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## Literature

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# Literature

**Passenger Arrivals at the Port of Baltimore 1820–1834.** Edited by Michael H. Tepper and transcribed by Elizabeth P. Bentley. Published by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. 111 Water Street, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1982. xxv + 768 pp. \$38.50.

This is the first volume to be published by Genealogical Publishing Co. in Baltimore in a new series to be known as *Passenger Arrivals*. The volume reviewed here serves as a pilot project of this important series and should be a boon to every family researcher, whose ancestors passed through the port of Baltimore between 1820 and 1834.

In this pioneer volume the genealogical student has access to approximately 50,000 immigrants who arrived at this port. Mr. Tepper has taken the passenger arrival records, known as the Customs Passenger Lists, which heretofore have been almost inaccessible, and has indexed them alphabetically, this in itself an incredible task. For each of the entries he has listed the passenger's age, sex, occupation and the name of the country to which he belongs. Additionally we also get such important documentation as the name of the country the immigrant intends to inhabit, usually the name of the vessel on which he arrived as well as the date of arrival in Baltimore.

Though probably three fourths of the arrivals are German and the remainder British or Irish, there are other arrivals as well, some of them of particular interest to the Scandinavian student. Thus from a cursory examination of the volume I found about a half dozen Danes, a few Swedes and several arrivals from the West Indies island of St. Barthélemy, at that time under Swedish hegemony. Of special interest is the entry for a Swede, Charles Hausewolf, who arrived in Baltimore during the quarter ending June 30, 1823.

This arrival is identical with Carl Uirik von Hauswolff, born in Sweden June 13, 1791, the son of Captain Hans Gustaf von Hauswolff and Helena Charlotta von Greiff. After studies at the universities of Greifswald and Leipzig in Germany, von Hauswolff transferred to the University of Uppsala. After finishing his academic work he entered the Swedish governmental service and was assigned as governmental secretary on the Swedish island of St. Barthélemy, where he served four years, from Jan. 14, 1816 to Dec. 31, 1819. On the latter date he resigned his commission and devoted more than four years of his life to travels in South and North America.

He arrived from the tropics at Baltimore April 26, 1823, from where he continued on to Washington, Philadelphia and New York. He departed for Sweden in July of that year. In 1832 he returned to the United States for a second visit. In 1835 he translated and edited a travel account of America, written by a female German author, *Teckningar utur sällskapslifvet i Nordamerikas förenta stater (Observations on the Life and Manners in the United States of America)*. Von Hauswolff's edition is liberally sprinkled with his own observations and contains as well a postscript of his own experiences during his two journeys to America. In the main he agrees with the German author and states that often their observations coincide. Von Hauswolff died in Stockholm Dec. 2, 1843.

The value of the Baltimore *Arrivals* lies in the fact that we here find material not easily accessible elsewhere. In my own work, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in U.S. Ports 1820–1850 (except New York)*, the earliest entry for a Swedish arrival in Baltimore is Feb. 24, 1837, because the original Customs House Lists for Baltimore are so fragmentary, containing large gaps. Thanks to the use of other sources, such as Quarterly Abstracts furnished the United States Congress by customs house inspectors, State Department Transcripts, Baltimore "City

Lists" and cargo manifests, the editor has been able to close some of these gaps and thus produce a list, which is as complete as is humanly possible, of all passenger arrivals at the port of Baltimore from 1820 to 1834.

The initial volume, in what we all hope will be a long string of equally important volumes in the series *Passenger Arrivals*, is an excellent, concise and highly readable record of early immigrants to the United States. The editor and the transcriber should be highly commended for a difficult task well done.

—NILS WILLIAM OLSSON

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**The Esbjörn Diaries.** By Lars Paul Esbjörn. Published by the Jenny Lind Chapel, Andover, IL 61233, 1982. 44 pp., \$1.25. (Reprinted from *After Seventy-five Years, 1860-1935: Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Augustana Synod and Augustana College and Theological Seminary*, Rock Island, IL, 1935, pp. 11-34 and "The Augustana Quarterly", Vol. XXIII, 1944, pp. 323-339).

The reprinting of L. P. Esbjörn's two diaries, one covering his journey to America aboard the *Cobden* in 1849 and the second covering his momentous journey to the east coast of the United States in 1851 for the purpose of raising funds for his church construction in Illinois, brings to the reader two important documents, heretofore not easily accessible to the scholar.

Lars Paul Esbjörn, the first Swedish Lutheran clergyman to arrive in the Middle West for the purpose of ministering to the Swedish immigrants living in Andover, Galesburg and Moline, IL, had arrived in New York Sept. 23, 1849 together with a number of Swedish immigrants. His diary, which takes us from the preparations for the journey in Gävle, Sweden June 25, 1849, across the ocean with its trials and vicissitudes, ends abruptly Aug. 25, off Newfoundland. The entries give us a graphic story of a typical Atlantic crossing on board a sailing vessel in the early days of emigration. The diary is valuable from a genealogical point of view, in that Esbjörn relates some of the experiences of his fellow passengers. O. L. Nordstrom, professor at Augustana College, and editor of the publications of the Augustana Historical Society, did most of the translation of the Swedish manuscript, assisted by Gustaf Albert Andreen. Portions of the Swedish original had been published by Erik Norelius in *Tidskrift för Svensk evangelisk luthersk kyrkohistoria i N. Amerika (Journal for Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church History in North America)* as early as 1899.

The second diary covers L. P. Esbjörn's visit to the east coast of the United States in 1851 to raise funds for the construction of Lutheran churches in the Middle West. Esbjörn, who had been invited to come out to the Lutheran congregations in the East by William A. Passavant, noted Lutheran missionary and philanthropist in Pittsburgh, spent the time from April 21 to July 6 travelling widely, gathering money and meeting influential Lutheran clergymen and lay people. While Esbjörn's monetary gains were not very large, his chief benefactor was Jenny Lind, he nevertheless conveyed the story to his American Lutheran colleagues in the East that with the surging tide of Swedish immigrant arrivals in the Middle West, something had to be done to provide these newcomers with a church home.

His second journal was originally written in English, demonstrating Esbjörn's facility in the English language, after only eighteen months in this country.

One would have wished that more of the personalities which appear in both diaries, both on board ship, and in such cities as New York and Buffalo would have been further identified and documented. Many of these early Swedes were colorful personalities.

The Jenny Lind Chapel in Andover, IL, named for the great singer, who donated \$1,500 toward Esbjörn's church, is responsible for the re-publication of these two documents.

—NILS WILLIAM OLSSON

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**The Peterson Families from Lenhovda, Sweden.** By June Peterson Calin and Paul E. L. Peterson, Golden Willow Farm, Chisago City, MN 55013, 1982. v + 207 pp. \$15.00 + \$1.50 postage.