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Additional Notes on Early Swedes in Mobile, AL

Nils William Olsson

In connection with the article "Declarations and Naturalizations of Swedes in Mobile, AL 1840-1906," published in *Swedish American Genealogist* in Sept. 1986, pp. 107-119, it is now possible to add new material concerning some of these Swedes, thanks mainly to two volumes of the marriage records of Mobile County, AL 1813-1875, published by Clinton P. King and Meriem A. Barlow.¹ Though some of this material was incorporated in the original article, a closer scrutiny of these fine lists has unearthed new information concerning the marriages of some of these early Swedes. The list given below enumerates the Swedes about whom more information has been garnered by the number they held in the original article. The reference to the King and Barlow volumes is provided in the right hand column, where the numeral I refers to the marriage list 1813-1855 and the numeral II refers to the second volume 1856-1875. The page numbers follow the referenced works, thus providing the reader with a ready reference guide. The author expresses his deep appreciation to Mr. King and Ms. Barlow for permission to make use of this valuable material. Warm thanks also go to the Genealogical Publishing Company of Baltimore, MD for its kind permission to use the first volume, which was published by this firm.

w = widowed at the time of the marriage.

No.	Name	Spouse	Date of Marriage	Source Vol./ Page
33.	BODELSON, Andrew	JOHNSON, Bridget	26/4 1848	I,13
35.	BROWN, Andrew	SWEET, Mary	25/1 1866	II,21
41.	CAMPBELL, John E.	JONES, Magdeline	27/12 1865	II,29
43.	CAMPBELL, Joseph J.	MELDON, Maggie	19/5 1875	II,29
45.	CAMPBELL, Thomas J.	MEYERS, Redia E.	23/5 1855	I,23
56.	CEDER, Andrew	FEIST, Philipine	30/12 1857	II,32
61.	COLBOURN, Charles S.	KENNEDY, Ann, w	15/6 1867	II,37
65.	DUPER TUIS, George	DEFFIN, Rebecca	8/3 1853	I,48
77.	FREEMAN, Charles E.	MOORE, Margaret Eliza	7/7 1875	II,71
82.	GREEN, Andrew	GIRARD, Laura L.	16/1 1855	I,67
107.	JACOBSON, John S.	RICE, Eliza J., w	11/10 1886	II,104
117.	JOHNSON, Samuel	VINCENT, Bridget, w	7/8 1864	II,104

134.	LAWSON, Lewis	GARNER, June	26/10 1844	I,95
143a.	LINDSTROM, Nicholas P. ²	JOHNSON, Caroline	30/1 1860	II,121
165.	MILLER, Francis W.	THOMPSON, Jane	26/7 1845	I,114
176.	NELSON, John	DOBSON, Elizabeth	21/6 1853	I,121
180.	NICHOLSON, Charles D.	LOGAN, Elizabeth J.	12/11 1855	I,122
185.	OBER, Peter G.	KERLINGER, Elizabeth	24/2 1864	II,152
195.	PAUL, James	LAWSON, Catherine Lena ³	24/4 1857	II,158
235.	ROHNEVICK, John	SNELMAN, Wilhelmina, w	19/2 1874	II,175
235.	ROHNVICK, John ⁴	LYONS, Geneva	10/5 1866	II,175
256.	SMITH, Isaac	BRATHARD, Ruthy	27/2 1824	I,154
257.	SMITH, Lawrence	REINHART, Rosalie	5/3 1872	II,189
258.	SMITH, Lorens	SCANLIN, Mary	17/4 1845	I,154
260.	SMITH, N.Henry	KILFIR, Sarah	21/10 1850	I,155
267.	STALL, Frederick	McREE, Catherine	3/9 1853	I,157
269.	SWAIN, Isaac	SCULLY, Mary	14/7 1847	I,161
273.	THOMPSON, Andrew	SIMS, Mary J.	21/10 1853	I,164
275.	THOMPSON, Solomon	FARLEY, Anna	4/2 1856	II,203
293.	WILLIAMS, Charles	HURSTED, Ann	10/6 1841	I,176
293.	WILLIAMS, Charles	PINKHAM, Hannah	10/7 1851	I,176
293.	WILLIAMS, Charles	STRILL, Barbara	10/2 1845	I,176
296.	WILLIAMSON, Charles	DAVIS, Elizabeth A.	23/8 1870	II,220
296.	WILLIAMSON, Charles	KEENAN, Margaret Ann	15/2 1871	II,220

The material cited above may be helpful in further identifying some of the early settlers in Mobile. Much of it should be used with caution, however, since many Swedes assumed common Anglo-Saxon names, which are difficult to trace. Without further evidence it therefore becomes a hazardous task to separate Swedes who adopted such surnames as Smith, Thompson and Williams, to name but a few, from Mobile residents who had an Anglo-Saxon origin.

Notes

¹Clinton P. King & Meriem A. Barlow, *Marriages of Mobile County, Alabama 1813-1855* (Baltimore, MD 1985), Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.; Clinton P. King & Meriem A. Barlow, *Marriages of Mobile County, Alabama 1856-1875* (Mobile, AL 1986), Alabama Ancestors.

²The bridegroom is probably Nils Petter Jonasson Lindström, a journeyman shoemaker from Stockholm who left Sweden for America 1859, at the age of 31. The bride is possibly Carolina Jonsson, also from Stockholm, 39 years old, who departed from Sweden at the same time as her husband-to-be. —*Personregister till Statistiska Centralbyråns i Stockholm förteckningar över emigranter 1851-1860* (Index of emigrants 1851-1860 from the Collection of the Swedish Central Bureau of Statistics) (SCB).

³Possibly Cajsa Lena Larsdotter, a servant from Madesjö Parish in Kalmar län, who departed for America in 1854. —*SCB*.

⁴Behind the un-Swedish name of Rohnvick may be the name of Rohnqvist, which would be difficult to use in America. We know that members of the Rohnqvist family on the island of Gotland came to the U.S. as early as 1852, when a Swedish immigrant, Johannes Petersson from Gotland, writing from San Francisco 15 Jan. 1852, states that "the lads Höglund and Rohnqvist from Visby greet their friends and relatives from San Francisco." —*Gottlands Läns Tidning*, No.13, 26 March 1852, courtesy Dr. Erik Wikén.