working there had only been able to make marginal contributions. Neither was there continuous production throughout the year. The mistakes were many and the iron produced was often of a poor quality.\textsuperscript{16} A change occurred when de Besche entered the Swedish market, but it was only with the entry of De Geer that the expansive development began to take place.

**The Migrants**

One requirement for securing unemployed Walloons for temporary or permanent employment in Sweden was that the Dutch authorities would not oppose such action. They did not until 1652 when a law was promulgated that forbade persons to leave the Netherlands, but by that time the migration had virtually ceased. The traditional view that the migrants fled from the Netherlands for various and sundry reasons is erroneous. During the entire period of migration those that availed themselves of the opportunity to take employment were all domiciled in the Netherlands. Many left their families at home, in order to send for them at a later date, which demonstrates that the entire procedure of securing employees was done with the consent of the Dutch authorities.

Migration to Sweden and several other countries took place within a relatively short time span, during the years 1620–1655. It is true that Walloons had moved to Sweden, both before and after this time, but the numbers were small. During the 1620s the Walloons became active at the iron mills and forges in Södermanland and Östergötland and it was first in 1626 when De Geer leased the iron mills in the province of Uppland that an increased migration took place there, creating what has been known in that province as the “Walloon” smithies and the “Walloon” method of working iron.\textsuperscript{17}  
At the beginning it was de Besche who via De Geer employed the necessary work force, but from the beginning of the 1620s it became the sole responsibility of De Geer. The managers of the Swedish furnaces asked for the necessary personnel to modernize their plants and to upgrade their products. The agents of De Geer, who were responsible for the activity at the De Geer offices in Liège,
Namur, Chimay and Vervier, could then, armed with the requirements from Sweden handpick the workers from the ranks of unemployed Walloons. The enlistment of workers was conducted either by the agents going to the minor iron and steel communities, in order to enroll workers on the spot, or by unemployed workers going to the larger communities, where they visited the De Geer offices, in order to secure employment. 18

Those accepted were told to appear at the main office, where the official employment contract was written and then signed in the presence of a government approved notary public. This was necessary inasmuch as many of those hired were neither able to read nor write. The contracts often mention the presence of some relative at the time of signing, such as a father or a wife. 19

The contracts contained exact information concerning the length of employment, the occupation of the person hired, his experience in his occupation, as well as information concerning the money paid him in advance for travel costs and wages in Sweden. The employers guaranteed via the agents in the home communities that the families left behind would receive a part of the wages paid the employee. If the family wished to accompany the employee at the time the contract was written or wished to follow later, the employer promised to pay the travel costs. When the period of the contract was over the employee was guaranteed return transportation to his home community. If he did not wish to renew the contract he had to return to the Netherlands, since he was forbidden to enter into a new contract with another mill owner in Sweden. This regulation was aimed at maintaining a monopoly of the Walloon methods among the foreign interests operating in Sweden. Many workers made the rule ineffectual, however, by absconding from their employers, or by skirtng the regulations, they returned home in order to sign a contract with a new employer and then return to Sweden immediately. 20

When the contracts had been signed the employee had to make his own way to Amsterdam. Sometimes the agents gathered up a number of Walloons so that they could travel together. They generally followed the Meuse River to the coast and then via the city of Utrecht arrived in Amsterdam. Upon arrival at De Geer’s office, a contract renewal was made or an affirmation of a signed contract was witnessed. The employees received compensation for the costs of staying in the city until onward travel could be arranged to Sweden. The stay in Amsterdam was short, usually only a few days, or at the most a week, until accommodations could be found on an available ship. At first travel went to Nyköping, where the employees were sent on to such furnaces as Nyköping, Fada or Bränn-Ekeby, but when De Geer established himself in Sweden, Norrköping became the first port of call, since this city as well as Finspång were the most active of the De Geer manufacturing sites. Travels to Sweden were usually undramatic, and it is very seldom that one reads that “Walloons were lost at sea.” 21

The Walloon constituent at the various Swedish iron manufacturing places varied according to the conditions prevailing at the time. Those mills, which
already were well established and which had a full work force, might need only a
master or two to improve the production and give fresh impulses to the labor
force employed there. At newly established furnaces, such as at Lövsta in Uppland,
there was a need for a full complement of workers and artisans. At lesser
mills such as Åkerby, Strömsberg and Hillebola in Uppland the Walloons were
used only for master positions or more advanced occupations, while Swedish
personnel had to carry out all other duties. During the entire migration period a
large number of charcoal burners were employed, who were active at the mills,
but who were allowed to settle within the agricultural sectors of the mill itself,
were they could instruct the rural population how to build a charcoal kiln of the
vertical kind, rather that the horizontal German kiln. 22

The foreign furnace owners who had moved to Sweden were very careful not
to allow the knowledge of the new manufacturing processes to be made known to
persons outside their own narrow circle. By adhering to this formula they were
able to retain a monopoly of the Walloon methods, a state of affairs which they
sought to maintain at all costs. One method of accomplishing this was to segre­
gate the Walloons from the rest of Swedish society outside the borders of the
plant itself, something which they were successful in accomplishing during the
major part of the 17th century.

As time went on, the Swedish authorities thought it a little peculiar that no
legal cases had been brought before the Swedish law courts from the various mill
towns and they asked the owners why this was so. The mill owners answered by
saying that the Walloons, because of their language difficulties, could not com­
 municate with the Swedish authorities. What the owners did not say was that
there existed at the various furnaces a type of local justice, which meant in
reality that no cases were brought forward from the mills. The authorities did not
accept this statement and forced the mill owners instead to allow representatives
of the Walloons to appear before the mining court at Dannemora in Uppland,
with the result that it was demonstrated that the Walloons could indeed com­
municate very well with the judges and the staffs of the court. The employees
had a number of complaints to bring before these bodies, demonstrating that the
mill owners had wished to keep the Walloons from having any contacts with the
Swedish authorities. 23

The justice practice in the milltowns was very effective. In minor cases it
was the mill manager himself who determined the type of punishment to be
meted out to the offender. In more serious cases it was the mill owner together
with the oldest masters, who determined the punishment. The worst sentence
that could be given an offender was to be ostracized by his team or work force at
the mill. Within his own team or shift, the master had the sole power to admonish
the culprit. Despite the efforts of the Swedish authorities to see to it that those
employed at the various furnaces were brought into the Swedish system of
justice, it took a long time before it actually became a reality. When it came to
serious cases, such as murder and similar crimes, these were obviously tried
before Swedish courts, but such crimes were rare indeed. By the end of the 17th
century and onward, the Walloons were increasingly using Swedish justice to adjudicate their complaints.\textsuperscript{24} 

Upon arrival in Sweden the Walloons were assured certain basic rights. They were exempt from paying the annual tax and were free from being drafted for military service. They were assured freedom of worship and had the right to bring with them their own clergy. The employers guaranteed them annual wine money and they had the right to visit the German Church in Stockholm on an annual basis.\textsuperscript{25} 

Traditionally it has been said that the Walloons as well as De Geer fled from their homes in the Netherlands because of religious persecution. Now it is clear that the Walloons fled from widespread unemployment. During the first generation in Sweden their Calvinistic belief was their religious base, but already by the middle of the 1600s, it is evident from the parish church records that they had had themselves registered in the State Church. Soon after this, prominent Walloons can be found in leading positions within the Swedish Church. They also began to pay considerable sums to the parish churches for pew rentals, which in turn caused numerous conflicts, resulting in court suits going all the way up to the county assizes. By the end of the 1600s the first Walloon to study for the Lutheran ministry was ordained to serve in the Lena Parish in Uppland. Swedish clergymen usually noted in the parish death records when some immigrant Walloon had died as an adherent to the Calvinistic faith, and in Uppland this was true only in a few instances during the 17th century. This shows that the religious question did not loom large for the Walloons when assimilating into Swedish society.\textsuperscript{26} 

For many of the Walloons taking employment in Sweden, the original idea must have been to return to the Netherlands at such time as the Dutch steel mills would be in production again. About 20 percent returned, therefore, after the termination of their first contract, but for the majority the move was to become permanent. The total number of migrants who arrived in Sweden was not remarkably large but they were a well chosen group of workers and artisans. It is estimated that the entire number of immigrants can be placed at between 1,000 and 1,200 family units, including individuals without families at the time of arrival in Sweden. Uppland, the province which during the later period, 1626–1655, was to receive the larger share of the migrants, had during the period 1620–1740 approximately 2,500 males working at the various furnaces and plants, sometimes spanning as many as four generations.

It was in the milieu of the iron furnaces and forges that the Walloons created their closely knit family units and developed social contact patterns mutually, which meant that the practices and customs which they brought to Sweden have continued to be maintained even until modern times. This, their social relation pattern, was aimed to secure for the families their social position as well as the influence within the employment sector. The mill owner sought to maintain a monopoly so far as the production of iron and steel was concerned and similarly the Walloons sought to secure for themselves a monopoly within the job sector.
at the various blast furnaces. The mutual exchange pattern was initiated by certain Walloon families, who, having high ranking positions within the job area at the mills, would attempt to secure these for the next generation by arranging for marriage partners within the clan or the Walloon population. By this method they could be sure to control the employment opportunities within the mill. The result of this policy was that a few families could pretty well dominate the job market at the furnace. It was impossible to break this pattern. A person from the outside might through marriage break into the circle, or if there were no Walloon descendant of the proper age available the outsider might also have a chance to crash the barrier. This mutual exchange pattern still pertains at some of the Walloon plants and has disappeared only with the financial collapse of most of the small iron and steel mills during the middle of the 1850s and the beginning of this century. At those places, which were able to overcome the economic crisis, one can today find Walloon families, who, on a continuing basis have been in charge of the steel production since their forefathers immigrated to Sweden.27

At the smaller mills, where the Walloons were responsible only for the most prestigious share of the work teams, the mutual relation pattern developed, but often in close harmony with the Swedish part of the labor force. Walloon families sought to have their children married off to relatives employed at the larger plants, but this was quite unusual. Instead it was necessary to work out a compromise with the Swedish part of the labor force, so as to be able to monopolize the job opportunities. In Uppland, where the smaller mills (Ulfors, Strömsberg, Wessland and Hillebola) were located but a short distance from each other, the Walloons were able to develop a relational pattern with their own kind, but not quite as effectively as at the larger mills. At the smaller furnaces, which were responsible for the production for some of the larger companies, as for instance Åkerby, Tobo (Lövsta) and Wattholma (Österby), they could usually integrate with the exchange pattern of the larger mills so that the master jobs at these mills sometimes were held at certain periods of time by the masters from the larger units. Finally, when mill owners in Uppland decided to establish new plants in Norrland, in northern Sweden, and transferred certain Walloon families from the Uppland furnaces, the Walloons were able to develop the same mutual exchange pattern in the northern mills, although they continued to a certain extent to maintain a trade-off with the traditional pattern at the original Uppland site. It thus happened that by maintaining this mutual exchange pattern, they were sometimes able to return to their original furnace in Uppland.

The Millworkers

The newly arrived families received a parcel of land on which they could build a dwelling as well as a structure for the cow and pig. Before the house was constructed, the families resided in the company barracks, where they also had the opportunity to keep their animals. The land granted to them also contained a small field, on which they could grow fodder for the cattle and a certain amount
of vegetables for the family. The lumber was purchased from the mill owner at a subsidized price and was paid for from the credit built up from employment. All of the household needs were picked up at the company store and were recorded in a certain cash credit account. The employees thus never had to use cash, but could depend upon the company store to keep supplies on hand. The major items handled by the stores were groceries and foodstuffs but sometimes they also carried such items as textiles and shoes.

At the various iron mills the production activities were split up into work shifts or teams and these teams (lag) were responsible for the performance of the principal labor categories. These were usually three.

1. The smiths, which consisted of the blast furnace workers and the two different smith combinations, the smelters and those at the forge.
2. The forestry personnel, consisting of lumberjacks, charcoal burners and teamsters.
3. Artisans and craftsmen, who together were responsible for the service categories, so that the production could be maintained without interruption. Within this group were such crafts as the masons, carpenters, wheelwrights, farriers, bellows makers, wagon manufacturers, blacksmiths and millers.

In addition to these three main categories there were others who played an important role, namely the various clerks. They never constituted a large part of the mill’s personnel, but their jobs were of the kind that in many ways they were the most important, and it was from this class that the future mill managers emerged. In addition there was at many furnace establishments an agrarian element, which meant the employment of agricultural workers, but these functioned usually outside of the steel plant itself. Within this sector there were many mill laborers who were responsible for the chores that had to be done. These day laborers were aided occasionally by women and children.

The iron mill usually consisted of a center, where the production of steel took place, and then the agrarian sector, whose Swedish population was responsible for the production of agricultural products. In the long run these were also producers of some forestry products, the foremost of these being charcoal, a very important ingredient in the production of steel. Within the agrarian sector the Walloon charcoal burners were quite active with their own charcoal manufacturing, but they also had a mandate to impart the knowledge of charcoal burning to the Swedish portion of the population.

**Worker Categories**

The blast furnace workers were made up of teams or (lag) for each furnace with a master, a second man, usually a journeyman, an ore crusher and an ore charger at the top. These were usually of Walloon origin and were responsible for the introduction into Sweden of the “French” type of blast furnace. This new type of furnace produced a product which was superior to the iron produced earlier in the “German” type furnace and was first introduced into Sweden by
the foreign mill owners. In addition to the jobs mentioned above, there were those who crushed the ore, not to be confused with the person at the blast furnace who placed the crushed ore into the furnace, ore transporters, etc., but in no case, so far as it has been observed for the 17th century, were Walloons used for these more menial tasks. They were usually performed by the members of the farm population or by day laborers. Blast furnaces were to be found in all parts of the Uppland mining areas and in addition to the furnaces to be found at the steel mills themselves, use was also made of furnaces in other places. Thus Lövsta used the smaller furnaces at Tobo and the Lövsta farm blast furnace, Österby made use of the Wattholma (old Kungstomta) and the furnaces at Berklinge. At these places the Walloons were settled, but they belonged in principle to the personnel of the mother plant and conducted the exchange pattern with Walloons at the major mill.

Within the Walloon smithies, two teams worked at each hammer forge, spelling each other every four hours. A smelter force worked and reworked the iron ingot in a special blast smelter, where the iron was enriched with carbon, thus making it malleable and more easily worked. The smelter team consisted of a master, an assistant and two apprentices. The smelters handed over the molten charge to the hammer smiths at the forge, who stretched the clump of iron into bars, which were then sent to other factories for further refining. The hammer smith team consisted of a master, two apprentices and two coke boys, whose main job was to fire up the smelter hearth. The Walloons were responsible for the top jobs at the larger furnaces in Uppland. At the smaller furnaces the older system of manufacturing “German” iron continued during the major part of the 17th century, and when the Walloons were active in these places, they usually produced the “German” variant.

During the early period of migration a number of Walloon forestry workers were brought to Sweden, mostly to become active in the mining areas of Östergötland. They were instrumental in assuring that improvements in the production techniques could be brought about. They introduced the typical vertical charcoal kiln from Wallonia, which produced charcoal of a much better quality than the so called “German” horizontal kiln. This was of great importance for the production at the blast furnaces as well as for the finished product. Even during the latter part of the migration the Walloons continued to be the charcoal experts and a number of furnaces in Uppland had on their rosters Walloon employees who were responsible for charcoal burning at the mill itself. This was in addition to the Walloons residing in the agrarian sector. The latter assimilated with the Swedish farm population and thus integrated their social pattern with the Swedes. These are the Walloons which are most difficult to trace, since their Walloon origin only can be deduced from their physical appearance. These were also the Walloons who were the victims of racial slurs by the Swedish population because of their physical characteristics. There existed many a charcoal burner’s croft, whose inhabitant had a south European physiognomy. This sector of the Walloon migration was soon swallowed up in the Swedish population and slowly
took Swedish names as well as adopting ordinary patronyms. Names such as Filipsson, Danielsson and Bengtsson may possibly go back to an original Walloon name, which was adjusted to conform to Swedish family name usage. On the other hand, many families were able to retain their original Walloon names because they lived in close proximity to the Walloon furnaces, families with names like Pagard, Mony, etc.32

The craftsmen were basically responsible for the introduction of certain production innovations into Sweden. Within all areas of production these new ideas were of great importance. Such trades as wheelwrights, saddlers, bellows makers had as great a share in this development as the smiths and other employees. They settled at the mills and became a part of the labor force. Sometimes, however, the craftsmen travelled from furnace to furnace in order to construct and manufacture new units, as well as repair old ones. This was particularly so in places where it had not been possible to recruit the technicians in the Netherlands. This applied mostly to such categories as bellows makers, masons and carpenters.33

Scribes and bookkeepers were in several cases Walloons, but there also existed a group of Flemish scribes from Amsterdam. The clergymen were in general Walloons. They served their constituencies during the early period, usually staying in Sweden but a short time. They were first of all responsible for the spiritual needs of the migrants, but their most important function was as teachers to the Walloon children. Because of this instruction the children achieved an educational platform which was unique in Swedish society at that time, and gave them the opportunity to move up the social ladder. As time went on it was therefore not unusual to see the sons of master craftsmen getting employment in the mill office, advancing gradually to scribes, bookkeepers and even as high as mill managers.

Of the greatest importance was the fact that this educational experience made it possible for children of furnace workers to enter the burger classes, and a number of Walloons thus were able to advance to positions within the Swedish bureaucracy. They were also able to forge ahead in the private sector as merchants, entrepreneurs and craftsmen. The education received by these youngsters also gave them the opportunity to leave the mills, where they often could not get employment on the local level. This is also one of the reasons so many Walloon families have prospered in Sweden.34

As stated earlier, the assimilation of the Walloons into Swedish society was accomplished without serious dislocations, due to the fact that they arrived in Sweden as an accepted group of elite workers. They had not been disowned by their homeland and they were accepted in Sweden. There were exceptions, as has been noted, particularly in the agrarian sector, but these exceptions were rare in comparison with the acceptance of the entire group. The Walloons constituted a group of people who in many ways reached a positive position in Swedish society.

The assimilation into Swedish society also meant that Sweden could expect
the Walloons to fulfill their duties as good citizens. Already by the middle of the 1600s Walloon youths were drafted into the Swedish army and by the end of the century the employees at various mills were assigned to the regiments quartered in the mining regions. By the end of the century the Walloons were beginning to pay annual taxes and by 1671, when the census lists began appearing in Sweden, the Walloons were registered as were all other Swedes.

The Women

In the migration families the women were a specially marked group. If the husband had left for Sweden alone, it was the wife who had to provide for the family. It is true that she received a part of her husband's wages, but she was alone in raising the children. If the husband chose to remain in Sweden after the first contract period, he could return to the Netherlands to fetch the family, but it could also happen that the wife had to assume the responsibility of bringing over the children to Sweden.

At the furnaces it was the women who bore the heaviest load. A household in those days cannot be compared with a modern family situation. Most of the members of a master's team (lag) lived with the master and the master's household thereby became an economic and social unit for the members of the team. The wife of the master had the responsibility for the management of this large household, and it was her duty to see that the team members fulfilled their job requirements. She had to take care of the animals and tend the vegetable garden. Another heavy duty for her was to care for the laundering of the smiths' clothing. Members of the team worked in white smiths' shirts, the only article of clothing the smiths wore in the hot smithy, except for the leather apron and the long smiths' stockings.

When the team members went to the furnace they had be provided with food packages, which were to supply the smiths with victuals for the coming 24 hours. Because of the dirty work, the smiths did not wish to return to their homes dirty but stayed in the "labby", an alcove in the smithy, during their hours off. One of the children in the household was therefore dispatched daily to the smithy with fresh food for the workers. When the smiths returned home by the end of the week it was the women who scrubbed them and bathed them. This meant, of course, that the wife was left alone with the children during the week and had to be responsible for raising them.

The master's wife was helped in the household by one or more female servants, who were either daughters or hired outside help. Often it could be the daughter-in-law. Together they were responsible for running the menage. If a daughter married and left the family, it created an additional burden for the mother, unless a younger daughter could step in and shoulder the responsibility. If this were not possible, it became necessary to hire an outside girl and if this were not economically feasible, the remainder of the women in the household would have to shoulder the extra work.
It was customary that daughters and sons after their marriage stayed in the parental home for a while with their partners. Usually they attempted to create their own households, and if the young husband became a master, this became a necessity. There are cases where a married son remained in the parental home during his entire adulthood, and when the father no longer could remain at his job, the son took over, not only the master’s job, but also the household, in which case the daughter-in-law became responsible for the running of the household. The same conditions could also apply to a son-in-law.

Both women and children took part in the daily chores and could thereby augment the family income. If the family was in debt, the extra wages were of special import, since it then became possible to pay off the indebtedness, but it also meant that the women had to participate in the chores, which at times were both taxing and burdensome, in addition to running the household. Children also participated in the daily work, and this could start at an early age. Child labor was nothing unusual and sons at the age of twelve could be used as apprentices and errand boys in the mill.

The social structure within the mill area specified that the men married at the time when they had fulfilled their apprentice years, usually in the middle twenties. The women married somewhat earlier. If a woman became a widow, it was probable that one of the unmarried team members married her. As a result, many brothers-in-law married their sisters-in-law, when a brother died.

The possibilities of the women working at a trade, outside of the household, except for the daily chores, were very slim. The foremost job would be as a servant at a nearby estate or within the mill’s agrarian sector. The social exchange pattern within the mill community gave the women, as well as the men, opportunities for finding marriage partners and it was as a wife within the framework of a household that most of the women found their employment. As in the case of the men, the women could also, thanks to the educational base they received at the mill, move into town or a nearby city to gain employment. The usual occupation for them was that of a servant.

The importance of the input which the Walloon women did at the various mills cannot be evaluated highly enough. Often they had to be responsible for a work burden within the household, which was not appreciated in the same manner as the input of their marriage partners.

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4 See note 1.
6 Ibid.
7 See the migrants’ contracts in the Lövsta Archives in Riksarkivet (The National Archives), Stockholm.
9 See Helmfrid, *Norrköpings stads historia*.
10 Ibid.
The Walloons in Sweden

11 De Besche’s name is noted for the first time in Swedish sources Sept. 12, 1597. The exact relationship between De Geer and de Besche is uncertain. It is fairly certain that De Geer used de Besche as his first contact in Sweden. Later in the 17th century the cooperative effort seems to have ceased and de Besche became responsible for his own iron mill at Forssmark in Uppland.

12 It seems that several Walloons arrived in Chenon’s company. One of them was Nils Gilliusson het Deproz, who became the first mayor of Filipstad.

13 Chenon recruited eleven French speaking workers on his travels 1608–1609, who were present in Stockholm June 22, 1609.


15 In order to be assured good production it was not only necessary to employ good workers, but it was also important that the mill management was in the hands of experienced and well trained operatives. Unfortunately these responsibilities were often given to untrained persons, interested only in their positions being used as a power base. At times the production at Österby and Finspång came to a standstill because of the abuse of power.

16 It was at the furnaces in Uppland where the Walloons were in the majority of the workers. The Walloons created enclaves which had restricted access to Swedish society.

17 See Dahlgren, Louis de Geer.

18 The contracts to be found in the Lövsta Archives show the presence of kinfolk at the time of the signing.

19 The source materials show that while absconding from the mills was unusual, it did happen from time to time.

20 See the Lövsta Archives.

21 The furnaces only used a limited number of charcoal burners at the mill itself. Most of the Walloons who were charcoal burners settled in the agrarian sector. Their assimilation went much faster than that at the mills. By the end of the 17th century it is difficult to find them in the official source material.

22 The facts surrounding this statement can be found in the court records of the Dannemora Mining Court.

23 The right to visit the German Church in Stockholm was from the beginning an important privilege. As time went on, however, these visits became more symbolical and toward the end of the 17th century they were considered more as a pilgrimage, to be done once in one’s lifetime.

24 The religious question was for a long time considered to be the reason for emigrating to Sweden, according to several authors. E. W. Dahlgren in his biography of Louis De Geer showed, however, that this was not the case.

25 The social exchange pattern referred to here was based upon the old feudal society’s system with its static relation pattern. By means of this exchange pattern one could be certain of retaining both social and economic positions.

26 In the account books of the various mills one can see when an employee became indebted to the company for lumber received to construct a dwelling. There are also registers of the various apartments at the mill, showing who was living there.

27 The Walloons were not required to do the daily chores in the beginning, but as they began paying taxes they also had to assume this responsibility. A day’s labor was given a certain monetary value, and by doing more than was obligatory, the workers could earn extra income. Usually it was not the men who did the extra days, but the women and children. Often the same individuals were responsible for the same chores — particularly in the bakery, the laundry and during the time of harvest.

28 The blast furnace workers were occupied about half of the time with the furnaces. The rest of the year they were doing various chores around the plant.

29 A relatively large proportion of the Walloons who came to Sweden had as their function to develop the “German” type of iron forging.

30 During the early migration these craftsmen moved between the various furnaces, but a decade later they were for the most part settled at a larger mill, even if they continued to service the smaller units from time to time.

31 The importance of education received can be seen in the fact that in the case where there was lack of qualified work, the Walloon youths did not have to do the more menial chores, which the farm population had been doing, but could enter a trade in one of the nearby towns.
Naturalizations of Swedes in Rock Island County, IL 1855-1864

Nils William Olsson

As we have demonstrated in two previous articles, presented in the pages of SAG, naturalization documents provide a rich lode of genealogical information. While the data contained in these sources differs widely from court to court, even in those records which provide the minimum of information, we still are able to extract important facts, culled from official documents, which can help us pinpoint that on a precise date, at a precise place, the emigrant in question appeared in court, either to declare his intention of becoming a United States citizen, or to present himself in the final stage of renouncing his former citizenship, in order to accept the responsibilities of United States citizenship.

As stated above, the amount of information available to us in these records varies from court to court. In the Declarations of Intention on file at the Court House in Winnebago County in Rockford, IL, we found only the names of the individuals filing their intentions, the dates for such filing and the nationality of the persons filing the documents. Unfortunately this same limitation applies also to the documents we shall examine here, the Declarations of Intention and the Final Naturalizations for the Circuit Court of Rock Island County, Rock Island, IL.

As with the Rockford declarations, the immigrant filing his first papers or receiving his final papers was always listed as renouncing his allegiance to the sovereign of Sweden and Norway. Since these two countries were joined from 1814 to 1905 in a co-dominion under one sovereign, who was given the title of King of Sweden and Norway, it becomes tricky to separate the Norwegians from the Swedes, when the only reference is to the king of the two countries. While the use of surnames differed somewhat, both countries still stuck to the overwhelming use of patronymics, which really do not differ that much. As with the Rockford documents, it has therefore seemed the wisest course of action to include all the names of immigrants, who in acquiring United States citizenship, renounced their allegiance to the sovereign of the dual monarchy of Sweden and Norway, thereby leaving to the reader the task of further research.

The research on these immigrants also has been further limited by the fact that these declarations and naturalizations do not indicate such important in-
formation as the age of the applicant or the year of arrival in the U.S., facts which were of great help in identifying Swedes in the earlier study of naturalizations in Aroostook County, ME.\(^3\)

The identification problem with patronymics persists. In some cases, while sorting out a welter of similar patronymics, the author has been aided by other clues, thereby assuring correct identification. However, in most cases, he has been forced to "hedge his bets" by using such preambles as "probably" or "possibly." The reader should keep this in mind and not accept such results without further corroborative evidence. Of great value in the identification process has been the use of "Personal Index to the Lists of Emigrants from Sweden 1851–1860 of the Statistical Bureau of Stockholm" (Personregister till Statistiska Centralbyråns i Stockholm förteckningar över emigranter 1851–1860). Assigned the signum of A 118, it is the work of the provincial archives in Göteborg (Göteborgs landsarkiv) during the years 1973–1974. In the footnote apparatus this important work will be referred to simply as A 118, followed by a number which refers back to the original document.

The documents presented here consist of the three earliest registers on file in the Circuit Court of Rock Island County, housed in the Court House of Rock Island, IL. These are the Final Naturalizations 1858–1862, here assigned the identification (A); Declarations of Intention 1855–1859 (B) and Naturalizations of Minors 1858–1862 (C) in that order. No doubt there have been earlier volumes, since Vol. (A) lists declarations dating back to 1852, but these records do not seem to be extant.

Of definite interest to the researcher is the fact that all three volumes contain the autographs of the applicants, as they affixed their signatures during their court appearances. From the point of view of handwriting science, these signatures show us much about the character of the immigrant. In a few cases he was illiterate and was not able to sign his name, in which case the clerk of court instructed him to sign his mark with an X, scrawled between the clerk’s rendition of his name.

All of the naturalization procedures were consummated in the Circuit Court of Rock Island County. In a few instances the applicant’s declaration of intention was filed elsewhere. In such cases this information appears in the footnotes.

### (A) Naturalizations of Swedes in Rock Island, IL
#### (1855–1864)

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<td>John Hemmingson (his mark)</td>
<td></td>
<td>May 22 1856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sven Larsson</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>April 13 1857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl J. Lindstrom</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Oct. 11 1853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl Larsson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dec. 24 1855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hans P. Johnson</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Nov. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles R. Nordell</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 12 1858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Amunsen</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>July 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Nelson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petter Pettersson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aug. 8 1859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petter Svensson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nils Dahlgren</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Holmstrom</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 27 1859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Johnson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aug. 8 1857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Johnson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sept. 26 1859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olof Erickson (his mark)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 8 1858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred Hall</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borje Benson</td>
<td></td>
<td>May 14 1860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John F. Engdahl</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>July 3 1857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Abrahamson</td>
<td></td>
<td>May 22 1860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petter Bodelson</td>
<td></td>
<td>July 31 1862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Peterson</td>
<td></td>
<td>May 30 1860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Johnsson</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Oct. 29 1860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Larson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pett[er] Benson</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>May 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles P. Anderson (his mark)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nils Peterson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct. 28 1856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peterson Olson (his mark)</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 28 1859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hakenson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Oct. 1 1856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John[an] Peterson</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>March 20 1863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Hanson (his mark)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jan. 29 1861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olof Henrison (his mark)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johan M. Samuelson</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
**Swedish American Genealogist**

John P. Linder  
" 17 1863  
" 22 1852

Charles Ovesson  
" " "  
Sept. 26 1859

L. (August) Wallerläutd  
Jan. 21 1864  
Oct. 8 1860

Andrew Swanson  
" 25 "  
" 11 1858

Nils Peterson  
" " "  
" " "

Andrew Soderlund  
" " "  
Dec. 29 1856

John Bloom  
May 14 "  
Oct. 8 1860

Jan Ros  
" 17 "  
Feb. 4 1861

Charls G. Anderson  
Sept. 13 1864  
April 16 1860

L. J. Johnson  
" " "  
June 13 1862

Carl John Kniberg  
" " "  
May 13 1861

Lars Pearson  
" " "  
Oct. 11 1858

John Anderson  
" 14 "  
April 5 "

Fredrick Freeburg  
" " "  
March 4 1862

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**(B) Declarations of Intention of Swedes in Rock Island, IL (1855–1859)**

This list has been incorporated into list A above, so far as these declarations of intention affected those receiving also final naturalization in the Circuit Court of Rock Island County. The names listed below are those of immigrants not found in list (A).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of Declaration of Intention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mons Husebo</td>
<td>April 30 1855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olof Larsson</td>
<td>May 28 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Norelius</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hakan Mattesson</td>
<td>June 21 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Neilson (his mark)</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nils Svensson</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. W. Larson</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Dahl</td>
<td>July 23 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. J. Pettersson</td>
<td>Nov. 9 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johan Pehrsson</td>
<td>March 20 1856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olof Larsson</td>
<td>May 1 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Grisle</td>
<td>June 26 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. W. Esping</td>
<td>Aug. 15 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nils Sandberg</td>
<td>Sept. 8 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis Janson</td>
<td>&quot; 12 &quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erick Peter Brostrom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johan Charlson</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johan Petterl] Bäckman</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nels Petter Samuellsson</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Mortensson</td>
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<td>E. E. Ericsson</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ola Nelsson</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Christianson</td>
<td>Oct. 17 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erik Johnsen</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Naturalizations of Swedes in Rock Island, IL

Hans Olson
Christian Olsen (his mark)
Peter Hansson
Swen Fajersson
W. Ternstedt
John Aarrison (his mark)
Anders Petter Sve[en]son
Axel Ekstrom
J. M. Wallengren
Martin Olsen (his mark)
Lars Södergren
Gustaf Nilsson
Even Evenson Kolforde
Henry Torg[en]
Benedict Benedictsen (no signature)
Tory Hendersen
Peter Albert E[d]gren (no signature)
William Johnson
Peter Anderson
John A. Anderson
Nelson Erickson (no signature)
Nels Errickson
Errick Anderson (his mark)
Samuel Dahlof
Peter Swan
Lois Erickson Tolf
Jeppa Olsson
C. G. Hellberg
Helge Halvorsen
Ole Sanderson (his mark)
Ole Teresen
Nicholas Wahlstrom (his mark)
Olof Nordin
Peter Apelgren
Olof Sall (his mark)
Hans Jacob Abrahamsen (name crossed out)
Jonas Berget
Swan Olsson
Andrew Shelin
Jonas Petter Hansson
Carl Larsson
William Anderson (his mark)
Nils Rosenquist
Anders Pettersson
Charles Samuelson (his mark)
Gustus Johnson (his mark)
C. G. Hagman
Charles Tollin

Nov. 4
" "
" 10 "
" 11 "
" 21 "
" 25 "
" "
" "
" June 3 "
" "
" June 15 1857
" "
" "
" 22 "
" 30 "
" July 3 "
" Sept. 26 "
" Oct. 7 "
" Dec. 3 "
" 10 "
" March 1 1858
" April 5 "
" "
" "
" 12 "
" "
" May 5 "
" Oct. 1 "
" "
" "
" 23 "
" Nov. 15 "
" Dec. 24 "
" Feb. 26 1859
" March 28 "
" April 15 "
" "
" "
" 19 "
" 20 "
" May 5 "
" 25 "

23
(C) Naturalizations of Swedes (Minors) in the Circuit Court of Rock Island County, IL (1858–1862)

Swan Olson, minor of 18 years, arr. in the U.S. 1852. He was naturalized March 24, 1858. Witnesses were Peter and Sifsla Bodelson.1

Augustus R. Nelson, minor of 18 years, arr. in the U.S. 1851. He was naturalized Jan. 31, 1859. Witnesses were A. Tuxbury and Ira O. Wilkinson.

John Livingston, minor of 18 years, arr. in the U.S. 1854. He was naturalized Sept. 12, 1859. Witnesses were Nels Nelson and Peter Hamson.

Isidore Elde,74 minor of 16 years, arr. in the U.S. 1854. He was naturalized Sept. 20, 1859. Witnesses were Andreas J. Swanson75 and Quincy McNeil.76

Andrew P. Peterson, minor of 16 years, arr. in the U.S. 1853. He was naturalized Jan. 10, 1860. Witnesses were Joseph Conet and John A. Anderson.

Nils John Nelson, minor of 14 years, arr. in the U.S. 1852. He was naturalized May 22, 1860. Witnesses were Israel Johnson77 and A. J. Swanson.78

Jonas Drugg, minor of 15 years, arr. in the U.S. 1852. He was naturalized May 29, 1860. Witnesses were John Drugg and Reuben Smith.

Adolph Peterson, minor of 17 years, arr. in the U.S. 1853. He was naturalized June 8, 1860. Witnesses were N. P. Peterson79 and Gustavus Johnson.

Jacob Anderson,80 minor of 16 years, arr. in the U.S. 1854. He was naturalized Sept. 20, 1860. Witnesses were John Anderson and Martin Amunsen.81

John Oloff, minor of 17 years, arr. in the U.S. 1854. He was naturalized June 7, 1862. Witnesses were John Zeigler and Christopher Atkinson.

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1 I am indebted to Ted E. Nelson, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Rock Island County, Rock Island, IL, as well as to Henrietta Kenney, supervisor of the Court Archives, for their graciousness in allowing me to examine the naturalization records.
6 Eric Engwall arr. in New York also aboard the Oden. He had received passport in Gävle Aug. 12, 1850. — SPANY, pp. 256–257.
7 Anders Johan Svensson, shoemaker, arr. in New York Aug. 17, 1850 aboard the brig Excellent. He was b. in Odeshög Parish (Ög.) Jan. 29, 1829. He settled in Rock Island, IL, where he opened a shoe and leather business. — SPANY, pp. 216–217; JP, 107.
8 Jonas Blöck, a retired soldier, arr. in New York Aug. 17, 1849 aboard the ship Sophie with his wife and two children. He was b. in Järvsö Parish (Gäv.) Dec. 18, 1818. His wife, Charlotta Rolin, was b. in Närunda Parish (Stock.) Feb. 15, 1823. Their children — Jonas Peter, b. Nov. 22, 1846 and Cajsa Greta. b. Dec. 10, 1848 accompanied their parents to Rock Island in 1850. —SPANY, pp. 170–171; Ernst W. Olson, History of the Swedes of Illinois (SI) (Chicago, 1908), p. 293.
9 Nils Peter Petersson, farm renter (arrendator), arr. in New York Aug. 17, 1849 aboard the ship Brödrene with his wife and three children. He was b. in Ljöneberga Parish (Kalm.) Nov. 28, 1812. His wife, Eva Carin Månsdotter was b. in Södra Vi Parish (Kalm) Feb. 10, 1821. Their
Naturalizations of Swedes in Rock Island, IL

children, all b. in Lööneberga, were Christina Margareta Sept. 5, 1843. Anna Maria Jan. 8, 1846
and Margareta Charlotte June 8, 1848. He settled in Orion, IL. — SPANY, pp. 174, 175, 276; SI,
p. 277.

John Rolander filed his first papers in the District Court of El Dorado County, CA.

He may be identical with Israel Johansson, shoemaker, who was one of the early settlers in
Rock Island. He also filed his declaration of intention in the District Court of El Dorado County,
CA. — SI, p. 293.

Anders Andersson Norelius arr. in New York Nov. 1, 1850 aboard the Oden. He was b. in Hassela
Parish (Gävsl). July 1, 1830. In contrast to his more famous brother, Erik Norelius, he joined the
Baptists and was one of the charter members of the Swedish Baptist Church in Rock Island 1852.
— SPANY, pp. 174, 175, 276: SI. p. 277.

Anders Friberg was b. in Skravlinge Parish (Malm) April 8, 1828. He came to America in 1850.
settling first in Chicago as a blacksmith. In 1852 he came to Moline, IL, where he was one of the
founders of The Moline Plow Co. in 1864. — SPAexNY, p. 46; JP, p. 301; Oliver A. Lindner.
‘‘The Story of Illinois and the Swedish People Within Its Border’’ The Swedish Element in

Anders Friberg filed his declaration of intention in the Circuit Court of Lee County, IL.

Possibly Pehr Nordell, master tailor from Stockholm, who emigr. to America in 1853 with his wife,
two dau. over 17 years of age and three additional children. — A I 18: 11.

Niels Olson filed his declaration of intention in the District Court of Allamakee Co., IA.

The naturalization date for Henry Janson and Gustaf W. Lund should be Feb. 9 instead of Nov. 9.
due to a scribal error by the clerk.

Johan Holmqvist, a journeyman tanner from Jämshög Parish (Bleke), emigr. to America in 1853.
He also joined the Swedish Lutheran Church in Moline and served as one of its early deacons. —
A I 18:171; SH, p. 266.

Pehr Hansson emigr. to America from Trolle-Ljungby Parish (Krist.) in 1854, his wife following
two years later. He also joined the Swedish Lutheran Church in Moline, IL. — SH, p. 354.

Heerman Larsson, servant, who emigr. to America in 1854 from Nosaby Parish (Krist.). — A

Carl Johan Carlson, who called himself Colson in America, was b. in Ödeshög Parish (Og.) Dec.
21, 1826. He emigr. to America in 1852, settling first in Rock Island and later in Moline, where he
became a successful businessman. — JP, p. 121, 344.

He may be identical with one of two immigrants named Carl Magnus Larsson. One of them was a
servant who came to America in 1852 from Mjölby Parish (Og.), the other was a farm renter
(arrendator) who came from Vist Parish (Og.) in 1853 with his wife and three minor children. — A
118:35 and A 118:44.
29 Benjamin P. Osklef emigrated to America in 1854 with his wife Maria. They settled first in Moline, IL, going from there in 1869 to LaBette Co., KS. — *JP*, p. 348.
30 Perhaps identical with Olaus Bengtsson, one of the first Swedes to settle in Moline. — *JP*, p. 116.
31 In the *Declarations of Intention* for the Circuit Court of Rock Island County, his name is spelled Vesper.
32 Frans Reinhild Wengelin, a shoemaker’s apprentice from Stockholm, emigrated to America in 1854, at which time his age was given as 19 years. — A 118:15.
33 Perhaps identical with Joh. Erik Johanson from Skede Parish (Jon.) who was one of the early members of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Moline, IL. — *SH*, p. 254.
34 Declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the Circuit Court of Porter Co., IN.
35 In the *Declarations of Intention* his name is spelled Tellesen, which is probably correct.
36 Declared his intention of becoming a U.S. citizen in the Circuit Court of Knox Co., IL.
37 Sven Hanson served the city of Moline, IL for several years as alderman. — *JP*, p. 117.
38 In the *Declarations of Intention* his name is spelled Robley.
39 Probably identical with Joh. Olaus Hemmingsson, crofter from Nykil Parish (Og.), who emigrated to America in 1854 with his wife and two sons. — A 118:47.
40 John Hemmingsson declared his intention to become a U.S. citizen in the U.S. First Judicial District Court of Goodhue Co., MN.
41 Sven Larsson filed his first papers in the Circuit Court of Henry Co., IL.
42 Carl J. Lindstrom filed his first papers in the District Court of Ramsey Co., MN.
43 Johan Fredrik Engdahl emigrated to America 1856 from Vetlanda Parish (Jon.) with his wife. — A 118:108.
44 Pehr Bodelsson, farm overseer from Ystad (Malm.) emigrated to America 1851 with his wife and three dau. He also joined the Swedish Lutheran Church in Moline, where he also served as a deacon in the early years. — A 118:232; *SH*, pp. 254, 266.
45 Charles Johnson filed his first papers in the Circuit Court of Henry Co., IL.
46 Peter Benson b. in Östra Karup Parish (Hall.) June 23, 1818. He emigrated in 1854 and settled in Moline, IL. — *JP*, p. 344.
47 The dates of naturalization for Olson, Hakenson and Peterson, are missing in the documents. The dates listed here, May 19 and 20 have been deduced from internal evidence.
48 Likewise the naturalization dates for Samuelsson, Linder and Ovesson have been left out. The dates given are also supplied from internal evidence.
49 Lars August Wallerstedt, servant from Vikingstad Parish (Og.), emigrated to America in 1852. — A 118:33.
50 John Bloom filed his declaration of intention in the Circuit Court of Henry Co., IL.
51 Charles G. Anderson filed his first papers in the Recorders Court of the City of Peru, LaSalle Co., IL.
52 Fredrick Freeberg from Rökö Parish (Og.) was the first Swede to settle in Coal Valley, IL, on the outskirts of Rock Island. He ran a saddle’s business in the community. — *JP*, p. 105.
53 John Norelius is probably identical with Jonas Norelius, the brother of Eric and Andrew. He was b. in Hassela Parish (Gäv). March 30, 1827. While there is no solid evidence that he came to the U.S., there is a strong likelihood that he did. — K. J. Nilson, *Sveriges släktregister, Hassela* (Uppsala, 1965), p. 58.
54 August Wilhelm Esping, goldsmith apprentice, b. in Nääsjö Parish (Jön.) March 12, 1834. emigrated to America 1854. — A 118:104; *Nääsjö Household Examination Roll (1849–1855)*.
55 Nils Larsson Sandberg, son of a part mine owner from Karlskoga Parish in Örebro län, emigrated to America in 1853. — A 118:445.
56 Probably identical with Nils Petter Samuelsson, apprentice lathe operator, who emigrated to America from Karlshamn April 26, 1854. He was b. in Emmaboda, Vissefjärda Parish (Kalm.) Nov. 11, 1834. — Karlshamn Exit Lists (1839–1860).
57 Pehr Carlsson Mårtensson, apprentice from Karlshamn, b. in Ysane Parish (Blek) Sept. 16, 1833. He emigrated to America 1854. — *Karlshamn Household Examination Roll (1836–1880)*.
58 Sven Fajersson, servant from Ljungby Parish (Kron.), emigrated to America 1856. — A 118:221.
60 Jonas Magnusson Wallengren, agricultural student, emigr. to America 1856 from Ljungby Parish (Kron.). His age was given as 21 years. — A 118:223.

61 Lars Larsson Södergren, farmer from Mosjö Parish (Öre.), emigr. to America 1854. His age was given as 34 years. — A 118:454.

62 Samuel Dahlof, a cabinetmaker resided on Montgomery Street and the N.E. corner of Ninth Street in St. Louis in 1864. — St. Louis City Directory for 1864.

63 Possibly identical with Peter Nilsson Svänt, renter from Kisa Parish (Ög.). He arrived in New York July 12, 1849 aboard the bark Charles Tottie, with his wife and three children. He was b. in Djursdala Parish (Kal.m.) Aug. 22, 1803. He was m. for the second time to Maria Carlsson, b. in Svinhult Parish (Ög.) Feb. 24, 1812. Their children all b. in Kisa Parish (Ög.) were — Christina Carolina, b. April 11, 1833. Nils Oscar, b. Nov. 29, 1837 and Carl Gustaf, b. July 15, 1841. — SPANY. pp. 162–163.

64 Jeppe Olsson, servant from Nosaby Parish (Krist.), emigr. to America 1855. His age was given as 33 years. — A 118:217.

65 Nils Wahlström, journeyman tailor from Stockholm, 29 years old, emigr. to America 1857 with his wife and dau., 4 years of age. — A 118:20.

66 Possibly identical with Olof Nordin, who arr. in New York Sept. 23, 1849 aboard the Cobden. He came from the province of Blekinge, where he was b. July 28, 1805. He was accompanied by his wife, Catharina Möller, b. in Hille April 25, 1816 and four children. All b. in Hille — Lars July 16, 1839. Carl Olof Sept. 29, 1842. Catharina Helena Nov. 22, 1844 and Pehr Johan July 19, 1848. — SPANY, pp. 190, 191, 192.

67 Carl Olofsson Tollin, b. in Högby Parish (Ög.) in 1831. He emigr. to America 1852, arr. in New York aboard the Industrie. He settled in Rock Island. During the Civil War he served with Co. D of the Illinois 57th Volunteer Regiment and was mustered out of service July 7, 1865. He may also be identical with a Carl Tollin, who was living in Lyons[?], IA, as a subscriber to Der gamla och nya hemlandet. — A 118:33: “Genomsnittsemigrant i inbördeskrigets USA” Allsvensk Samling (March, 1945); List of subscribers published in Der gamla och nya hamlandet Jan. 25, 1859: JP, p. 60.

68 Perhaps identical with Carl Gustaf Hagman, renter (inhvseshjon) from Herrestad Parish (Ög.) emigr. to America 1856. — A 118:52.

69 For further information about Bodeillsons, see note 44 above.

70 For further information of Andreas J. Swanson see note 7 above.

71 For further information of Israel Johnson see note 10a above.

72 There is much confusion concerning the Drugges. A farmer named Jonas Drugge arr. in New York Aug. 24, 1850 aboard the Virginia. A farmer named Jonas Johansson Druge from Ljusdal Parish (Gavl.) arr. in 1851. These two may be identical, and likely identical with John Drugg, the witness above. In any case it appears as if Jonas Drugg, the minor, was either a s. or kinsman of the witness. — A 118:473; SPANY, pp. 180, 181.

73 For further information about N. P. Peterson see note 9 above.

74 Judging by the naturalization document Jacob Anderson must have been Norwegian. There is no mention of the Swedish sovereign when Jacob Anderson signs the document forswearing allegiance to the King of Norway.

75 Martin Amunsen was in all likelihood also Norwegian. His name and the fact that he was a witness at Jacob Anderson’s naturalization proceedings suggest this. He was naturalized Sept. 20, 1860.
Corrections and Additions to Genealogical Works

Nils William Olsson

TILAS

According to Elgenstierna, Baron Daniel Axel Tilas, b. in Stockholm Sept. 15, 1747, the son of Baron Daniel Tilas and his wife in a second marriage, Anna Catharina Åkerhielm af Margretelund, departed for America, presumably soon after having resigned his commission as ensign (fänrik) in the Royal Swedish Närke’s and Värmland’s Regiment July 7, 1787.¹

It is not known what motives Tilas had for emigrating. The scion of a prominent Swedish family, he had every reason to remain in Sweden, being the eldest surviving son of parents, now deceased. Perhaps his service with the French forces in the Caribbean against the British in the storming of Grenada had planted a desire within him to return once more to the western hemisphere.

Elgenstierna states that after Tilas’ departure for America he was never heard from again. This statement is erroneous. The National Archives (Riksarkivet) in Stockholm possesses the correspondence between the Royal Swedish Chancery (Kanslistyrelsen) and the Swedish consular representative in America, Richard Soderstrom² of Philadelphia, covering a period of time from 1798 to 1804, in which the disappearance of Tilas is discussed at great length.³

In October 1799 Soderström answered an inquiry from the Swedish Chancery, which had been forwarded to him the year before, regarding the whereabouts of Tilas, who supposedly had left for America in 1788, and who had neglected to keep his family informed of his movements. In 1790 the Svea District Court in Stockholm (Kungl. Svea Hovrätt) had placed Tilas under the guardianship of Carl Johan Iserhielm,⁴ whose task it had become to keep in touch with Tilas as well as to supervise the estates of the Tilas family, personal as well as real, which one day would revert to him. In 1792 Iserhielm had written two letters to Tilas, whom he supposed to be living on a plantation along the Ohio River, one of them had been sent via London to the Swedish pastor in Philadelphia, Nils Collin.⁵ The other letter had been routed via the Swedish consul in Bordeaux, France, Harmensen.⁶ Neither letter had been acknowledged. Finally in 1798 Iserhielm asked the Chancery to intervene, and if possible, to institute a search for Tilas, to determine that, if alive, he was entitled to certain incomes from Sweden, but if dead, proof of his decease was to be forwarded to Stockholm.
In his answer to the Chancery, Soderstrom related the main facts of the Tilas case, as it stood at the moment. Tilas had arrived in New York in 1787, where he remained until October 1788, when Soderstrom, with some trouble and outlay of money, had him moved to Philadelphia. He did not remain there long, but with the aid of Dr. Collin, had left for Fort Pitt on the Lancaster road. Through the medium of friends Tilas had carried letters of introduction to General Parson[s], who had taken him along to Marietta, Ohio, where he had stayed until the latter’s death by drowning on an expedition to Lake Erie.7

Soderstrom then referred to a letter from Tilas to him, dated Marietta Feb. 23, 1790, a copy of which Soderstrom had forwarded to Stockholm (this copy is not to be found in Riksarkivet). Soderstrom also informed Stockholm that his correspondents in New Orleans had related that Tilas had moved there, where he was living on the outskirts as a tutor in a wealthy family.

In April 1801 Soderstrom again wrote to the Royal Chancery, this time in reply to an urgent request from the authorities. There was little new to report on Tilas, except that Soderstrom’s correspondents had reported that in 1798 Tilas had left for Havana, Cuba with a Spanish family and from there had either gone or was about to proceed to Mexico.

In December 1804 Soderstrom returned to the Tilas case once more, reporting that he now had gotten some hard facts concerning Tilas from his correspondents in New Orleans, who reported that Tilas had died near New Orleans at the estate, where he had been employed as a tutor. His New Orleans correspondent had promised that he would procure a death certificate for the authorities in Stockholm.8

Here the Tilas case ends so far as Stockholm and Philadelphia are concerned. Recently, however, research has shown that the intensive correspondence between Iserhielrm and the Royal Chancery on the one hand, and Soderstrom on the other, had been concerned with a man who was dead already in 1792. According to an article by Elizabeth Becker Gianelloni, “Louisiana’s Spanish West Florida Records,” published in 1972, Daniel Axel Tilas had died in New Orleans more than twelve years before Soderstrom’s final letter to the Stockholm authorities. An abstract of the proceedings surrounding Tilas’ death is contained in this study and is quoted verbatim as follows:

Declaration, in French, 24 August 1792, by Benjamin Smith before Vahamonde, with witnesses John Buhler and Hubert Rowell, stating that on the 16th, Tilas came to his house sick of a fever, accompanied by a negro slave belonging to Charles Profit. Smith’s wife made up a bed for him and gave him water, but he was unable to swallow it or to talk. Smith stayed with him all day until about 10 p.m., then left two slaves with Tilas to take care of him, returning about midnight. At about 4 a.m. a slave came to tell him that Tilas seemed to be dying, and
he died as Smith entered the room. In dressing the body for burial, Smith found a
French book in the clothing Tilas had been wearing on arrival. His only know­
ledge of the deceased was that Tilas had been living for some time at the habita­
tion of Widow Nash, where he had left a trunk and other belongings.
Order. 26 August, by Vanamonde that the widow of Joseph Nash send the trunk
and whatever other belongings the deceased had, to which Sybil Nash answers
(in English) on 6 September that she sends the trunk which contains all the
property he left there.
Inventory of the trunk’s contents on 16 April 1793 by Vanamonde, with witnes­
ses Francois Pousset and Miguel Mahier, disclosed only a few items of old
clothing, half a pull of tobacco, and a shaving razor.”

1 Gustaf Elgenstierna. *Den introducerade svenska adelns ättartavlor 1–IX* (Stockholm, 1925-1936),
VIII, p. 304.
2 Richard Söderström (1741–1815), first merchant in Göteborg, Swedish consul in Boston, MA
1783; consul for entire United States Feb. 27, 1795, at which time he moved to Philadelphia. —
Joh. Ax. Almquist, *Kommerskollegium och riksen ständerns manufakturkontor samt konsuls­
3 Correspondence from Richard Söderström to *Konslistyrelsen*, dated Philadelphia Oct. 10, 1799,
July 4, 1800, April 23, 1801, Aug. 21, 1801, Nov. 22, 1802 and Dec. 28, 1804 in the National
Archives (Riksarkivet), Stockholm.
4 Carl Johan Iserehielm (1761–1817), member of the Swedish Supreme Court (*Konungens högsta
5 Nils Collin (1746–1831), Swedish pastor of the Gloria Dei Church in Wicaco, Philadelphia
6 Mikael (de) Harmensen (1717–1792), Swedish Consul in Bordeaux 1751; consul general 1772. —
7 Samuel Holden Parsons (1737–1789), American major general in the Revolutionary War; drowned
when his canoe overturned in the rapids of Big Beaver River in western Pennsylvania Nov. 19,
8 Much of the material in the Söderström correspondence is included in Nils William Olsson’s
article, “Extracts from Early Swedish Consular Reports from the United States,” *American
9 Elizabeth Becker Gianelloni, “Louisiana’s Spanish West Florida Records,” *Louisiana Genealo­
gical Register*, XIX (June, 1972), pp. 141–142.
10 I am much indebted to Winston de Ville of New Orleans for calling my attention to Mrs. Gianello­
ni’s study.
When Did Swedish Patronymics Become Surnames?

Erik Wikén

In an article on surnames in the first issue of *Swedish American Genealogist* Nils William Olsson states, that “it was not until the latter part of the 19th century that the patronymic in Sweden congealed to become a family name.”

This statement is basically correct when applied to the rural population of Sweden. Among some of the families, the old system, based on the use of patronymics, continued well into the 20th century. A good example of this is the case of the Swedish Nobel laureate in literature, Harry Martinson (1904–1978). His father, a sea captain, was named Martin Olofsson.

On the other hand, one notes that among families living in cities and towns, those engaged in the iron and metal trades, as well as members of the clergy, there had appeared a clear tendency for patronymics to solidify into family names as early as toward the end of the 17th century. One of the earliest examples of this type is that of Abraham Arfwedson, b. in 1698, who was the s. of Anders Arfwedson, a merchant.

The tendency for patronymics to evolve into surnames is so obvious, that *Riksarkivet* in Stockholm (The National Archives) has an established policy of indexing all persons, whose names end in -son and who were active in Sweden after 1718, the year that the Era of Liberty (Frihetstiden) began, under the patronymic or family name, with the Christian name following. On the other hand, all persons, whose lives and achievements occurred before 1719, have been indexed under their Christian names, the patronymic following. For a further analysis of this system, see Bengt Hildebrand, “Om personregister” in *Personhistorisk tidskrift*, Vol. XLI, pp. 157–176. The same general rule is followed in major Swedish historical and biographical works, notably the index for *Uppsala universitets studentmatrikel 1595–1817* (Register of Students at the University of Uppsala 1595–1817).

Among the emigrants and travellers to America, one finds, of course, both systems. Those coming from the rural areas of Sweden, retained their patronymics for a longer time. Those coming from cities or towns, or such communities, where the iron and metal working trades dominated, were apt to use patronymics, which by this time had become family names. This is particularly true in
the early period of migration, up to 1846, when the main body of arrivals to the United States had represented these classes of people, rather than those from the Swedish rural areas. A few examples will suffice.

Anna Christina Jansson, who emigrated to New Bedford, MA in 1831, was the dau. of Olof Jansson. Fredrik Olaus Nilsson, the well-known pioneer Baptist clergyman (baptized in New York in 1834), was the s. of Petter Nilsson, a farmer and fisherman.

Maria Christina Olsson, who left for Boston, MA in 1839, was the dau. of Lars Olsson. John Ericsson, the famed inventor of the Monitor, who arrived in New York in 1839, was the s. of Olof Ericsson. Göran Fredrik Göransson, the founder of the Sandviken Steel Company in Sweden, who visited New York briefly in 1839, was the s. of Anders Peter Göransson.

Carl August Zachrisson, who came to New York in 1843, was the s. of Erik Zachrisson. Bror Johan Jonzon, who visited New York in 1843, was the s. of Anders Jonzon. Anders Magnus Jönsson, who arrived in New York in 1843, and his brother, Johan Peter Jönsson, who came in 1844, were the s. of Anders Jönsson.

Eugen Conrad Leonard Gullbrandsson, who came to New York in 1844, was the s. of Gabriel Gullbrandsson. Carl Johan Petersson, who also arrived in New York in 1844, was the s. of Jonas Petersson. Somewhat later in time one notes that the s. of Erik Jansson, the Swedish sect leader and founder of Bishop Hill, IL, Eric Johnson, also retained his father’s patronymic as his family name. He became the famed Swedish American journalist, who together with Carl Fredrik Petter Peterson, co-authored Svenskarne i Illinois.

The evolution of a surname from a patronymic can be viewed in the case of Sven Mansson, s. of Måns Zachrisson. He moved into the Kristine Parish in Göteborg in 1827 and in 1831 he informed his clergyman that he henceforth planned to be known as Sven Zachrisson. This was the name he used when he arrived in Boston Feb. 18, 1839.

Nils Magnus Nilsson, who arrived in New York in 1850, was the s. of Nils Olofsson (Olsson). At the time of his arrival, he is listed as Nils M. Olson on the manifest, having decided to keep his father’s patronymic as a family name. In another case, also dealing with an immigrant who came to New York in 1850, we find that Per Jacobsson’s s., Nils Persson, seemingly also followed the same pattern, since Norelius refers to him as Nils Jacobsson.

From the few examples listed above, I have tried to demonstrate that descendants of these early immigrants may find that the original immigrant either went by his own patronymic or that of his father, which he had chosen as a surname. If the immigrant’s name was Sven Johansson, his father’s name would
probably also have been Johansson, if the immigrant came from the urban areas of Sweden. If he came from the rural areas, his father’s first name would have been Johan and the last name probably a patronymic.

3 It was in 1846 that Erik Jansson’s followers, mostly from the rural districts of Hälsingland, began their long journey to their final destination in Illinois.
6 SPAexcNY, p. 9, n. 34. She was the dau. of Lars Olsson, a laborer, and Helena Gröning, according to information in *Landsarkivet, Göteborg*.
9 SPAexcNY, p. 47, n. 66.
10 *SBL*, Vol. XX, pp. 399–400.
11 *SPANY*, pp. 55, n. 20; p. 59, n. 42; SPAexcNY, p. 91.
12 *SPANY*, p. 59, n. 38. He was b. in Vickleby Parish (Kalm.) April 24, 1825, s. Gabriel Gulbrandsson auditor (kontrollör), and Hedvig Johanna Löfberg, according to information in *Landsarkivet, Vadstena*.
13 *SPANY*, p. 61, n. 51 and SPAexcNY, p. 93. He was b. in Karlshamn June 22, 1815, s. Jonas Petersson, ship’s carpenter (varvstimmerman), and Carin Isaacsdotter, according to information in *Landsarkivet, Lund*.
15 According to information contained in the household examination rolls of Kristine Parish, Göteborg (AI:2, p. 475), *Landsarkivet, Göteborg*. He was b. in Lilla Hult, Ormesberga Parish (Kron.) June 21, 1813, s. Måns Zachrisson and Carin Jaensdotter, according to information in *Landsarkivet, Vadstena*.
16 SPAexcNY, p. 9, n. 32.
18 *SPANY*, p. 222. He is listed as Niels Pettersson, unidentified. He emigrated from Ignaberga Parish (Krist.), but was b. in Norra Äkarp Parish (Krist.) Oct. 9, 1826, s. Per Jacobsson and Ingar Jönsson, auditor. Cf. Eric Norelius, *De svenska luterska församlingarnas och svenskarnes historia i Amerika*, I–II (Rock Island, IL., 1890, 1916), I, p. 50 and information supplied by *Landsarkivet, Lund*. 
Ancestor Tables

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

III. Janet R. Frye, 152 Spring Valley Circle, Bloomington, MN 55420

   Kermit Edward FRYE, b. Mankato, MN 1941.

3. HEGMAN, Clara Lillian, b. St. Paul, MN 1911; resides St. Paul, MN.


III. 8. ROTH, Nels (Nils) Peter, b. Söraby Parish (Kron.), Sweden 1841; m. Ormesberga Parish (Kron.) 1868; came to the U.S. 1868; d. Marine-on-St. Croix, MN 1927.
10. JOHNSON, Ole, b. Eidanger (Telemark), Norway 1851; m. Milwaukee, WI 1874; d. Grantsburg, WI 1906.
11. SIMONSDATTER, Karine, b. Skien (Telemark) 1849; d. Grantsburg, WI 1938.
12. HEGMAN, Lars John (Johan), b. Skeby Parish (Skar.) 1849; m. Sweden 1869; came to the U.S. 1887; d. New Canada Twp., MN 1939.
IV. 16. ROTH, Johan Nilsson, b. Tjureda Parish (Kron.) 1819; m. Söraby 1839; d. after 1880.
17. JONASDOTTIER, Lisbeth, b. Tolg Parish (Kron.) 1813; d. after 1880.
18. JOHANNESSON, Peter Magnus, b. Ormesberga; m. Ormesberga 1839; d. Ormesberga 1859.
19. MÅNSDOTTIER, Maria, b. Ormesberga 1817; d. after 1870.
20. OLESEN, John, b. Gjerpen (Telemark), Norway 1829; m. Eidanger 1851.
22. AMUNDESEN, Simon.
23. CHRISTOPHERSDATTER, Maren, b. 1829.
24. ANDERSSON, Peter, b. Skeby 1819; m. Skeby 1843; d. Skeby 1873.
26–27.
30. CARLSSON, Peter, b. Ekeby 1816; m. Ekeby 1842.
31. MÅNSDOTTIER, Maja Lena, b. Ekeby 1819.
V. 32. PERSSON, Nils, b. Sweden 1771; m. before 1796; d. Tjureda 1856.
33. JOHANSDOTTIER, Annika, b. Sweden 1775; d. Tjureda 1847.
34. MÅNSSON, Jonas, b. Tjureda 1780; m. Tolg 1811; d. Tolg 1865(?).
35. MÅNSDOTTIER, Karin, b. Hornaryd Parish (Kron.) 1769; d. Tolg 1852. Her marriage to Jonas Månsson was her second.
36. CARLSSON, Johannes, b. Ormesberga 1784; m. Ormesberga 1814; d. Ormesberga 1855.
37. SVENSDOTTIER, Sara, b. Tolg 1791; d. Ormesberga 1819.
38. MÅNSSON, Måns, b. Ormesberga (? 1781; m. Ormesberga 1805; d. Ormesberga 1831.
40. HALVORSEN, Ole, b. Holden (Telemark) 1782; m. Holden 1808; d. before 1838.
41. KETELSDATTER, Ingeborg, b. Holden 1789; d. after 1833.
42. GUNDERSEN, Halvor, b. Eidanger 1781; m. Eidanger 1813; d. Eidanger 1848.
43. HANSDATTER, Maren, b. Norway 1787 or 1788; d. Eidanger 1868.
44–47.
48. PEHRSSON, Anders, b. Sweden 1784; m. by 1816; d. Skeby 1851.
49. ANDERSDOTTIER, Maria, b. Husaby Parish (Skar.) 1782; d. Skeby 1868.
50–55. —
56. WIDING, Hans, b. Köla Parish (Värm.) 1789; m. Billingsfors 1812; d. Ekeby 1858.
57. PARATH, Caja Andersdotter, b. Tösse Parish (Älvs.) 1790; d. Ekeby 1857.
58. BRODIN, Carl Carlsson, b. Värmland 1781; m. Nyed Parish (Värm.) 1804; d. Billingsfors 1850.
60. ERIKSSON, Carl, b. Marbäck Parish (Älvs.) 1780; m. Ekeby 1807; d. Ekeby 1852.
61. NILSDOTTER, Anna, b. Viken Parish (Malm.) 1784; d. Ekeby 1844.
62. LARSSON, Magnus.
63. MÅNSDOTTER, Eva.

IV. The Rev. Don Wold, 730 Brown St., Norway, MI 49870


3. CARLSON, Hilda Ruth, b. Moose Lake, MN Aug. 29, 1904.


10. LINNER, Helge Andreassen, b. Stor-Elvdal May 7, 1851; m. May 21, 1871; d. Stor-Elvdal Feb. 6, 1840.

IV. 16. OLSN, Embret, b. Åsnes, Solør 1803; m. ca. 1825; d. Våler 1878.
17. OLSSDATTER, Pernille, b. Åsnes 1803; d. Våler Jan. 16, 1857.
18. OLSN, Halvor, b. Åsnes 1788; d. Våler, 1861.
19. BERGERSDATTER, Inger, b. Åsnes 1795.
20. HELGESEN, Andreas, b. Christiania (Oslo), Norway May 28, 1824; m. Nov. 6, 1853; d. Stor-Elvdal May 25, 1860.
24. JACOBSSON, Peter, b. Undenäs April 8, 1790; d. Askersund July 5, 1877.
25. JONSSDOTTER, Lena, b. 1778; d. Askersund July 8, 1847.
29. MAGNUSSDOTTER, Brita, b. Undenäs April 4, 1784; d. Tived Oct. 6, 1864.
31. PERSDDOTTER, Brita Stina, b. Undenäs Sept. 18, 1800; d. Tived June 8, 1879.

V. 32. ENGBREITSEN, Ole
33. PEDERSDATTER, Marie
34–35. —
36. BERGERSEN, Ole, b. Våler March 27, 1757; d. Våler 1814.
37. HANSDDATTER, Berte, b. Løten, Norway Aug. 11, 1754; d. Våler, Aug. 4, 1824.
38. PEDERSEN, Berger, b. Våler 1753.
39. HALVORSDDATTER, Ola, b. Våler 1752.
40. STA, Helge Pedersen, m. Sept. 6, 1822; d. Stor-Elvdal Dec. 11, 1833.
41. ELLINSDDATTER, Berthe.
42. PEDERSEN, Evan
43. KNUDSDATTER, Kari.
44. BAKKEN, Knud Larsen, b. 1764; m. 1792; d. Stor-Elvdal 1841.
45. STAI, Anne Helgesdatter, b. Stor-Elvdal 1769; d. Stor-Elvdal 1838.
46. OLSEN, Tollef, m. Stor-Elvdal 1816.
47. SIMENSDATTER, Else, b. Stor-Elvdal.
48. PEHRSSON, Jacob, b. Undenäs 1760; m. Dec. 29, 1789.
49. MICHELSDOTTER, Cherstin, b. July 29, 1761.
50-51. —
52. ANDERSSON, Jöns, b. Askersund May 21, 1745.
53. PERSDOTTER, Anna, b. Askersund July 15, 1747.
54. ARVIDSSON, Jon, b. Askersund June 1, 1746.
55. JONSDOTTER, Brita, b. Askersund Oct. 6, 1750.
56. JANSSON, Nils, b. Askersund April 1, 1750.
57. PERSDOTTER, Anna, b. 1752.
58. PERSSON, Magnus, b. Tived April 24, 1749; d. Undenäs Dec. 28, 1819.
59. MÅNSDOTTER, Maria, b. Askersund July 13, 1756; d. Undenäs April 18, 1833.
60-61. —
62. NILSSON, Peter
63. PERSDOTTER, Catharina, b. Undenäs March 26, 1761; d. Undenäs Aug. 18, 1819.
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.

Commentary on Query 28

Additional information has now been located on the Buler family. Pehr Johan Bulér, a former foreman of a smelter (masmästare), emigr. to America from Fogdhyttan, Nora Parish (Öre.) May 3, 1870 together with his family, consisting of wife, Brita Maria Andersdotter, dau. Wilhelmina, and three s., Wilhelm, Wilhelm Victor and Johan Werner. Pehr Johan Bulér was b. in Långbansände, Gäsborn Parish (Värm.) Dec. 19, 1827, the s. of Olof Nilsson Bulér, the s. of a part mine owner, and Brita Maria Pehrsdotter. Olof Nilsson Bulér, in turn, was b. in Säfsnäs Parish (Kopp.) Aug. 22, 1801, the s. of Nils Bulér, also a part mine owner (bergsman). Nils Bulér was b. in Gäsborn Parish in 1770.

Here is an interesting case where Pehr Johan alternately used his patronymic of Olsson, since his father’s name was Olof, then changed it back to the original family name of Buler, only to make another change in America, calling himself Peterson in this country.

Rosin(e)

My grandmother’s father, Pehr Olof Rosin, was b. in Vimmerby, Sweden Jan. 22, 1820, and emigr. to America in 1843. He subsequently returned to Sweden and settled down in Edshult Parish (Jön.). About 1880 he returned to America and became a druggist in Chicago. He was active as late as 1899. His s. Konrad, b. in Edshult Oct. 6, 1858 left for America aboard the Avanti Feb. 19, 1880. He was m. to Justina, with whom he had four dau., Beulah, a musician, Lillian, (m. Carbonage), Juul (m. Hess) and Rose (m. Eklund). Justina d. April 11, 1925 and is buried in the Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago. Konrad was alive in 1927, at the time of my grandmother’s death. I should like to know more about the Rosins in Chicago.

Per-Gösta Lindquist,
790 56 Vämhus, SWEDEN

Comment: Burial records of the Rosehill Cemetery in Chicago show that Per Olof Rosin(e) d. in Grant Hospital in that city April 25, 1900 at the age of 82. His s. Konrad (Conrad) d. in Chicago July 21, 1937, and is also buried in the Rosehill Cemetery together with his wife, Justina, who d. April 11, 1925, at the age of 63 years and 29 days. (See SAG, Vol. 1, No. 3, p. 123).
Ogren

I am seeking information concerning Carl Gustaf Ogren (Ågren), b. in Snavlunda Parish (Öre.) Oct. 15, 1854, s. Jacob Larsson and Johanna Sophia Erssdotter. He arrived in America May 9, 1892 from Östra Tollstad Parish (Ög.). He settled in San Francisco and was unmarried at the time.
The Rev. Don Wold,
730 Brown Street,
Norway, MI 49870

Karlsson, Carlsson

I am seeking information about Clara Lovisa Andersdotter, b. at Lilla Kamptorp in Askersund rural parish (Öre.). She m. Erik Adolf Karlsson and sometime after 1875 they moved to America, possibly settling in New York State or perhaps Kings Co. (Brooklyn).
I should like to hear from persons whose ancestors have come from the Askersund rural parish as well as Tived in Skaraborg län. I have quite a bit of information on families from these parishes.
The Rev. Don Wold,
730 Brown Street,
Norway, MI 49870

Svensdotter, Johansson

Seeking information concerning Clara Elisabeth Svensdotter, b. in Åste Parish (Skar.) March 27, 1858. She was m. to August Johansson, b. in Näs Parish (Skar.) April 19, 1847. They had the following children — Carl Theodor, b. Jan. 20, 1879, Ellen Elisabeth, b. May 13, 1881 and Oscar Herbert, b. March 16, 1883, all of them in Krogstorp, Kinneved Parish (Skar.). The family arr. in Moline, IL Oct. 25, 1885.
Ray Olson,
1570 Marion St.,
Kingsburg, CA 93631

von Sydow

I am looking for information concerning Daniel Johan von Sydow, b. in Clara Parish, Stockholm Jan. 15, 1817. He emigr. in 1850, probably from Lindesberg to California. He was still alive in 1887. Where did he reside? Did he have a family? What year did he die?
The same questions can be posed concerning Carl Victor von Sydow, b. July 28, 1865, who emigr. before 1886, probably from Grinstad Parish (Alvs.).
Johan von Sydow,
Skogshyddegatan 37,
412 74 Göteborg, SWEDEN
Andersson, Viberg (Wiberg)

Three sisters, Ruth, Anna and Clara Andersson from the province of Halland or possibly neighboring provinces, emigr. to the U.S. about 1910. Ruth was m. to a man named Viberg (Wiberg) from Hörby Parish (Malm.) and d. in a hospital in New York City 1916. I should like to know Ruth Andersson Viberg’s year of birth and from which parish in Sweden she emigr.

Johan von Sydow,
Skogshydegatan 37,
412 74 Göteborg, SWEDEN

Peterson, Pettersson, Ridderstrom

I am in the process of doing a study of my grandfather, Andrew R. Ridderstrom, who emigr. to Lynn, MA in 1888 and my grandmother, Otelia N. Peterson (Pettersson), who arr. in the 1890’s also coming to Lynn. Ridderstrom became a successful businessman in the U.S. and Otelia’s father, Peter Peterson (Petter Pettersson) became an adventurous gold seeker in the 1849 Gold Rush as well as the Gold Rush in Australia in 1853. Any information I could receive on my grandparents would be very much appreciated.

Henry I. Ellis,
6285 Tufted Moss,
Columbia, MD 21045

Comment: Anders Ridderstrom, b. in Sweden Dec. 29, 1845 and Andrew R. Ridderstrom, b. in Sweden July 19, 1874, both residents at 26 Myrtle Street in Lynn, MA, were naturalized U.S. citizens in the U.S. Circuit Court in Boston, MA Sept. 21, 1896.

Linden

Johan Amandus Linden, b. in Barne-Åsaka Parish (Skar.) in 1872, arr. in America in 1898. He continued his seminary studies at Augustana College, but did not graduate and was not ordained. He spent some time from 1899 to 1906 in such western places as Great Falls, MT, East Helena, MT and Murray and West Jordan, UT, teaching, preaching, tutoring and sometimes working as a substitute pastor. The last letter received by his relatives in Sweden was in March, 1906, when he was living in the Salt Lake area, studying for the ministry, sometimes conducting services. Can anyone offer help in trying to determine whatever happened to him?

Sue Thilquist,
Route 1, Box 204,
Waverly, MN 55390
Back, Nilsdotter
Need birth records and parents’ names for Anders Back, b. in Berga Parish (Kron.) in 1787 as well as for his wife, Ingrid or Inggerd Nilsdotter, b. in Berga also in 1787. They were m. in Bolmsø Parish (Jön.) Feb. 3, 1811. Back was probably Anders’ military name.
Joyce Buckland,
P.O. Box 1003,
North Highlands, CA 95660

Gasslander, Jonsdotter
Need births and marriage information on Daniel Gasslander, b. in Tännö Parish (Jön.) in 1776 and Christina Jonsdotter, b. in 1777. They were probably m. ca. 1800 and eventually had eight children. Gasslander was a parish clerk or sexton (klockare) in the Tännö church.
Joyce Buckland,
P.O. Box 1003,
North Highlands, CA 95660

Nilsson, Stromberg
My great grandfather, Oscar Nilsson, came to the U.S. at the age of 10 together with his brother, Carl Johan Nilsson, age 19, leaving Sweden May 7, 1866. They came from Mörlunda Parish (Kalm.). In the U.S. they changed their names to Stromberg. I should like to know on which ship they arrived. The National Archives could not help.
Sheila Kiley
c/o Weinstein Bros.,
1300 W. Devon, Chicago, IL 60660

Swenson, Johanson
Frank Alarek Swenson (also Johanson) was b. in Carver Co., MN April 5, 1889, the s. of Claus W. Swenson (Johan Johanson) and Amanda Augusta Swenson (Johanson). Frank was last seen in Duluth, MN ca. 1920. Any information about him or his descendants would be appreciated.
Mrs. Lorraine D. Jameson,
320 - 9th Ave., West,
Duluth, MN 55808

Alin
I should like to obtain any information on my father’s family. His name was Ivar Wilhelm Alin, b. in Avesta Parish (Kopp.) Sept. 21, 1882.
Alice I. Hedberg,
4 Cutting Ave.,
Worcester, MA 01606
Lisell

My great grandfather, Lars Larsson Lisell, was b. in the village of Yttermalung, Malung Parish (Kopp.) Jan. 11, 1870. His wife, Anna Johnson (Jonsson) was b. in the neighboring village of Bjuråker March 18, 1868. They m. in 1890 and left Sweden July 7, 1891 with one dau., Anna. In the U.S. they had eleven additional children. Where can I find out where they landed in the U.S. and any other information about the family before or after they came to America?

Susie Hetteen,
320 B Birch,
Bemidji, MN 56601

Comment: The police registers in Landsarkivet, Box 3009, 400 10 Göteborg, may give a clue as to the ship they sailed on and the port in the U.S., for which they were headed, i.e., provided they emigr, from this port. They may also have used the port of Oslo (Kristiania) in Norway.

Lars Larsson Lisell was probably related to a family living in the village of Sillerö in Malung Parish, on the west bank of the West Dal River. His family used the farm name of Lissanders in front of the Christian name and the patronymic, so he was probably known as Lissanders Lars Larsson at the time of emigration. In the U.S. he used the farm name to create the family name of Lisell. His wife's village of Bjuråker was located on the east bank of the West Dal River.

Jönsson

My great great grandfather, Nils Jönsson, had a farm outside Sjöbo in Färs Härad. I don’t have a birth or death date for him. I know that he left Sweden in 1868 or 1869 because he had signed a note for a neighbor, who was unable to make payment. As a result of this default, my ancestor had to sell his farm and move to America. How do I go about finding out more about him?

Lucille Slette,
R.R. #3,
Forest City, IA 50436

Comment: Sjöbo is a fairly large commercial center in Åsum Parish (Malm.). It is probable that if Nils Jönsson lived outside of Sjöbo, that he would have been registered in the parish records of Åsum. Since Nils Jönsson is a very common name and there is no birth date for him, one would have to look for a person by that name who emigr. to America in 1868 or 1869. Write to Landsarkivet, Fack 2016, 220 02 Lund, Sweden.

Blixén

Need information on Johannes Blixén, manufacturer or merchant in New York, who emigr. ca. 1856. He was b. in Kjula Parish (Söd.) June 5, 1841. He was the s. of Dr. Anders Blixén, clergyman in the Kjula Parish (1838–1851). A brother, Anders Samuel, b. Aug. 30, 1839, emigr. 1855 and settled in Uruguay, South America.

Percy Blixén,
Nockeby Backe 8 A,
161 51 Bromma, SWEDEN
Oberg, Anderson

Seeking parents, siblings and Swedish birthplace of my great grandfather, John Oberg, b. Nov. 16, 1842. He arr. in America ca. 1870, settling in Moline, Rock Island Co., IL. He m. Ida Christina Mathilda Anderson May 9, 1872 and d. Feb. 18, 1893. Have info. on their 5 dau. Need same info. on Ida Christina Mathilda Anderson/Andersdotter, b. Feb. 5, 1841. Her par. were Anders Magnus Persson (1812–1864) and Sarah Christina Persdotter (1811–1889). They were m. in Sweden in 1832.

Joan P. Nagel,
612 West Franklin Street,
Richmond, VA 23220

Sjöqvist

Interested in hearing from descendants of Carl Johan Sjöqvist, b. in Hagnabo, Madesjö Parish (Kalm.). He was s. of Jonas (?) Sjöqvist and his wife Johanna. His siblings were Per Victor (1860–1918), Josephina, Amanda and Hilda. He emigr. to America.

Carol Seaquist,
5805 Arbroath Drive,
Clinton, MD 20735

Sandgren

Carl Sandgren, b. Kolingsared Parish (Älvs.) 1874, carpenter, lived in Moline, IL until 1906 with wife, Anna H. Carlson, b. in IA 1881. They had a s., b. 1902 and dau., Marjorie Irene, b. 1905. Carl Sandgren also had a sister, Mathilda Sandgren, b. 1860. What happened to this family after 1906? Carl had two other brothers, Frans Oscar Sandgren, b. in Kolingsared 1868 and August Sandgren, b. in Solberga Parish (Älvs.) 1862, who both emigr. ca. 1890 and were never heard from again. A rumor has it that Frans became a shoe manufacturer in MA.

Ted Rosvall,
Enåsen, Falekvarna
521 00 Falköping, SWEDEN

Anderson, Jacobson

I am planning to visit Sweden this August and would like to meet living relatives there, if possible. Here is what I know about my people who emigr. to America — my grandfather, Jacob Timothy Anderson, b. in Visby (Gotl.) Aug. 1, 1857, emigr. to NY 1886, was naturalized in Waynesville, Pulaski Co., MO 1894. He m. Ida Christina Jacobson Dec. 12, 1891. She was b. in Munktorp Parish (Väst.) Feb. 1, 1872 and emigr. to America in Dec. 1879 with her parents,
Johan Jacobson and Christina Larsdotter, as well as her three brothers — Carl, Nils and Axel. Jacob and Ida were m. in Lebanon, MO, lived for a short time in Swedeborg, Pulaski Co., MO and then resided permanently in Saron, Trinity Co., TX until their deaths.

Mrs. W. B. Anderson,
3408 Creekbend Drive,
Baytown, TX 77521

Svensson, Waldner

Three brothers Waldner, all tailors, emigr. to America 1891 and 1899 — Ernst Conrad, b. in Karlstad Dec. 25, 1869, Gustaf Leonard, b. in Kil Nov. 5, 1872 and Carl Johan, b. in Sunne June 21, 1878 — all in Värmland län. Leonard visited Sweden in 1900 and brought his mother, Anna Lisa Svensson, b. in By Parish (Värml.) Oct. 15, 1835, to America, their destination being Boston, MA. Through the father, Johan Fredrik Svensson, b. in Fristad Parish (Älvs.) June 9, 1839, d. in Kil Jan. 29, 1880, the brothers Waldner belong to the Arta Olofsgård Family from Fristad. I am anxious to get contact with anyone who has info. on these three brothers Waldner.

Karl Svänsson,
Edsbergsvägen 8,
191 51 Sollentuna, SWEDEN

Thorell/Norell

Will appreciate any info. about Carl Erik Thorell/Norell, b. in Totra, Hamränge Parish (Gävl.) Aug. 31, 1864. He is listed in the 1880 emigr. index with mother, Karin Norell, and half-brothers and sisters — Frans (my grandfather), Inga Erika, David, Elin, Erik August and Otto with destination Chicago. No further record of him. Did he remain in Sweden?

Beverly Norell Nicholas,
5558 W. Donna Drive,
Brown Deer, WI 53223

Larsson

Need info. on descendants of Pehr Larsson, b. in Klubbäcken, Ockelbo Parish (Gävl.) 1785 and sister Kerstin Larsdotter, who m. Jonas Jönsson, farmer, and resided in Säbyggeby, also in Ockelbo. A bro. Erik Larsson moved to Totra, Hamråde Parish (Gävl.), whose s. Erik took name Thorell (see query 72 above). Also seek info. on Totra families.

Beverly Norell Nicholas,
5558 W. Donna Drive,
Brown Deer, WI 53223
Darelius

I am seeking info. re. Josef Darelius, b. in Od Parish (Älvs.) Jan. 26, 1755, s. of Olof Darelius, regimental clerk (mönsterskrivare), and Ingeborg Davidsson. According to a MS (Olof Sundholm, Genealogier. Några Prästlägter i Skara stift, copy in Landsarkivet, Göteborg) written at the end of the 18th century or in the beginning of the 19th, Darelius became an “Admiralty officer in America”. No other info. is given.

Håkan Skogsjö,
Boregatan 8,
431 39 Mölndal, SWEDEN

Olsson

Interested in hearing from descendants of Andreas Olsson, b. in Mörhult, Västra Torsås Parish (Kron.) 1833. He moved to Bidalite, Madesjö Parish (Kalm.) and d. in 1928.

Carol Seaquist,
5805 Arbroath Drive,
Clinton, MD 20735

Anderson

I would like to contact the descendants of my Swedish great grandfather, Daniel Andersen’s sisters and brothers, who came from Värmland. They were — Stina Anderson’s s. Alfred (probably Anderson), who probably lived in Chicago; Julia Anderson, b. 1850, who m. Nils A. Larsson. They probably lived in Chicago and had three known children, Alma, whose dau.m. Verne Hovey and went to CA; Lois, who had dau. Juliana with two children named Karen and Julie and Jennie, who m. Herbert, whose children were John Lewis and Billy. Finally Erik Anderson, b. in 1860, who probably had five children.

Toril Lohne,
3750 Drangedal i Telemark,
NORWAY

Martinson, Martenson

Seeking info. re. birthplace in Sweden of my grandfather, Ole (Olof) Martinson, Martenson, b. June 17, 1858, who arr. in Baltimore on German ship S.S. Hohenzollern June 17, 1881. His par. were Martin and Maria Olson. He m. Mary (Marie) Johnson in Hudson, WI July 29, 1886.

Doris Martinson Wall,
4519 Amherst Lane,
Bethesda, MD 20814
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