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Genealogical Queries from the Swedish House of Nobles

Pontus Möller

From a reference in the March 1987 issue of *SAG* I learn that the Genealogical Section of the Swedish House of Nobles spends a lot of time and energy trying to find families in the U.S. who belong to the Swedish nobility but for some reason or another have lost contact with the country of their forefathers. Being the Chief Genealogist of *Riddarhuset* since 1963 and the editor of its publication, *Adelskalendern* since 1961, I can certainly confirm this. May I therefore take this opportunity to ask the readers of *SAG* if they know anything about the following members of the Swedish noble families in the U.S. and also perhaps about their descendants today. Every piece of information about them, their families, dates and places of death, whereabouts as well as old addresses will be highly appreciated.

(Editor's Note—Because of the specialized nature of this subject, these queries are not being listed in the regular Genealogical Queries Section of *SAG*, but are concentrated to this presentation. Any facts concerning any of the families listed below which might come to light should be forwarded to the Editor, P.O. Box 2186, Winter Park, FL 32790. They will be sent on to Stockholm but will also appear in future issues of this journal.)

-oOo-

ADLERCREUTZ

Countess Maria Josepha Adlercreutz, née Diaz-Granadas, b. ca. 1800 in Bogotá, Columbia, SA, became a widow in 1852 after the death of her husband, Count Fredric Thomas Adlercreutz, Swedish consul general in Carácas, Venezuela. In 1888 she was still alive in Philadelphia. When and where did she die?

ÅKERHIELM

Gunnar Åkerhielm, b. in Kumla (Öre.) 16 Aug. 1867, left Sweden in 1886 and subsequently became a businessman in Steger, IL. He m. Thilly Johnson in Chicago in 1891. They had two children—Ester, b. 1893 and Richard, b. 1898.

Baron Samuel Albert Vollrat Åkerhielm was b. in Fårösund (Gotl.) 15 May 1843, settled in Chicago, where he d. in 1909. He m. twice, and had two children in each marriage—Samuel Albert Vilhelm, b. 27 July 1877; Augusta Sigrid Ulrica, b. 6 July 1879; George Vollrat Herman, b. 25 Feb. 1893 and Gurli Hedvig Alete Mildred, b. 29 Jan. 1895.

BELFRAGE

Johan George Belfrage, b. in Tydje Parish (Älvs.) 7 Oct. 1829. A master mariner, he settled in San Francisco, where he d. in 1902. He was m. to Hedvig Olena Rosetta Hammarström, b., probably on Gotland, 24 June 1835. They had two sons—Johan Wilhelm Ferdinand, b. in Othem Parish (Gotl.) 11 May 1873, later a schoolteacher in San Francisco and George Frans Julius, b. in Göteborg 30 Jan. 1879, later a dentist in San Francisco.

BORGENSTIERNA

Anna Carolina Borgenstierna, b. in Göteborg 8 April 1886, emigr. to the U.S. in the early 1900s, m. Hjalmar Anderson, a foreman. In 1947 the couple lived in Aurora, IL.

BRUCE

John Patrik Bruce, b., probably in Stockholm, 19 June 1818. A master mariner, he settled in New York, where he m. Mary Frances Bullock. They had two children—James Robert, b. 1851 and Sophie Frances, b. 1853.

CEDERSTRÖM

Baron Bror Emil Cederström, b., probably in Kalmar *län*, 6 Oct. 1856, emigr. to the U.S. in 1888. In 1889 he was living in Milwaukee, WI as a draughtsman. In 1894 he m. Louise Sophia Dorothy Vullman of German origin. They had a son—Bror Harold, b. in Milwaukee 6 Jan. 1897.

DE REMEE

Called Natt och Dag in Sweden, it is the oldest Swedish noble family still surviving. The American branches descend from two brothers, who left Sweden in the 1860s—Lars Herman (1845-1914), a farmer in Bay City, WI and Åke Christopher Fredrik (1849-1894). Lars Herman had the following children:

- a. Adolph Fredrik (1867-1957), an architect in Red Wing, MN. His descendants are known.
- b. Ebba Lovisa (1869-1940), m. Axel Hjalmar Holmquist (1861-1939), a grocer in Red Wing. No further information needed.
- c. Axel Emil, b. 20 Aug. 1871. Farmer.
- d. Carl Åke, b. 3 March 1876. Engineer.
- e. Victor Alexis (1881-1942), farmer in Bismarck, ND. His descendants are known.
- f. Alpha Eugenia, b. 6 Feb. 1884. M. (1) O.F. Johnson, b. 20 Sept. 1877, a grocer; m. (2) Henry Larson.
- g. Emma Charlotte (1888-1944), m. Oscar Leonard Hoffman (1880-1957), a grocer in Red Wing. No further information needed.
- h. Ira Richard, b. 24 Oct. 1889.

Åke Christopher Fredrik had the following children:

- a. Emil Herman, b. 10 Nov. 1873. For some time restaurant owner in Phoenix, AZ.
- b. Selma Nathalie Elizabeth, b. 13 March 1876. Office clerk.
- c. Esther Agnes Emelie, b. 21 May 1878. Office clerk.
- d. Ernest George, b. 3 June 1880. Restaurant owner in Los Angeles, CA.
- e. Eugene Arthur, b. 10 April 1883. M. 17 Dec. 1904 Grace A. Haines at Marshall, MN.
- f. Edwin Herberg Leonard, b. 9 Oct. 1892.
- g. Albin Åke Emanuel, b. 2 Aug. 1894.

KRUUSE

Four brothers Kruuse, b. in Spårhult, Lugnås Parish (Skar.), settled in Chicago. They were:

- a. Axel Thure Reinhold, b. 27 Aug. 1860.
- b. Gustaf Adolph Sixten, b. 27 March 1863; thought to have d. 1893.
- c. Fritz Leonard Knut, b. 5 Dec. 1869.
- d. Fredrik Napoleon Hjalmar, b. 27 Jan. 1874.

Their first cousins also emigr. to the U.S. They were:

- a. Carl Gustaf Adolph Edward, b. 31 Aug. 1860.
- b. Axel Wilhelm Ludvig, b. 8 Feb. 1863. Both of them were b. in Raus Parish (Malm.). Nothing has been heard from them since 1893. The above mentioned six men furthermore had two second cousins, who also emigr.
- a. Adolph Fredrik, b. at Eng, Kil Parish (Värm.) 13 Feb. 1869.
- b. Carl Gustaf, b. also at Eng 31 Jan. 1874.

MÖRNER

Baron Otto Eric Hampus Stellan Mörner, was b. in Lomma (Malm.) and was living in Portland, ME ca. 1870, where he assumed the name of Mariner. He was a merchant and was m. to Eliza Jane Chindolph. They had a s., Frederick Oscar, b. in South Portland in 1879 who called himself Fred O. Mariner. On 3 June 1903 he m. in Portland Grace Ernestine Cummings, b. in Portland 10 Sept. 1879, the dau. of Clarence L. Cummings and Evelyn L. Edwards. Fred Mariner was a bookkeeper at the firm of Murdoch and Freeman in Portland. In 1905 the couple moved to Los Angeles, CA, where no trace can be found of them.

NETHERWOOD

Carl Adam Netherwood was b. in Gustavia, on St. Barthélemy 19 Oct. 1832. In 1866 he left this Swedish island to settle in the U.S.

ODENCRANTZ

Gustaf Mauritz Odencrantz, b. in Vårdsberg Parish (Ög.) 8 May 1848, emigr. to Texas 2 Dec. 1880. He was m. to Anne Frederikke Smith from Denmark. They had four children:

- a. Tulla Caroline Mariana, b. 9 Feb. 1880. University educated.
- b. Louise Frederikke Christine, b. 22 Aug. 1884. Engineer.
- c. Fredrik Christian, b. 14 June 1886. Engineer in New York. In 1917 he m. Elfreda Nagel, possibly from England. They had a s. named Fredrik Kirk, b. 1921.
- d. Anna Margareta, b. 20 Sept. 1888. In 1920 she m. George Stockbauer, b. 1881, an architect.

RAPPE

Baron Albert Joseph Rappe, b. in Chicago 30 Oct. 1903, the s. of Fritz Uno Rappe, engineer, and Emma Cadman. He became a banker in Los Angeles, where he m. twice—(1) Mamie Annette Phetteplace; (2) Roselyn Appelle. Both marriages were dissolved by divorce. He had two daughters, one in each marriage:

- a. Patricia Alberta, b. in Los Angeles 12 July 1926.
- b. Marlene, b. in Los Angeles 30 June 1933.

SILVERLOCK

The original Swedish name of this family was Silfverlås. Carl Gunnar Silverlock was b. in Vadstena, Sweden 15 Nov. 1878. He was an engine operator when he emigr. to the U.S. in 1906. He is said to have m. Carolina Eklund in the U.S.

STENBOCK-FERMOR

Count Bengt-Ivar Stenbock-Fermor was b. in Berlin, Germany 17 Aug 1936. In the 1970s he was a partner in the Central East Insurance Agency in Portland, OR. He m. (1) 1957-1959 Irene Elizabeth Davis, in her first marriage. He m. (2) in 1974 Beth Halverson, b. 8 Dec. 1946, a dance instructor. He had a s. in the first marriage—Nicholas Lee Magnus, b. in Portland, OR 13 July 1958.

SVENSKE

Johan Ulrik Svenske, b. in Norra Fjölle, Stavnäs Parish (Värm.) 22 June 1857. He was a railway employee in Chicago at the end of the last century.

TREFFENBERG

William Adolph Treffenberg, b. in Gustavia, St. Barthélemy 31 July 1825. In 1866 he was living in New York, where he was m. and had several children, whose names are not known. His brother, Emil Leopold Treffenberg, b. 1 March 1840, also in Gustavia, settled in New York as well.

UHR

In Sweden this family was known as Kuylenstierna. Theodore Kuylenstierna, b. in Varnum Parish (Värm.) 3 April 1870. He became an engineer and emigr. to the U.S. at the beginning of the 1890s. In 1895 he m. Anna Maria Robach, also from Sweden. They had one s., Ivar Uhr, b. in Detroit 27 March 1898. An engineer, he m. in Casper, WY 3 Dec. 1922 Erna Huotari, b. in Hayti (?), SD 19 Sept. 1903, the dau. of John K. Huotari and Anna Väyrynen. They had two children:

- a. Erna Elaine, b. in Pottstown, PA 1 Feb. 1925.
- b. Robert Ivar, b. in Chicago 19 April 1926.

WHEELER

This family was known in Sweden as Fahnehjelm. Three brothers emigr. to the U.S. ca. 1850. They were all b. in Stockholm:

- a. Carl Gustaf, b. 6 July 1821. A master mariner from the Navigation School in Gävle he settled in Kansas, where he supposedly d. in 1870. He participated in the Civil War. He was m., but not known to whom. He had a s. Henry Gustavus, who used the surname Wheeler, b. 17 March 1853.
- b. Anders Herman, b. 7 March 1823. He was a surveyor in Sweden. M. in America, not known to whom.
- c. Edward Rudolph, b. 12 April 1828. He was also a surveyor in Sweden. He supposedly d. in 1871. He was m. in America, unknown to whom.

Rambo Birthplace Found

As this issue goes to press word has been received from Peter Stebbins Craig of Washington, DC, that on a visit to Balch Institute in Philadelphia recently he found among the Amandus Johnson Papers, deposited there, a reference to the birthplace of Peter Gunnarsson Rambo. According to notes made by the Rev. Nicholas Collin copied from now-lost Gloria Dei church records 1697-1750, there is the following reference in Swedish, here translated:

Born in Sweden

Peter Rambo of Hisingen, 85 years and almost 8 months old,
buried Jan. 1698. Married 7 April 1647-12 Oct. 1693. Had with
Brita Matsdotter 4 sons and three daughters.

Hisingen is an island off the west coast of Sweden. A section of it is today a part of the city of Göteborg. On Hisingen is a bluff overlooking the Göta River named Ramberget. This fact and the discovery by Mr. Craig of the Collin note lend credence to the statement by Peter Rambo's grandson, Jacob Bengtsson, that his grandfather was first called Peter Gunnarsson Ramberg, but later changed it to Rambo. See Adolph B. Benson (ed.) *Peter Kalm's Travels*, p. 730.