The Old Picture
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On this page we publish old pictures sent in by our SAG readers. If you have a picture you want to see on this page, either send a digital copy, scanned in at no less than 300 dpi and saved as a jpg or tif file, or send a good paper copy to the editor at the address shown on the inside cover. Do not send any originals, as we can not accept responsibility for them. Neither can we promise to publish all pictures.

Stjärnarp – manor house and stable block, Eldsberga parish in Halland, ca. 1870–1890.

Tönnersjö Church, near Eldsberga, Halland, ca 1870–1890.

The story about these pictures can be found on the next page.
In August 2006, at an antiques show in Maine, I acquired five stereographs (stereoptican views) dating from ca. 1870-1890 of sites in Sweden. All bore on the reverse an old rubber stamp legend which evidently identifies the original owner: “Adolf B. Danielson, Providence, Minn.” They were named in brief pencilled inscriptions as follows:

1. “Stjernarp, Sweden” which depicts a manor house and stable, it was confirmed by Karna Olsson as Stjärnarp, a manor house in Eldsberga (Halland);
2. “Tönnersjö Kyrka,” a towered church standing in grassland, which the same lady tells me is 5.6 km north of Eldsberga;
3. “Tönnersjö Kyrka taget från söder”, the same, at a greater distance, seen from the south across a flat countryside;
4. “Tönnersjö Kyrka,” an interior view of the same church, with interesting vaulted ceilings, walls painted evidently white, two hanging chandeliers, organ pipes raised and framed on the wall, table (altar?) beneath with four painted cruciform motifs on what may be its drawers, with a ladder behind providing access to an opening. In the ceiling, the church fitted with dark, typically 19th century curved pews;
5. “Slatat [Slottet] Halmstad”, a town from across water, centered on a castle on the shore, being a well-known place in Halland also.

The pencilled identifications write the proper names in Swedish but no. 1 spells the country “Sweden,” in English. Did Mr. Danielson emigrate from this region and was sent the views? Or did he secure them on a return visit to his homeland? Curiously, it is Providence in Minnesota, which has perhaps been given a modern name for I cannot locate it in standard gazetteers or maps!

Francis James Dallett, FASG, Member, Swedish Colonial Society of Penna.

Editor’s note:
Providence, MN, was found on the Epodunk website to be a small town (186 inhabitants) in Lac Qui Parle county in Minnesota, west of Minneapolis and not far from the South Dakota border.

When checking the 1900 U.S. Census for Providence, one of the first families I noted was one where the head of household was Peter J. Danielson, born 1849 in Sweden, who had a son Adolph, born 1879 in Sweden. The year of immigration was given as 1884.

With some inventive searching in the database Emihamn, a Danielsson family was found to have emigrated from Tönnersjö in the spring of 1884. Somehow they were not listed in Emibas, which would have given the direct page in the clerical survey. Luckily enough the removal records up to 1890 were found on Genline.

Somehow the names of the children in the cl. survey do not tally with the names given in Emihamn, but they do tally with the 1900 Census, so it is the same family.

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A new site that may help you find your cousins

Fairly recently a new site opened in Sweden. Though it is in Swedish, it is called Birthday.se, and there you can enter a person's name and maybe find out where this person is today.

The basic search is easy: enter your cousin's first name in the window labeled Förnamn, and the surname in the one labeled Efternamn, and then click on the arrow to the right.

The result shows to the left of the screen, and it tells you your cousin's full name, the town she lives in and when she was born, and how many days to her next birthday, and her sign of the Zodiac. You can also click on avancerad sökning (advanced search) and be able to enter birthdates or street addresses.

This works well with more unusual names, but if you sign up for a free account, you will get much more exact information.

To do this you click on Skaffa konto (Get account) and fill out the form, and then you will receive an e-mail with log-in information. As a member of the site you get the cousin's exact mailing address, not just the town, and that will make it easier for you to contact your Swedish cousins.

With this information you can also go to the online phone book at
www.eniro.se
www.hitta.se
www.birthday.se

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