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# Additions and Corrections to *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in the United States 1820-1850 (SPAUS)*

**Erik Wikén\***

The following additions and corrections should be made to Nils William Olsson & Erik Wikén, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in the United States 1820-1850 (SPAUS)*, published by the Royal Library in Stockholm as No. 55 in its series *Acta Bibliothecæ Regiæ Stockholmiensis* (Stockholm 1995).

638. Subsequent to Ahlmark's arrival in the United States the second time, he was employed by the manufacturing establishment of Mrs. W. Adams & Co on Fulton Street in Boston, MA. He joined the Union Army during the Civil War, first using his own name, later changed to William Brantberg (his mother's maiden name). He was captured by the Confederate forces but released. After his discharge he spent some time in a hospital in Washington, DC, before returning to Sweden. - The archives of the Swedish-Norwegian Diplomatic Mission in Washington, DC 1865; despatch forwarded by the Swedish-Norwegian minister in Washington, DC, dated 11 July 1865 to the Royal Foreign Office, all in *RA*, Stockholm.

692-694. Aboard the *Clarissa* from Göteborg, which arrived in New York 15 Aug. 1842 were the following:

692. E. Newbey                      26 M Farmer

693. Sophia Newbey                30 F Farmer

Birgitta Andersson, an outstanding amateur researcher of local history, residing in Voxna Bruk (Gävl.), has suggested that these two individuals are none other than the well-known Swedish-American Erik Ulrik Norberg (b. 1813) and his sister Edla Sophia Norberg (b. 1806), despite the discrepancy in their ages on the manifest. One can then add that the travelling companion

694. G. Burcanan                    24 M Farmer

ought to be Sven Gabriel Björkander. There exists a letter written by Björkander, dated Koshkonong, WI 2 April 1849 and published in *Skaraborgs läns tidning* 6 June 1849, which begins in this manner:

“At the end of May 1842 I departed forever from my precious homeland in the company of Sheriff Norberg and his sister...”<sup>1</sup>

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Erik Ulrik Norberg's life and adventures in the United States are well-known. He m. in 1848 Brita Jansdotter from Österunda Parish (*SPA US* 1366) while his sister Edla Sophia arr. in Bishop Hill and m. Johan Hellsén (*SPA US* 2093).

Björkander was b. in Jula, Ekby Parish (Skar.) 25 March 1818 (thus the right age), s. Pehr Björkander, innkeeper (*gästgivare*), and Lisa Svensdotter. He mentions in the letter referred to above some of his experiences in the U.S. He first arr. in Pine Lake, WI but in Oct. 1843 departed for New Orleans. In the spring of 1845 he moved to Koshkonong, WI where he bought a tract of land. He remained unmarried. A news item in *Skaraborgs läns tidning*, dated 5 Nov. 1851, tells of his death 15 July 1851 and that he had willed his property to his father which was in the care of his friend and neighbor, Carl Gustaf Hammarqvist (*SPA US* 775).

777. Lars Wåhlén died 22 April 1878 and his wife Sara Regina Gasman 1 Feb. 1901. - *NI*, I, p. 193.

805. The author of the anonymous letter, dated Stoughton, WI 28 Oct. 1849, was Jacob Theodor Berggren. He was a partner of Jönsson in Sunnanå, Holm Parish (Älvs.) and later in Stoughton. He was b. in Östad Parish (Älvs.) 5 Feb. 1819, s. Carl Lorentz Berggren, clergyman (*kyrkoherde*), and Elisabeth Carlgren. After his arrival in the United States he volunteered for the War with Mexico 13 July 1847 (he is listed as Jacob T. Bergman). He was discharged 19 Aug. 1848. He left Stoughton and established himself as a tanner and the proprietor of a leather goods business in Red Wing, MN. - *GLA; USAE*, p. 5; *ÖÄ*, IV, pp. 34, 320.

1270. His sister was Laura Andrea Helena Kamp, b. 27 April 1820, who emigr. 1850 with pp. issued in Göteborg 27 June. As her brother, she also ended up in California, where she m. 22 April 1852 Gustaf Bergvall. - *GLA; Kullgren, Diary*.

1563. A brother, Eric Ersson, b. in Nora Parish (Väst.) 3 Aug. 1816, emigr. 1850 without his family. At first he arr. in Bishop Hill, later moving successively to Kewanee, Altona and Nekoma, IL. He m. in Kewanee in 1855 Brita Pehrdsdotter (Peterson). By this time his wife in Sweden had been granted a divorce. A letter from Eric Ersson exists, dated Bishop Hill 9 Nov. 1850. - *ULA; BHR*, 1851, p. 10; *JP*, p. 307; the letter published by Lilly Settor Dahl in *Vår hembygd*, 5, 1981, pp. 406-407 (translated in *Western Illinois Regional Studies*, I:2, 1978, pp. 132-133).

2068. Johanna Charlotta Björk's father, John Björk, was a sailor, who came from Torslanda Parish (Göt.), and who arr. in Bishop Hill in 1847. His wife, Carolina Carlsdotter, in order to join her husband, did not emigr. until 1855, when she came with their four children. In 1867 he family joined the Adventist Church in Bishop Hill. - *GLA; BHR*, 1851, p. 96 and 1867, p. 10; Widén, *När Svensk-Amerika grundades*, p. 35; Elmen, *Wheat Flour Messiah*, p. 120; *JP*, p. 306; *History of Henry County*, p. 491.

2202. Brita Olsdotter's second husband was Erik Andersson Lindström, b. in Sör Bångsbo, Österunda Parish (Väst.) 24 Dec. 1822, s. Anders Andersson, farmer, and Anna Greta Ersdotter. He emigr. from Biskopskulla Parish (Upps.) and arr. in Bishop Hill, where he became a trusted member of the colony. Several letters by Lindström, mailed in the 1860s to J.E. Ekblom, speak of conditions in the colony. - *ULA*; *BHR*, 1851, pp. 5, 56; Widén, *När Svensk-Amerika grundades*, pp. 39-41, 106-107, 110; *JP*, p. 309 (the wife is named erroneously as Brita Ersdotter); *SI*, III, p. 41; *History of Henry County*, p. 498.

2853. Steffan Steffansson was b. 15 Aug, 1807, *not* 1897.

3373. Nils Jansson Nilsson, farmer's s. from Alfta Parish (Gävl.), received pp. in Gävle 5 June 1849. He is identical to Nils Jonsson Norrman, b. in Näsbyn, Alfta 3, April 1827, s. Jonas Jonsson, farmer, and Christina Andersdotter and brother of Carin Jonsdotter (*SPA US* 3490). He returned to Sweden 1852 or 1853 and d. in Alfta 29 June 1895. - *HLA*; *GäLP*; *AS*, p. 1034; information courtesy Birgitta Andersson.

3669. Her brother, Hans Paulus Grydén, was b. in Björsäter Parish (Ög.) 30 Aug. 1814 and emigr. 1839 with pp. issued in Göteborg 11 July. He became a member of Svenska Societeten (The Swedish Society) in New York 24 May 1841. He settled in Cincinnati and m. in 1854 an American woman. In 1866 he and his wife moved to Chicago. - *VLA*; *GBLP*; the archives of The Swedish Society in New York (deposited in *ED*); Axel Felix, *Langt fra Danmark* 3, p. 260; *JP*, p. 426; *PB*, 1910, p. 72.

4246a. A check of the manifest for *Maria*, which arr. in New York 3 Sept. 1850, indicates that the severed ingress, which gives the data of the vessel, has for some reason been pasted over and covers two lines of passenger information. A note also reveals that the total number of passengers was 113 (No:s 4247-4358 account for only 112 passengers). As surmised correctly, No. 4247 refers to Pehr Thomasson and his large family (No:s 4248-4255).

Who then was the 113th passenger, who should be given No. 4246a? It is possible to identify this individual with a great deal of certainty. The Swedish-Norwegian consul in Hamburg, Germany, informed the Swedish Board of Trade (*Kommerskollegium*) 3 Dec. 1850 that the former juror of the assizes, Göran Göransson, had d. 17 Oct. 1850 on a journey from New York to Hamburg on board the bark ship *Elbe*. A further reading of the correspondence indicates that Göran Göransson, before emigrating, had been residing in Järvsö Parish (Gävl.). Knowing this, it becomes easy to identify him as the brother of Carin Göransdotter, the wife of Pehr Thomasson, b. in Järvsö 2 July 1800. He also received pp. in Gävle 10 June 1850, the same day the Thomassons received theirs. For some unknown reason he must have returned to Europe immediately after he arr. in the U.S. A further reading of the official correspondence shows that Göransson had among his personal papers a promissory note signed by Pehr Thomasson. Even ten years later

the Göransson heirs in Sweden were corresponding through the Swedish Foreign Office concerning this debt. - *HLA*; *RA*.

4932. Anders Andersson Östlund was murdered by another Swede, N.A. Johanson, travelling near Dubuque, IA 22 July 1858. Axel Fredrik Hellberg (*SPAUS* 740), a wholesale druggist in Dubuque, informed Johan Wallin<sup>2</sup> in Bishop Hill, a childhood friend of Östlund, concerning the murder and Wallin forwarded the information to the Swedish-Norwegian diplomatic representatives in the United States as well as to Östlund's parents in Sweden. - The archives of the Swedish-Norwegian diplomatic mission in Washington; specific court cases completed in 1861, *RA*.

4965-5012. Christina Källström, mentioned on p. 460, emigr. from Nysätra Parish (Upps.) 1846 and received pp. in Uppsala 27 June together with her illegitimate s. Pehr Erik Källström. If the latter really accompanied his mother, he must have returned to Sweden and emigr. once again in 1850 with the *Oregon*. Christina Källström was b. in Åloppe, Nysätra, 21 Oct. 1790, dau. Jan Olofsson, farmer (*skattebonde*), and Carin Olofsdotter. At the time she emigr. she was m. to Matts Dahlberg, who stayed in Sweden. She arr. in Bishop Hill and is named in the *Register* as the widow Stina Dahlberg. In 1867 she joined the Adventist Church in Bishop Hill. - *ULA*; *BHR*, 1851, p. 3 and 1867, p. 41.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> This letter was reprinted in the newspaper *Gefle* 16 June 1849 and had the following introduction-  
 "At the end of May 1842 I went on board the ship *Minnet* in Gefle and departed forever from my precious homeland in the company of Sheriff Norberg and his sister..."

Unfortunately one has to point out that the newspaper *Gefle* had falsified the wording of the letter. The original publication does not mention Gävle nor the *Minnet*. Ingvar Henricson has shown that *Minnet* left Gävle for the Mediterranean 8 Jan. 1842 and did not return to Gävle until 26 May. In August of the same year the vessel began a new journey to the Mediterranean. One has to assume that the newspaper *Gefle*, out of false local patriotism, sought to duplicate the *Minnet's* historic voyage in 1841 with Gustaf Unonius and his party (*SPAUS* 640-644). Entirely erroneous is of course Stig Dagman's statement in *SAG* 1983, p. 165 that Björkander arr. in New York 16 Aug. 1843 on board the *Svea*.

<sup>2</sup> Johan Wallin was b., as was Östlund, in Ovansjö Parish (Gävl.) and emigr. 1851 with pp. issued in Gävle 2 Aug. He came to Bishop Hill, where he wrote several letters to *Norrlands-Posten* in Gävle. In 1867 he returned to Sweden and in 1869 began an almost decade long journey to the Near East. He came back to Sweden but emigr. after a few years once again in 1881 to Bishop Hill, where he d. after a year or so. - Robert Murray, *Resor till heliga mål. Svenskar i Rom och Jerusalem* (Stockholm 1974), pp. 113-128.