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Genealogical Workshop: Records of an Immigrant Family. Part 1

James E. Erickson

I am fortunate to have been able to systematically assemble, from a variety of public and private sources, the Swedish and American documents that chronicle the lives of my paternal great-grandparents (*farfars far och mor*)—John E. and Ida C. Erickson—who emigrated from Hjulsjö Parish in the province of Västmanland and settled near the small iron mining village of Stambaugh, Iron County, Michigan.¹ While their personal value to me, the self-appointed family historian, is inestimable, I believe they will also prove valuable to a larger audience, for they are representative of similar documents associated with hundreds of thousands of Swedes who emigrated.

The main objectives for publishing material highlighting my immigrant family are as follows: 1) to emphasize selected documents that all researchers should be aware of and could potentially locate for their own immigrant(s); 2) to transliterate and translate these exemplary documents; 3) to provide an opportunity for *SAG* readers to compare and contrast information contained in various documents for consistency, accuracy, veracity, etc.; and 4) to illustrate the subtle and/or substantial changes that are evident when an individual or family are followed chronologically through a series of documents.

The four documents highlighted in this article, the first of a four-part series, include a household examination roll (*husförhörslängd*),² an exit permit (*flyttningsbevis*),³ an emigrant contract (*utvandrare-kontract*) and a page from the Göteborg police department emigration registrations/passenger departure lists (*Göteborgs poliskammaras emigrantlistor*).

One major take-home lesson is illustrated herein—watch for (anticipate; expect) changes in personal names and/or variations in their spelling.⁴ A case in point is my great-grandfather, who was born Jan Erik **Jansson**, emigrated as Jan Erik Jansson **Philp**, and eventually became John Erick **Erickson** in the U.S. In this article, you will also see him incorrectly referred to as Johan and Jonsson.

¹ For further details see James E. Erickson, "The Hjulsjö (Öre.) to Stambaugh, MI Migration Axis," *SAG* XI (March 1991): 1-33.

² For further details see John Robert Anderson, "The Genealogical Workshop. 3. The Household Examination Roll," *SAG* V (June 1985): 65-72.

³ For further details see Nils William Olsson, "The Genealogical Workshop. 1. The Exit Permit," *SAG* I (June 1981): 71-77.

⁴ For further details see Nils William Olsson, "What's in a Swedish Surname?", *SAG* I (March 1981): 26-36; Henry Hanson, "Swedish American By-names," *SAG* II (December 1982): 173-176; Folke Hedblom, "Swedish Personal Names in America," *SAG* V (March 1985): 17-35; Nils William Olsson, "Naming Patterns Among Swedish-Americans," *SAG* (June 1994): 83-100.

Jönshytte

Personens namn, stånd, embete, yrke och näringsfång, (bäckstuga-, inhyses- och fattighjelm), nationalitet (om främmande), lyten (svagarna, blinda, döfsamma).	Födelse-		Äktenskap	Hittflyttad	Uppflyttad
	År.	Mån. och dag. (Söcken i Län, Stad)	Ehlt. eller Gifv. Ehlt.	från (Söcken i Län, Stad, eller pagina i Husförhörboken).	År, månad och dag.
1. <i>Torp[aren] Jan Erik Jansson Philp</i>	1849	5/11	1872	1866	
2. <i>H[ustr]u Ida Carolina Andersd[otter]</i>	1850	14/7			
3. <i>d[otte]r Elin Carolina</i>	1873	20/2			
4. <i>son Carl Oskar</i>	1876	8/2			
5. <i>d[otte]r Jenny Kristina</i>	1882	13/2			
6. <i>son Viktor Valdemar</i>	1885	15/1			

Jönshytte

Bevisat förhör och begitt H. H. Mattvard						Fräjl och särskilda anteckningar.	Bortflyttad	Uppflyttad
1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	Befolkning			
F. N.	F. N.	F. N.	F. N.	F. N.			till (Söcken i Län, Stad eller pagina i Husförhörboken).	År, månad och dag.
1/11	6/11				1. 2.		Amerika 20/1	1
1/11	1/11						8/2	2
1/11	6/11						8/2	3
1/11	1/11						8/2	4
1/11	1/11						8/2	5
1/11	1/11						8/2	6

Document 1. Household examination roll (*husförhörlängd*), Hjulsjö Parish (Väsm.), 1886-1890, AI:15b, page 380. The top image is the left-hand part of the page; the bottom image is the right-hand part of the page.

☞ Transliteration and translation of selected portions of document 1

Jönshytte Rote, No. 4, 1/16, Ösjöhöjden, Bredsjö

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Torp[aren] (the crofter) Jan Erik Jansson Philp | [born 18]49 5/11 |
| 2. H[ustr]u (wife) Ida Carolina Andersd[otter]r | [born 18]50 14/7 |
| 3. d[otte]r (daughter) Elin Carolina | [born 18]73 20/2 |
| 4. son (son) Carl Oskar | [born 18]76 8/2 |
| 5. d[otte]r Jenny Kristina | [born 18]82 13/2 |
| 6. son Viktor Valdemar | [born 18]85 15/1 |

Gift (married): 1/11 [18]72

Bortflyttad till (moved away to): N[orra] Amerika, 29/3 [18]88

58 f

(Fol. 380...)

Flyttningsbevis.

19

Jan Erik Jansson Philp
från *Ösjöhöjden*
och hans hustru *Ida Karolina Andersdotter*

Mannen	Kvinnan
är född den <i>1 Nov. 1849 (fjärde)</i>	är född den <i>14 Juli 1850 (fjärde)</i>
i <i>Hjulsjö</i> församling	i <i>Hjulsjö</i> församling
af <i>Örebro</i> län	af <i>Örebro</i> län
Har haft skyddskoppor, är döpt	Har haft skyddskoppor, är döpt
Innanläsning: <i>god</i>	Innanläsning: <i>god</i>
Kristendoms-kunskap: <i>mycket god</i>	Kristendoms-kunskap: <i>god</i>
Bovistat förhören	Bovistat förhören
Till H. H. Nattvard oförhindrad <i>är han</i>	Till H. H. Nattvard oförhindrad <i>är hon begärd</i>
<i>begärd H. H. Nattvard</i>	<i>H. H. Nattvard</i>
Eger medborgerligt förtroende	Eger medborgerligt förtroende

POLISKAMMAREN
GÖTTORP

Makarna, som blefvo i äktenskap förenade den *1 November* 18*72* (*Hjulsjö*)
aflytta till *N. Amerika* församling af *Örebro* län

mantalskrifven här till nästa år

Betygas *Hjulsjö* församling af *Örebro* län
den *29 Mars* 18*88* (*Årsmöte*)
A. J. Andersson
P. I.

Falsk Bokst.-Aktiebok
Blankett för Kyrka, No 10.

Vänd!

Document 2a. Front side of exit permit (flyttningsbevis) for Jan Erik Jansson Philp and Ida Karolina Andersdotter from Ösjöhöjden, Hjulsjö Parish (Väsm.).

☛ Transliteration and translation of document 2a

No. 13

Flyttningsbevis (Exit Permit)

(Fol. 380)

Torparen (the crofter) Jan Erik Jansson Philp.
från (from) Ösjöhöjden.
och hans hustru (and his wife) Ida Karolina Andersdotter.

Mannen (the man/husband) / Hustrun (the wife)
är född den (is born on) 5 Nov. 1849 (fyratioio) (forty-nine) / 14 Juli
1850 (femtio) (fifty)
i (from) Hjulsjö församling (parish) / same
af (in) Örebrö län (county), / same
Har haft skyddskoppor (has been vaccinated) är döpt (literally: is baptized) /
same
Innanläsning (reading aloud): god (good) / same
Kristendoms kunskap (knowledge of Christendom): någor[unda] god (fairly
good) / god (good)
Bevitat förhören (attended the household examination on) _____
Till H. H. Nattvard oförhindrad (free to attend Holy Communion) och har
begåte H. H. Nattvard (and has celebrated/partaken of Holy Communion) /
same
Eger medborgerligt förtroende (has the public trust) _____

oOo

Makarne, som blefvo i äktenskap förenade den (the husband and wife, who were
united in marriage on 1 November 18 72 (sjuttiotvå) (seventy-two)
afflytta till (moving to) N. Amerika församling af _____ län
mantalsskrifven här till nästa år (before the census next year)
Betygas (attested at) Hjulsjö församling af (parish in) Örebrö län (county)
den (on) 29 Mars (March) 18 88 (åttioåtta) (eighty-eight)

A. J. Andersson

P[astor] l[oci]

(Pastor in this place)

Vänd! (Over!)

Stamp: Poliskammaren i Göteborg (The Police Authorities of Göteborg)

Det åligger hvar och en, som under året inflyttat i en församling, att anmälans och medföljande personer ofördröjligen och inom 14 dagar efter inflyttningen, samt i af-
delser före den 9 November, samma år, hos pastor företa prestbevis från utflyttningen...
Skulle någon under tiden emellan den 8 November och årets slut hafva inflyttat i en annan församling än den, han förut tillhört, bör han sist på åttonde dagen efter inflyttningen hafva till pastor aflmnat prestbeviset. Underlåter någon att fullgöra dessa föreskrifter, böta 2 kronor 50 öre.

Husbonde vare, derest inflyttadt tjenstehjon icke redan hos pastor företott sitt prestbevis, pligtig att, vid vite af 2 kronor 50 öre, inom fjorton dagar, sodan tjenstehjonet inträat i tjonst, affordra och till pastor aflenna sådant betyg. Skulle hinder möta att på förenämnda sätt aflenna prestbevis, bör anmälan derom hos pastor göras inom den utsatta tiden. Undandragor sig någon att prestbevis sålunda tillhandahålla eller aflenna, drabbar ansvaret den trodskaude.

Böter för ådagalagd trodska att fullgöra de i mom. 2 och 3 af denna § gifna föreskrifter förnyas med enahanda belopp för hvarje månad, hvarunder prestbevisets aflmnande eller tillhandahållande fördröjes utöfver den bestämda tiden.

Innehafvare af fast egendom i stad eller på landet, eller den hane ställa företrädere, vare, vid vite af 2 kronor 50 öre, förbunden att, öfter det husbonde eller annan person, med hvilken aftal om bostad afslutats, inflyttat från en annan församling till huset eller på ögorne, derom underrätta pastor inom fjorton dagar från inflyttningen, såvida icke den inflyttande själf det redan tillkännagifvit. (Kongl. Majts Nådiga förordning angående mantals- och skattskrifningarnes förrättande den 20 Juli 1861 § 5 mom. 2, 3, 4 och 5.)

Tjonstehjon, som flyttar från en till annan församling, åligger att för kyrkoherden i den församling, dorifrån flyttning sker, företa sitt erklända afskedsbetyg, i brist hvarnf kyrkoherde prestbevis icke meddela må. (Kongl. Lagstadgan den 23 November 1838 § 46.)

Omstående Masar åtföljas härifrån af följande, icke konfirmerade, barn:

1. Sonen Carl Oskar, född i Hjulsjö 1876^{3/2}, döpt och vacc.
2. Dottern Jenny Kristina, född i Id. 1889²², döpt och vacc.
3. Sonen Viktor Valdemar, född i Id. 1885^{15/8}, döpt och vacc.
4. Sonen Erik född i Örebro 7¹⁰ Mars 1888
5. Sonen Salomon född i Stenbock 1¹⁰ Marts 1890
6. " Arthur född i Stenbock 1¹⁰ Marts 1894
- 7.
- 8.

A. J. Andersson
P.

Document 2b. Back side of exit permit (*flyttningsbevis*) for Jan Erik Jansson Philp and Ida Karolina Andersdotter from Ösjöhöjden, Hjulsjö Parish (Väsm.). Note: 1) the oldest daughter, Elin, is not listed here; only children *not* confirmed and 2) the names of the three youngest children (i.e., nos. 4-6) were penciled in on this document at some point after the family arrived in the U.S.

☞ Translation of document 2b

It is the responsibility of each person who has moved into a parish during the year to without delay or within 14 days after the move, and at the very latest before 9 November the same year, present a moving certificate from clergy in the parish he/she moved from regarding self and others in the moving party. If somebody moves to a different parish than he previously belonged to during the time between 8 November and the end of the year, he should present the moving certificate to the pastor no later than on the eighth day after moving in. If someone neglects to follow these rules, he will be fined 2 *kronor* 50 *öre*.

The head of the household is responsible for collecting and handing in notification of moving for hired men and women, unless they have already presented their moving certificate, within fourteen days after the hired hand has reported for work. This is under penalty of a fine of 2 *kronor* 50 *öre*. If there should be a problem with presenting the moving certificate as described above, the pastor should be notified about this within the set time. If a person neglects to obtain or present moving certificate, the responsibility rests on the negligent party.

The fine for negligence to comply with the rules described in sections 2 and 3 of this paragraph will be re-applied in the same amount each month presentation of the moving certificate is delayed beyond the set time period.

Owners of real estate in the city or in the country or any person representing the owner is under obligation to notify the pastor, under the penalty of a fine of 2 *kronor* 50 *öre*, within fourteen days after the head of household or other person with whom a contract has been signed regarding the home has moved from another parish to the house or property. This is in case the moving party has not handled the notification himself. (Royal Majesty's Command regarding assessment of land and establishing of tax laws 20 July 1861, paragraph 5, sections 2, 3, 4 and 5.)

Hired men and women who move from one parish to another are responsible for submitting their obtained testimonials to the pastor in the parish they leave. Neglecting to do so results in the pastor's refusal to produce a moving certificate. (Royal sub statute 23 November 1833, clause 46.)

Husband and wife mentioned on the back are accompanied by the following, *not* confirmed, children:

1. *Sonen* (the son) *Carl Oskar, född i* (born in) *Hjulsjö 1876 8/2, döpt och vacc[inerad]* (baptized and vaccinated)
2. *dotter* (daughter) *Jenny Kristina, född i d[itt]o 1882 13/2, döpt och vacc.*
3. *Sonen Viktor Valdemar, född i d[itt]o 1885 15/2, döpt och vacc.*
4. *Sonen Fritz, född i Cannon Falls; Minn[esota] 1888*
5. *Sonen Solomon, född i Stambaugh, Mich[igan] 1892*
6. " *Arthur, född i Stambaugh, Mich[igan] 1894*

A. J. Anderson, P[astor] l[oci]

Agens Hufvudkontor i Liverpool: The Cunard Steamship Company, Limited, 1 Rumford Street. N:o 17965 Utvandrar-Kontrakt emellan Charles A. Berglund, Göteborg, befullmäktigad utvandrar-agent, samt nedanstående utvandrarar:

Jag Charles A. Berglund bekänna härmed att, på mitt här nedan skeddare befärlighet, att utvandrarar till ... i Nord-Amerika befullmäktigad utvandrar-agent, samt nedanstående utvandrarar:

Hanan från Göteborg den ...

Utvandrarar namn	Ålder	Redskaps värde
Johan Erik Jonsson	35	25
Barbro Karolinska	25	10
Olav	16	10
Rosa	14	10
Jonny	12	10
Walter	10	10

Utvandringen skall ske till ...

Antagener: J. E. Jansson

Document 3. Emigrant contract (Utvandrar-Kontrakt) No. 17965 for the Johan Erik Jonsson [sic] family dated Göteborg, 6 April 1888, and signed by Chas. A. Berglund and J. E. Jansson. The original document measures 30 x 26 cm.

Transliteration and translation of document 3

• Small text across the top of document (L - R):

- Agen ?, Bar ? [document damaged; top layer of paper removed by tape]
- Hufvudkontor i (main office in) Liverpool: The Cunard Steamship Company, Limited, 1 Rumford Street
- Agent i (in) Boston: Alexander Martin, 99 State Street
- Agent i (in) New York: Vernon H. Brown & Co., 4 Bowling Green

• Main heading and middle portion of document:

N:o 17965, Utvandrar-Kontrakt emellan Charles A. Berglund, Göteborg, befullmäktigad utvandrar-agent, samt nedanstående utvandrarar:

(Number 17965, Emigration Contract between Charles A. Berglund, Göteborg, authorized emigration agent, and the emigrants mentioned below:)

Utvandrarnes namn. (Name of emigrants.)	Ålder. (Age.)	Sednaste vistelseort. (Last place of residence.)
Johan Erik Jonsson	35.	Hjulsjö Socken (Parish)
Ida Karolina	35.	Örebro län (county)
Oskar	11.	
Elin	15.	
Jenny	4.	
Viktor	3.	

Göteborg den (on) 6 April 1888. Chas. A. Berglund.

Uppvisadt och godkänt såsom upprättadt i öfverensstämmelse med Kgl. Förordningen 4 Juni 1884, intygas, Göteborg i Poliskammaren den 6/4 1888.
(Presented and accepted as written in accordance with the Royal Ordinance 4 June 1884, verified, Göteborg, by Police Authorities 6/4 1888)

• Lower left-hand corner of document:

Antages (Accepted by): *J. E. Jansson*

• English text on right side of document:

I Charles A. Berglund hereby undertake, upon the following terms, to forward from Gothenburg to New York, N.Y. in North America, the emigrant named below for the sum of \$90— Kronor, which amount has been duly paid and includes all ordinary charges upon landing in America.

The journey takes place from Gothenburg the 6/4 by steamer steerage passage to Hull in England and thence, within 48 hours after having passed the customs, to Liverpool by rail, 3:rd class, and from Liverpool within 12 days after arrival there, by Ocean steamer steerage passage, to New-York or Boston in North America. From New-York or Boston the Emigrant will be forwarded, immediately after having passed the customs and complied with other formalities, by rail 3:rd class to New York.

At the abovementioned fare the emigrant will be supplied with good and sufficient provisions and attendance from leaving Gothenburg until arrival at place of landing in America, lodging during the stay in England and conveyance and care of effects not exceeding 10 cubic feet space by steamer and 150 lbs weight by railway. Effects of children between 1 and 12 years are carried free at the rate of half of what has been beforestated for effects to America, where no free conveyance of effects of children under 5 years is allowed.

The emigrant is entitled to a check for such effects, as are not under his own care, and will receive for same consisting of ____ packages and numbered ____ a compensation not exceeding Kronor 50 p[e]r adult, and not exceeding Kronor 25 for children between 1 and 12 years, in the event of nondelivery of the effects on surrender of said check upon arrival at place of landing in America.

In case of non-fullfilment [*sic*] of this contract by me or misinterpretation on either side should arise, I agree to submit to the provisions contained in paragraph 5 section 6 of the Royal Ordinance of the 4:th June 1884.

If the emigrant has any reason for complaint of not being treated in accordance with the terms stipulated in this contract, a report thereof should be made to the nearest Consul as soon as circumstances admit.

Förteckning		Berglund		Romeo		som	
Öfver utvandrare, som af undertecknad befordras med Ångfartyget		den 6 April 1888 härifrån afgår till		Hull		[England]	
Utvandrarens yrke och namn	Hemort till län och socken	Ålder	Man	Ordn	Sexu	Bestämmdsort	
Johan Erik Jansson	Stenlaga, Bräcke	35	1	1	1	Malmö	
Beck		35	1	1	1		
Ellen		11	1	1	1		
Jenny		15	1	1	1		
Nick		4	1	1	1		
		3	1	1	1		

Document 4. A page from the Göteborg police department emigration registrations (*Göteborgs poliskammars emigrantlistor*), E IX 34, 6 April 1888, Contract Number 17965, for the ship *Romeo*. For the sake of brevity and clarity, this document has been edited, i.e., material has been removed between the heading shown and the entry for the Johan [*sic*] Erik Jansson family.

☞ Transliteration and translation of document 4

Heading: C, IV, Berglund

Förteckning öfver utvandrare, som af undertecknad befordras med Ångfartyget Romeo som den 6 April 1888 härifrån afgår till Hull [England].

(List of emigrants, who of the undersigned are transported by the steam[ship] Romeo which on 6 April 1888 from here sails for Hull [England]).¹

- Column 1: Kontraktets N:o (The contract's number): [179]65
 Column 2: Utvandrarens yrke och namn (The emigrant's occupation and name): *Johan [sic] Erik Jansson; Ida; Oscar; Elin; Jenny; Victor*
 Column 3: Hemort till län och socken (Place of residence to county and parish): *Hjulsjö, Örebro L[än]*
 Column 4: Alder (Age): 35; 35; 11; 15; 4; 3
 Column 5: Man (Man/Male): 3 [in family]
 Column 6: Qvinna (Woman/Female): 3 [in family]
 Column 7: Summa (Total): 6 [in family]
 Column 8: Bestämmelssort (Destination): *New York*

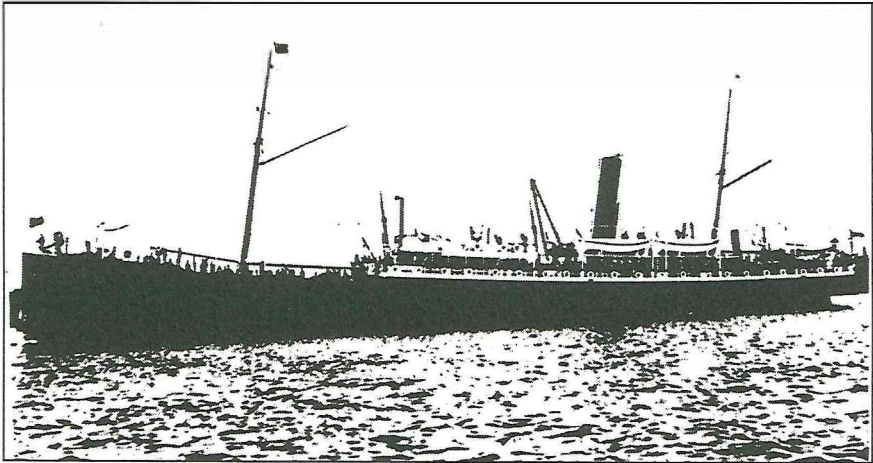


Fig. 1. Photograph of the *Romeo* courtesy of Svenska Emigrantinstitutet (Swedish Emigrant Institute), Växjö, Sweden.

¹ For more details see Nils William Olsson, "Emigrant Traffic on the North Sea," *Swedish American Genealogist* IV (December 1984): 158-163.