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The Last Page

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The Last Page

Dear friends,

Time passes quickly and now we are far into the fall, winter is just around the corner and it is a perfect time to spend a couple of hours (or maybe more) indoors with the computer and the records; online, on microfiche, etc.

During the centuries Sweden has had an important history of immigration. Think of the German and Walloon smiths that came during the 1600s, the “slash and burn” finns, also during the 1600s, many Scots fought in the Swedish armies. Other categories were the surgeons and apothecaries, mainly from Germany, who came with the princesses who married Swedish kings in the 1600s, the merchants from England that taught the Swedes in Göteborg how to run successful businesses, etc.

So if you have ancestors who belonged slightly higher up on the social scale there are good chances to find an immigrant somewhere among the distant ancestors.

My maternal grandfather’s (*morfar*) lines have many persons with interesting surnames, including my faraway ancestor Blasius Ludovico Teppati, an Italian language master at Uppsala university around 1670.

This summer my family and I spent two weeks in Italy, our first visit there, and saw many interesting and beautiful scenes. At home again I happened to mention old Blasius to one of my sons, a big fan of Italy. This has triggered his interest in that part of his ancestors, and he has now started to do research on Blasius, and

is e-mailing an Italian “dottoressa”, who is researching in the time when our ancestor lived.

It is fun to see that at least some of my own genealogy interest is at last showing up in the next generation.

A sad thing is that the Swedish discussion board “Anbytarforum,” where many Swedish-Americans have been helped to find their roots is no longer working. It was supposed to be upgraded and renewed, but that has already taken six weeks, and no signs of progress, so we are worried about its future. It would be so sad also to lose all the information that has been added to the Anbytarforum during the last eight years.

Yours till next! *Elisabeth Thorsell*

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The cartoon of Nils William Olsson was drawn by his son Christopher in 1981.

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