

6-1-1987

## Ernest Nystrom's Death in Paris 1858

Erik Wikén

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag>



Part of the [Genealogy Commons](#), and the [Scandinavian Studies Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Wikén, Erik (1987) "Ernest Nystrom's Death in Paris 1858," *Swedish American Genealogist*: Vol. 7 : No. 2 , Article 2.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.augustana.edu/swensonsag/vol7/iss2/2>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Swedish American Genealogist by an authorized editor of Augustana Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@augustana.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@augustana.edu).

# Ernest Nystrom's Death in Paris 1858

Erik Wikén\*

In the March issue of *SAG* for 1985 on p. 16<sup>1</sup> a question is raised as to the identity of a tailor named Ern(e)st Nystrom, who is listed in *Daggett's City Directory for New York 1850-1851* and who was reported to have died in Paris 19 Oct. 1858 at the age of 35. He is said to have been born in New York, which would place his year of birth to ca. 1823.

One suggestion as to his identity has occurred to me. He could be the son of Johan Nyström, who is mentioned as being a merchant in New York. The latter was born in the St. Olai Parish in Norrköping 1 Sept. 1788, the son of an apothecary named Nils Nyström and his wife, Maria Christina Berholtz.<sup>2</sup>

The first mention of Nyström is in a letter from Klinckowström dated New York during the spring of 1819:

"S---r and N---m are here but they do not intend to return to the fatherland as they are planning to get married."<sup>3</sup>

N---M can be no one else but Johan Nyström.<sup>4</sup> S---r is Richard Seldener (1794-1854).<sup>5</sup>

The next reference is in a letter from the Swedish clergyman in Philadelphia, Dr. Nils Collin, addressed to Prof. C.A. Agardh of Lund, dated Philadelphia 30 March 1824—in which Collin suggests Johan Nyström and his brother in Göteborg as suitable contacts for the exchange of letters between Sweden and the United States.<sup>6</sup>

On 27 Nov. 1833 a passport was requested from the chancellery of the county (*län*) government of Göteborg and Bohus for Joh. O. Andrén, a bookkeeper, for a journey to the West Indies and America on behalf of J. Nyström, travel to be performed on a vessel belonging to Nyström. The passport was expedited the following day and on 13 Dec. of that year Andrén checked in at the passport control at Ft. Älvsborg enroute to America.<sup>7</sup>

The following year, on 30 Sept. 1834, an individual named J. Nyström, born in Sweden, appeared at the police headquarters in Göteborg, stating that he was residing at the home of Fredrik Nyström, a wholesale merchant, and identical with the brother referred to above.<sup>8</sup> The visit to Sweden lasted almost an entire year. It was not until 13 Aug. 1835 that J. Nyström, a wholesale merchant, received a passport in Göteborg for travel to Denmark, Germany, England and America.<sup>9</sup>

---

\*Dr. Erik Wikén is a frequent contributor to this journal.

On 19 Nov. 1835 an individual named Emanuel Petersson received a passport in Göteborg to America and informed the authorities that he was in the employ of John Nyström of New York.<sup>10</sup>

Johan Nyström was married twice in the United States, the first time to Mary Caroline Ogden, born in 1804 and who died in 1838. He married for the second time Frances Adeline Carmichael, in her second marriage. Two children are mentioned in the first marriage—Louise Adéle, born 14 Nov. 1825, married in 1851 to George Ticknor Curtis, and Emilie Christina, born 26 Oct. 1831.<sup>11</sup> Additionally the above named Ern(e)st Nystrom could have been born in the first marriage.

Johan Nyström was living in Morristown, NJ in 1843 when a Swedish visitor to the U.S., Eric Georg Danielsson, paid a call on him.<sup>12</sup>

Johan Nyström died in Morristown 26 Aug. 1848.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>10</sup>"Death in Paris" in *Swedish American Genealogist*, Vol. V. No. 1, March 1985, p. 16

<sup>11</sup>The St. Olai Parish Records in the District Archives (*Landsarkivet*), Vadstena; A. Levertin, C.F.V. Schimmelpfennig & K.A. Ahlberg, *Sveriges apotekarehistoria från Gustaf I: till närvarande tid*, I-IV (Stockholm 1910-1927), I, p. 496

<sup>12</sup>Axel von Klinckowström *Bref om de Förenta Staterna, författade under en resa till Amerika 1818, 1819, 1820*, I-II (Stockholm 1824), I, p. 142. Franklin D. Scott's translation *Baron Klinckowström's (sic!) America, 1818-1820* (Evanston, IL 1952) (Northwestern University Studies, Social Sciences Studies, No. 8) has substituted "Two younger Swedish businessmen" for the two names.

<sup>13</sup>Johan Nyström, merchant, received a passport in Göteborg 21 April 1817 for travel to England.—*Göteborgs och Bohus landskanslis passjournal (GBLP)* in the District Archives (*Landsarkivet*), Göteborg.

<sup>14</sup>Paul Wilstadius, "Släkten Seldener från Karlshamn" in *Genealogisk tidskrift*, Vol. XII, 1957, p. 215. Seldener arrived 11 July 1822 in New York, probably from a business trip to St. Croix (Nils William Olsson, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in New York 1820-1850* [Stockholm & Chicago, IL 1967] [*SPANY*], p. 3, n. 8). A son, Richard Seldener, Jr., a physician, arrived in Göteborg 25 Sept. 1851, carrying a passport issued in Washington, DC 20 June 1851 (*Göteborgs poliskammars journal över utländska resande* [GPKU] in the District Archives [*Landsarkivet*], Göteborg). He received a passport in the same city 12 May 1855 for travel to Copenhagen (GPKU). It is unknown if he had remained in Sweden during this time, almost four years.

Arriving together with Dr. Richard Seldener, Jr. was an American dentist, Augustus (Gus) John Bazier (1817-1892). He remained in Sweden and practiced dentistry both in Göteborg and Stockholm, except for a few years in Lausanne, Switzerland and Paris. He d. in Göteborg 22 Jan. 1892. A biographical dictionary of Swedish dentists refers to Bazier as "a dentist or rather an expert in gold fillings, Bazier was extremely popular with his patients, but at the same time was highly respected by his colleagues." (John Wessler, *Sveriges aflidne tandläkare 1700-1900* [Stockholm 1901], p. 13).

<sup>15</sup>Letter to C.A. Agardh in the Library of the University of Lund.

<sup>16</sup>*Göteborgs och Bohus landskansli*, Vol. E XVc: 1 n the District Archives (*Landsarkivet*), Göteborg; *GBLP*; *Alvsborgs fästnings arkiv*, Vol. 74 in the Royal War Archives (*Krigsarkivet*), Stockholm.

<sup>17</sup>GPKU. J. Nyström's domicile is here given as Lordres (=Londres?) and he possessed a passport dated 8 Sept. 1834 for travel to Sweden. This may mean that he was arriving from London.

<sup>18</sup>*GBLP*.

<sup>19</sup>*GBLP*. Petersson arrived in New York 29 Feb. 1836 and died there 1846 (*SPANY*, p. 17, n. 80; p. 267).

<sup>20</sup>Gustaf Elgenstierna, *Svenska släktkalendern*, 1913, p. 833.

<sup>21</sup>Danielsson, a Swedish metallurgical engineer, in a diary entry for 2 Oct. 1843 says: "At 4 o'clock in the afternoon I went by railroad to Morristown, having passed the Hudson River in a steam ferry. I arrived at tea-time, took tea at the hotel, and afterwards called upon Mr. Nyström. I was agreeably surprised by coming into the company of 3 young ladies (his daughters) besides a younger girl and 2 boys, all Mr. Nyström's children. One of them told my name, whereby I understood I was expected. Mr. Nyström soon made his appearance, but his wife not, being unwell. I passed a couple of hours pleasant enough. None of the young ladies, however, spoke Swedish. Saw paintings made by Mr. Nyström's oldest son (15 years), which made me anticipate his being a great painter in a time to come." (Manuscript diary in a private collection.)

<sup>22</sup>*Sveriges apotekarehistoria*, I, p. 496; Gertrude Barber, Index of Obituaries in the *New York Evening Post* (manuscript in the New York Historical Society [New York 1940], Vol. 25).