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Deaths of Swedes in the U.S. Marine Hospital, Charlestown, MA

Roger D. Joslyn, C.G., F.A.S.G.*

Among the records to be published in Vital Records of Charlestown, Massachusetts to the Year 1850, Volume II will be the deaths which occurred in the United States Marine Hospital in Charlestown, MA from 1809 through 1827. In almost all of the entries the place of the person’s nativity is shown. The following persons are those recorded as having been natives of Sweden. The ages of the deceased are given in years.

Charles Son, 52, d. 17 Aug. 1810.
Peter Peterson, 25, d. 16 Oct. 1812.
Peter Sanguist, 32, d. 27 Dec. 1812.
Augustus Coleback, 48, d. 18 June 1813.
Lars Larson, 33, d. 17 Dec. 1813.
Loverbs Hogerman, 21, d. 15 May 1814.
Christina Griefson, 31, d. 15 June 1814.
Peter Peterson, 38, d. 10 Jan. 1818.
Christian Kilburg, 32, d. 27 Sept. 1819.
Emanuel Orman, 32, d. 29 Jan. 1824.
Charles Anderson, 44, d. 29 Jan. 1826.
Jacob Thompson, 59, d. 19 Dec. 1826.

I suspect that most of these Swedes were sailors serving aboard U.S. or foreign merchantmen, who were hospitalized in Boston. Doubtless more information could be found on them by studying the crew lists in and out of Boston for the period.

One of the names on the above list, however, does turn up in the list of Massachusetts naturalizations. Christian Killberg (sic!), a resident of Boston, his nationality being Swedish, was naturalized in the Supreme Judicial Court of Suffolk County, MA 19 March 1811. No birthdate is cited, nor his date of entry into the United States.1

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1Massachusetts Naturalizations, Supreme Judicial Court of Suffolk Co., MA, Vol. 4 (1808-1811), No. 107, dextrigraph in the National Archives, Washington, DC.