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Handwriting solution 26

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The solution of the (Hand)writing Example XXVI

Transcription

Bonde-Lyckan

En åtta kors bonde som hafwer en häst,
Gudfruktig och ärlig god granne der näst
Sin Gud och Kung trogen med hwar mans attest,
wet inte af Länsman ej eller nån räst.
Bor långt upp i skogen har sällan nån gäst
Är fri från herrgård krig hunger och päst
Wäl brukar sin åker äng spade och tåft(?),
Förnögd med sit walmar skinbyxor och wäst.
Säms wäl med sin hustru den han sig har fäst
Bär omsorg för sina för Siälen dock mäst
Är litet låghalter god wän med sin präst,
Samt glad i sitt arbet, den mår aldrabäst.



Picture from the 1700s in Habo church (Väggö.)

Translation

The Farmer's Happiness

A farmer who owns eight cows and a horse
is God-fearing and has an honest neighbor
is true to his God and King according to every man's testimony
Does not know the bailiff and owes no taxes
Lives far up in the forest and seldom has guests
Is free from the manor war hunger and the plague
Keeps his fields and meadows well and works with his spade on his land
Content with his woolen clothes and leather breeches and a waistcoat
Is in accord with his wife, whom he has chosen himself
Cares for his family, but mostly for his soul
Is limping a little with one foot [and] is a friend of his priest
And happy with his work, is the one who feels the best!

Kistebrev, or pictures in a chest

The old typeface that was used for the handwriting in this issue is an example of the folk art that was common during the 1800s.

In those days it was not as common with any type of illustrations as it is today. Ordinary people in the countryside did not see illustrations often, unless the church was painted with religious stories from the Bible. Printers in the towns used to carve

woodcuts and color them. Later they were sold at the markets, perhaps as a gift from a young man to his best girl. The girl then pasted it on the inside of the lid of the chest where she kept her belongings when she moved as maid from farm to farm. The pictures were mostly religious, or at least moral, but could later be of popular song lyrics.

