News from the Chesterton Review
News from the Chesterton Tribune from Porter County, Indiana

29 April 1886
Another train load of emigrants (sic) passed through this station on the Lake Shore road last Sunday, bound for the west. They numbered over 700. Over 3000 emigrants (sic) went through here in the past three weeks. At this rate the great West must be rapidly filling up. The greater part of emigrants (sic) now coming are Swedish. They seem to be of a better class, and have some money. Most of them are able to buy a farm and pay the money down. Minnesota and Dakota are getting the majority of these settlers. While in Valparaiso the other day, we discovered a practice, which we afterwards learned was quite common. An old Swede was sitting on the platform of the car, quietly smoking an elegant meerschaum pipe. As is common with old country people, the bowl was attached to a very long stem. Just as the train pulled out, a man darted along the platform, snatched the pipe, and before you could say Jack Robinson, disappeared. The old Swede was heart broken, and rung his hands in despair for his lost treasure, but he could not jump off to give chase to the thief. In Chesterton, this has been done several times. The old fellows stick their pipes out of the windows, and someone comes along and grabs them. One meerschaum was taken from a car window while the train was standing in Chesterton, that was sold twenty minutes afterwards for $12.

10 June 1886
Nine cars loaded with Swedish immigrants, bound for Minnesota and Dakota, passed through on the early Friday morning train. We are told by well informed Swedish people that the Swedish government is making strenuous efforts to stop emigration, and a bill is up providing that no citizen over 18 and under 35 years of age, can leave the country. If this is done, then the United States must retaliate by refusing the rest admittance.

Editor’s note: Will the nice person who sent this, please contact me? I have lost the contact information.

A different kind of document

At the House of Genealogy in Leksand the staff was a bit surprised one day. A man came in, carrying a cradle in his arms, and asked if he was related to it. It turned out that the cradle had names and dates carved on the endpiece. As the man knew the parish and the village, it was easy to look up the church records, but unfortunately those names were not found in his family. Later he donated the cradle to the House of Genealogy, where it is exhibited.

The first name is KMD, born the 28th of September 1799, which was found in the birth records of Al parish, Dala., as Carin (Karin) MatsDotter, daughter of Mats Matsson and his wife Kerstin Andersdotter of Kvarnberg.

The second child was MMS, born 4 August 1802, and the boy’s full name was Mats MatsSon.

The third was AMD, born 20 Oct.1803, and she was Anna MatsDotter.