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# Ernst Wilhelm Holmstedt

## A Correction

Erik Wikén\*

By chance I have just become aware of the fact that the young lad, Ernst Wilhelm, who was b. illegitimate in Katarina Parish in Stockholm 31 Oct. 1828 and later became the fosterson of a widow named Hjertsell, is identical with Ernst Wilhelm Hjertsell, a bookbinder's apprentice in Nikolai Parish in Stockholm, who on 22 June 1852 departed from Stockholm for Hudiksvall. He therefore cannot be identical with the Ernst Wilhelm Holmstedt, about whom I wrote in *SAG* in 1983<sup>1</sup>.

A renewed examination of the parish registers and census lists for Stockholm reveal that Ernst Wilhelm Holmstedt's identity now can be established, at least partially. He was b. illegitimate in Nikolai Parish in Stockholm 14 Nov. 1828, the son of a 26-year-old mother, whose name is not divulged, consonant with the pattern at this time when it pertained to illegitimate births. Toward the end of the 1830s he can be located for a period of five years forward as living with a servant, later a seamstress, named Helena Catharina Holmstedt. He is listed alternately as her son and her fosterson. Since she was b. in Katarina Parish in Stockholm 16 Nov. 1799, it is uncertain if she is the 26-year-old mother from 1828. It should also be said that in the estate inventory in Stockholm in 1841, probated after her death, Ernst Wilhelm Holmstedt's name is not mentioned.

When Helena Catharina Holmstedt married a journeyman tailor named Otto Wilhelm Hellström 26 Sept. 1835, Ernst Wilhelm Holmstedt is listed in the Stockholm census for that year as residing with the newlyweds.

From the census of 1836 and up until the time that Ernst Wilhelm Holmstedt received a passport to Rostock in Germany 19 June 1843, he is listed as living at the home of the then rector of the German School in Stockholm, Albert Georg Frederick Frese.

This new identification does not necessarily upset the theory of the tie to Admiral Nordenskjöld based upon Kullgren's notes. The fact that Ernst Wilhelm Holmstedt resided at the home of such an important school personage as the rector of the German School indicates that the lad must have had a very prestigious guardian.

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\*Dr. Erik Wikén is a frequent contributor to *SAG*.

<sup>1</sup>See "Who Was Ernst Wilhelm Holmstedt?" in *Swedish American Genealogist*, Vol. III, No. 4, Dec. 1983, pp. 158-160.