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Swedish American Directories

Tell G. Dahllöf*

I have read Nils William Olsson's article, *A Sweish Directory for Boston 1881*, published in the September issue of *SAG* (Vol. II, No. 3), and while I found it extremely interesting and informative, I must call his attention as well as readers of *SAG* to the fact that Eric Wretlind's Boston Swedish directory was not the only such directory published in Swedish America. Actually I know of at least six other directories and guides, which in one way or another parallel Wretlind's edition. Three of these works are guides and three of them are directories. They are listed here in a chronological order.

The earliest is one for New York and its environs called *Svensk illustrerad Vägvisare öfver New York, Brooklyn och Dess Omgifningar* (*Guide to New York, Brooklyn and Surrounding Areas*), published by Wretlind and Kassman in New York in 1881. No first names are given for either of the compilers, but I assume that Wretlind is identical with Eric Wretlind, the Boston Directory's publisher. The New York guide does not list a publisher or a printer, but was registered with the Library of Congress in Washington, DC. The work in question contains 168 pages and though it is not a directory, such as the Boston edition, it contains information useful to the Swedish American reader. A few Swedish names occur, such as the publishers of the four Swedish American newspapers, which were printed in New York at this time — *Nordstjernen* (*The North Star*), *Svenska Posten* (*The Swedish Post*), *Folkets Röst* (*The People's Voice*) and *Monitoren* (*The Monitor*). Other Swedish names are to be found in the 22 pages of advertising, interspersed in the text. The text itself concentrates on such useful hints as tables of weights and measures, with conversion from English to Swedish and vice versa, the names days of the year and a few poems, among them an ode which numbers a total of 21 verses, written by the Swedish Norwegian "professor and engineer, Mr. A. W. Almqvist, here writing under the pseudonym of Wava" on the occasion of the celebration at the Swedish and Norwegian Society in Brooklyn Nov. 4, 1875.

Assuming that Wretlind, who was the co-author of the New York guide, is identical with Eric Wretlind of Boston, he must have done his New York

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book either before or simultaneously with the Boston effort, which saw the light of day in late December of 1881.

SVENSK
 Illustrerad Vägvisare
 ÖFVER
 NEW YORK, BROOKLYN
 — OCH —
 DESS OMGIFNINGAR.
 UTGIFVEN AF
 WRETLIND & KASSMAN.
 — NEW YORK —
 1881.



Title page from Wretlind's and Kassman's *Guide*

The next directory to appear on the scene was one devoted to the Swedes residing in Omaha and South Omaha, NE, published by Carl Bohmansson¹ in Omaha in 1899. The volume was printed at the printing shop of F. C. Festner in Omaha and measures approximately $9 \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ in. and contains 94 pages, of which nine pages were used by 18 advertisers. Among the latter is Bohmansson himself, who announces his printing shop and his ticket business, specializing in steamship tickets to Scandinavia. He also ran a currency exchange and had a translating service which included Swedish, English, German and Danish.

Eleven pages are filled with general information of all kinds, such as the U.S. naturalization laws, the names of the Swedish-Norwegian consuls in the U.S., the voting rights, state by state, a list of the Swedish secular societies in Omaha as well as a directory of the Swedish churches. Among the Swedish societies are *Svenska Bibliotheks-sällskapet* (*The Swedish Library Society*), *Svea Nora Orden* (apparently a mutual benefit society), *Svenska Sångföreningen Norden* (*The Swedish Singing Society Norden*), *Svenska Musik-Bandet* (*The Swedish Music Band*) and a Swedish chapter affiliated with the International Order of the Good Templars. The four main

Swedish church denominations are all represented — the Lutherans, the Methodists, the Baptists and the Mission Covenanters.

The main body of the directory is given over to the listing of some 3,300 Swedes living in Omaha and South Omaha. Each entry lists the name, occupation and residence of each person. If the person listed is single, the place where he or she boards is sometimes listed. Occasionally the employer's name is also given. No information is available, however, as to the place of origin in Sweden, the year of birth or the year of arrival in the United States. Neither are there any illustrations.

In his introduction Bohmansson points to the fact that his directory was the first Swedish city directory published in the Western States. He anticipates his critics by saying that it would be well-nigh impossible to publish an error-less directory, since people were always on the move, while others had changed their names, making it difficult to ascertain of what country he or she had been a native.

Bohmansson goes on to extol the virtues of the city of Omaha, a city which in eight short years had grown from a population of slightly more than 30,000 to 125,000. This progress he ascribed to Omaha's geographical location as well as the hard work carried out by the pioneers, of which not a few had been "our countrymen". Some of the Swedes had entered such professions as medicine, pharmacology, publishing, the law (many Swedes were justices of the peace), while others were book dealers and clothing merchants.

The publisher points with pride to the fact that Omaha had six daily newspapers in English and as many weeklies in addition to two German language newspapers, three Bohemian, two Danish and four Swedish. Unfortunately he does not name the Swedish newspapers nor their editors. In an advertisement in his directory, Otto Wolff, the publisher of the Danish language newspaper *Dannebrog*, boasts that his newspaper has the largest circulation among Omaha Scandinavians.

Chicago Svenska Adresskalender för 1904 (*The Chicago Swedish City Directory for 1904*) is the most impressive of all the city directories which I have seen so far. It lists more than 17,000 Swedes and their addresses. Many hundreds of the names reappear at the end of the directory in the "yellow section".

The volume was published by Henning Wennersten, 1006 Seminary Ave., the owner of a malt factory at the same address. The book contains 282 pages within sturdy yellow cloth covers and measures 9 × 6 in. The printers were The Linden Brothers at 114-116 Sherman St., one of the 18 printing establishments listed in the directory.

One need not be a genealogical buff to enjoy the wealth of information given here concerning the Swedish population, active in Chicago around the turn of the century, at this time the second largest Swedish city in the world after Stockholm.

The publisher has crammed his pages with advertising. Western Savings and Trust Bank at 157–159 La Salle St. occupies the lower half of the front cover, with The Swedish American Printing Co. at 35 South Clark St. occupying the entire inside front cover. On the back cover of the volume one finds “America’s Largest Scandinavian Bank”, The State Bank of Chicago (founded by John Richard Lindgren and Helge A. Haugan in 1879) at 142 Washington St., opposite Chicago’s City Hall whereas the finest men’s clothier on the North Side, John M. Erickson, located at the corner of Division and Clybourne Streets, occupies the inside of the back cover. On the pages in the front and back, facing the inside covers, the space is reserved solely for advertisers and here we find The Good Hope Bay Mining Company, which offers shares of stock in a half dozen listed Alaskan gold mining companies, which may pay a dividend as high as 135%. “Nothing ventured, nothing gained”, greets one from a page illustrated with a gold nugget of formidable size.

Nine of the ten then existing Swedish newspapers in Chicago call attention to their existence with *Hemlandet (The Homeland)* providing a dignified picture of its chief editor, Johan Alfred Enander. Captain Anders L. Löfström recommends his great store of used books to libraries and claims that he has the largest stock of Swedish books in America. His store, later to be named *Dalkullan*, was then located at 113–115 Oak St. Engberg-Holmberg Publishing Co., makes its claim of having the biggest book selection at its office at 119 East Chicago Ave. and Holmgren & Engdahl mention the fact that this directory was bound by them at 254–256 Orleans St.

Three pages, of which two are devoted to illustrations of the impressive factory buildings in Chicago and Rochester, NY, advertise the then ten year-old Strömberg-Carlson Telephone Co. and almost as much space is given to the publisher’s own company and his manufactured malt products. These are frequently recommended in half-inch high advertising boxes reserved at the bottom of every text page. Wennersten’s malt products alternate with the earlier mentioned Western Savings & Trust Bank, as well as a photographer named L.W. Felt at 215 East Chicago Ave., who keeps repeating his offer of a free painted picture to anyone ordering six or more of his portraits.

The main body of the text opens with a review of the various religious and lay activities available in the Swedish community. Leading the list are the eighteen Augustana Lutheran churches with Pastor C. A. Evald as the shepherd of the venerable Immanuel Lutheran Church, founded by Tuve Nilsson Hasselquist in 1853. In 1904 two of that congregation’s charter members are still alive — Mrs. Eva Charlotta Carlsson, née Andersson, from Timelhed Parish (Älvs.), widow of the legendary Pastor Erland Carlsson. The other charter member is John Gottfrid Carlsson, a retired Chicago Fire Department captain from Böne Parish, also in Älvsborg län. His address is given as 1088 Victor St.

Eleven Swedish Baptist churches are listed, of which the First Baptist Church at Milton and Elm Streets has the Rev. G. Arvid Hagström as its pastor. Serving as vice chairman of the church body is the editor, E. Wingren.

The oldest Swedish congregation in Chicago, the St. Ansgarius Swedish Episcopal Church, founded by the Rev. Gustaf Unonius in 1849, is now headed by the Rev. Carl Gustaf Herman Lindskog, who has served this charge since 1887.

Pastor Olof A. Toffteen is the clergyman at the Immanuel Episcopal Church at 1104 West 59th St. He had earlier served in the St. Ansgarius Swedish Episcopal Church of Minneapolis (see *SAG*, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 71).

The Salvation Army boasts of seven corps and the Swedish Mission Church (now the Evangelical Covenant Church) has a total of twenty congregations in Chicago, with the well-known pastor and writer, F. M. Johnson as minister of the First Mission Church at Orleans and Whiting Streets. Alfred Almfeldt is the pastor of the North Park College Mission Church.

The Oak Street Mission, once headed by the Rev. John Gustaf Princell, now has as its leader a minister by the name of Gustaf Aaron Young.

There are seventeen Swedish Methodist Episcopal churches in the Chicago area, with the Rev. Anders J. Löfgren as the district superintendent.

The First Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, founded in the 1850s is now served by the Rev. Karl H. Elmström.

Under the heading of *Föreningar* (Societies), the Independent Order of Svithiod heads the list with fifteen lodges. The Independent Order of Vikings records twelve lodges with their addresses and meeting schedules, but it is the only society which does not list its officers.

The president of the *Linné Klubb* (The Linné Society), founded in 1898, is Anton Wilhelm Johanson. The club headquarters are at 1416 Montana St. The Svithiod Singing Society, founded in 1892, lists Fred R. Franson as its president.

Svenska National Förbundet (The Swedish National Society), located at 304-305 Dearborn St. is listed in the directory as being the "pride of the Chicago Swedes". The well-known Frans A. Lindstrand, editor of *Svenska Amerikanaren*, is its president. Another famous Chicago Swede, Othelia Myhrman, who then lived at 2603 N. Claremont Ave., is the director of the employment agency run by the society. The secretary was none other than another famous Swedish newspaperman in Chicago, Frithiof Malmqvist. This society was founded in 1894, as was another group called *Svenska Föreningarnas Centralförbund* (Union of Swedish Societies), of which few particulars are given, except that its president is given as George S. Oleson. Oddly enough his name does not appear in the directory itself.

In 1895 fourteen Swedish women in Chicago founded *Svensk-Amerikanska Kvinnoklubben* (Swedish American Ladies' Society), whose president is given as Othelia Myhrman. The directory notes that the social

gatherings of this group are beyond comparison "the best organized entertainments in all of Swedish Chicago".

The first Swedish lodge in Chicago of the International Order of Good Templars was founded by Klas Östergren in 1892. Addresses are given for eleven of the twenty lodges, which were in existence in Chicago. There are two lodges of the Sons of Temperance and the same number for *Nykterhetsorden Verdandi* (Verdandi Temperance Society). An umbrella organization for all of the temperance organizations in Chicago is *Skandinaviska Nykterhetsförbundet* (The Scandinavian Temperance Union) with Dr. John Fredrick Lindquist as president.

Next follow a dozen or so associations and clubs, most of them singing societies, but here is also *Svenska Urmakeriföreningen* (The Swedish Society of Watchmakers) and *Svenska Affärsmännens Klubb* (The Swedish Businessmen's Club) with Samuel A. Freeman as president.

Pastor Laurentius G. Abrahamson is listed as the chairman of the board of the Augustana Hospital. During its twenty years of service it reports of having treated almost 14,000 patients. The Swedish Mission Hospital (today known as the Swedish Covenant Hospital), is located at 250-260 West Foster Ave. It is also called The Home of Mercy, and has Claes Flodin as its chairman of the board.

Finally the directory reports that twelve teachers are employed at North Park College, which is headed by Prof. David Nyvall, prolific writer and philosopher.

Pages 221-267 are devoted to a classified business directory. Counting the names under each business heading, we find that there are a total of 47 Swedish lawyers listed, 14 druggists, 16 architects, 45 midwives, 18 book printers, 90 building contractors, two veterinarians, ten publishers, of which four specialize in the publishing of music, and one atlas and map maker.

Furthermore four persons are listed as glovemakers, three are house-movers, sixteen are farriers (horseshoers) and six are knife and scissors grinders. There are four names listed under automobile shops. Three Swedes produce hammocks and as many distribute ice. There are more than 150 waiters and more than 200 Swedish tailors. There are a total of more than 100 Swedish dressmakers' shops listed. Chicago boasts of 47 Swedish physicians of which five are women.

The main body of the directory is of course devoted to names, addresses and occupations. Here Wennersten uses a total of 56 abbreviations for various occupations, from *arb.* = *arbetare* (laborer) to *vaktm.* = *vaktmästare* (watchman). Each page contains two columns of names and each name, address and occupation is not wider than 2½ in. Of the more than 17,000 names, the Johnsons are far ahead with 1,700, or 10% of the list. There are 1,150 Petersons, 1,100 Nelsons, of which 100 have the Christian name of John. Only fifty have retained the Swedish spelling of Nilson. There are 750 Carlsons but only sixteen named Karlson. Then follow the Swansons with a

little more than 700 names. Then come the Olsons with 650. There is one person with the name of Klingspor, a widow with the Christian name of Wendla at 203 West Ohio St. Another name, well-known among early Chicago Swedes, was Olof Gottfrid Lange, who arrived in Chicago in 1838. The directory lists his son, Olof, a dentist, living at 307 Division St.

Wennersten's directory sold for \$1.00 and the publisher promises a new edition in April, 1905. Apparently the economic gains from his first venture were not such as to inspire a second edition.

In the Far West, the *Seattle Svenska Adresskalender (The Swedish City directory for Seattle)* was published in 1909 by O. A. Clasell.³ It contains 96 pages and measures approximately $6\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ in. The price of this directory at the time of publication was 25 cents for the paper edition and 50 cents for the clothbound.

The subtitle informs us that the directory lists the names of all Swedish business- and tradesmen, all heads of families of Swedish origin, society and church members in Seattle and a few other places in King County of Swedish provenance, in addition to listing all of the Swedish American societies and churches as well as Swedish and American businessmen, who advertised in the directory.

Of the 96 pages in the directory, 49 pages are devoted to well over 4,000 Swedish names. As with Bohmansson, Clasell's directory does not list the origin in Sweden, the year of birth, nor the year of arrival in the U.S. In addition there are 23 pages of advertising, containing fifty advertisers on the inside pages and six on the covers. There are twelve pages of illustrations, including two full-page pictures of officials prominent in the staging of the Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exposition, held in Seattle June 1–Oct. 15, 1909: J. E. Chilberg,⁴ its president, and Godfrey Chealander,⁵ Alaska's first commissioner to the AYP Expo. The remaining twelve pages of the directory cover the various Swedish churches and secular societies in Seattle and its environs, officials of the AYP Expo as well as officials of the City of Seattle and King County. There are also some brief Seattle statistics.

Among the advertisers which arouse more than a casual interest are Ernst Skarstedt,⁶ Seattle's leading Swedish literary light, who calls the reader's attention to his *Washington* book, published the year before; the Swedish Book Store on 602 Pike Street, and the *Pacific Tribunen (The Pacific Tribune)*, a Swedish language newspaper, which gave away an *Atlas of the World* to all new subscribers. There are advertisements for the Scandinavian American Steamship Line, Hotel Kalmar, Andrew Chilberg,⁷ the Swedish vice consul, who promises to help solve inheritance problems, the Edgren⁸ School of Music and there is even an advertisement by John L. Anderson with an impressive illustration of his steamship *Fortuna*, which he would be pleased to have chartered for private "picnic parties".

There is a full-page picture of the Swedish Club, located at 1627–29 Eighth Avenue and a line drawing of "the Swedish Building" at the Alaska-

Yukon Pacific Exposition, constructed on the exposition site by "patriotic Swedes in Seattle, Tacoma, Everett and Spokane, WA".

In addition to Seattle, thirteen other Swedish American communities are listed in the adjacent area, one of which, Preston, WA, leads the list with 72 Swedish names.

Clasell, the publisher, also has a page of 55 abbreviations for the various occupations and professions listed in his directory. As examples should be mentioned such abbreviations as *arb* for *arbetare* (laborer), *kolh* for *kolhandlare* (coal dealer), *tim* for *timmerman* (carpenter) and *tillsk* for *tillskärare* (cutter in a tailoring shop). An exception to this is the occupation cited for Skarstedt, who is listed as *litteratör* (writer), with the entire word spelled out. Skarstedt resided at 5013 30th Street South.

Finally I should like to call attention to a small guide for the Swedes in Chicago, *Vägvisare för Svenskarne i Chicago (Guide for the Swedes in Chicago)*, published in 1910 by Carl Hjalmar Lundquist.⁹ It is a small volume, measuring approximately $5\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ in. It contains 80 pages, of which five are devoted to advertising, among them one for *Hemlandet (The Homeland)*, one of the oldest and most respected Swedish American newspapers. The Chicago guide is not a directory, but gives much useful information concerning the city of Chicago, the new house numbering system, various meeting localities, the consulates, the newspapers of which nine were Swedish, a conversion table for the Celsius and Fahrenheit thermometers, a small almanac, etc.

Many Swedish names are listed: thus we find the names of all secretaries of the many Swedish societies, secular clubs and various Swedish church congregations, for which groups we also learn the addresses, the hours they are open and the times for scheduled meetings and church services. There is also a list of names covering such categories as lawyers — there were 14 Swedes; surveyors and physicians — there were six of each; masons and watchmakers — one of each was Swedish, dentists and of course the agent for the Scandinavian American Steamship Line.

As a curiosity I should also like to mention a Swedish guide book for visitors to the World's Fair, held in Philadelphia in 1876. The complete title is *Illustrerad Hand-Bok till Philadelphia och dess omgifningar, särskildt för dem som besöka Verldsutställningen 1876, jemte vägvisare till Washington, New York, Boston, Niagara, Chicago med flera platser (Illustrated Guide Book for Philadelphia and Environs. Especially Prepared for Those Visiting the World's Fair 1876, as well as a Guide to Washington, New York, Boston, Niagara, Chicago and Other Places)*. The guide book is written by Dr. H. A. W. Lindehn and published by Chas. P. Thore & Co., book and job printers at 60 John and 43 Chatham Streets in New York. It measures $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Philadelphia and the Fair are well covered in 160 pages, while the rest of the title must be classified as gross exaggeration, to say the least. That

information is limited to a total of six pages, in an appendix, supplying mostly distances and rail fares to Philadelphia.

In the text itself, covering the history, buildings, schools, churches, societies, theaters, hotels, newspapers, etc., there are six pages devoted to Old Swedes' Church with an appropriate picture. There are eight lines given to *Skandinaviska Föreningen* (The Scandinavian Society), founded in 1868, with club facilities located at 347 North Third St. Its president is C. G. Greenbeck. Another society *Svenska Benefitföreningen* (The Swedish Benefit Society), founded in 1876 has a membership of fifty persons.

In the six pages of the appendix the members of the Swedish Exhibit Committee are named, headed by C. Juhlin-Dannfeldt, the curator. Four lines in the chapter on the Fair itself state that Sweden exhibits a little schoolhouse consisting of two rooms, built on the site by Swedish workers brought over from Sweden.

There are twelve full pages of advertising in the front of as well as in the back of the book. The first page carries advertising for Captain R. E. Jeanson, the well-known emigrant agent, who at that time was working for The American Emigrant Co., 14 Broadway, New York City, with offices in Malmö, Kristiania (Oslo) and Copenhagen. The main Scandinavian office was located in Göteborg % G. W. Schroeder & Co., 8 Norra Hamngatan.

Other advertisements of interest are those of Francis Ström, furniture dealer, on the north east corner of 44th and Broadway in New York; Alfred Lagergren, the general western agent for the White Star Line, with office at 120 East Randolph St. in Chicago; the printer of the guide book, Charles P. Thore, who announces his newspaper *Norden (The North)*, a "liberal" newspaper; P. Collin, a Swedish tailor at 198 Prince St., New York and Bo Christian Roos af Hjelmsäter, whose company, Bo Chr. Roos & Co. at 20 State St. in New York has a two page ad for his bank and currency exchange, with a branch at 38 Norra Hamngatan in Göteborg. In Philadelphia we note the name of L. Westergaard & Co. at 138 South Second St., which also serves as the Vice Consulate for Sweden and Norway in addition to its business of being ship agents and brokers; Walström & Stevens, stationers and printers at 216 South Third St.; Tinius Olsen, a consulting engineer at 1914 North Eleventh St. and A. R. Olson, tailor at 308 North 13th St.

In the beginning of the volume are four yellow pages with the caption Business Directory, where the above mentioned advertisers are listed as well as the following — Wilhelm Wendel, photographer at 273 Fulton St., Brooklyn, NY; Claes Österholm, a music teacher at 485 Atlantic Ave., also in Brooklyn and Louis Hallen, plume and feather merchant at 100 Prince St. in New York City. Two more tailors are listed — P. E. Erickson at 61 Bond St., Brooklyn and O. Zetterström at 37 West 11th St. in New York.

The handbook sold for 50 cents in paper wrappers and 75 cents in hard covers. It is a handsome volume and well illustrated, beginning with a frontispiece of "Moonlight on the Susquehanna".

With these brief notes I have wished to cite the other interesting examples of Swedish American city directories, guides and handbooks, which appeared in such diverse areas as New York, NY, Chicago, IL, Omaha, NE, Seattle, WA and Philadelphia, PA. None of these directories or guides come up to the high standard of Eric Wretlind's Boston directory, nor are they as comprehensive, but they give us a valuable insight into the Swedish life and times of five great Swedish American centers at the time of the zenith of Swedish immigration to America.

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- ¹ Carl Bohmans[s] on was b. in Kristianstad May 17, 1859. He was educated in Sweden and was employed in a number of book stores in Kristianstad, Ystad, Uppsala and Stockholm. He arr. in America in 1888 and resided for the most part in Omaha, NE, where he worked part of the time for *Svenska Posten* (*The Swedish Post*). He helped found another Swedish American newspaper, *Omaha Svenska Tribunen* (*The Omaha Swedish Tribune*). In 1897 he lived briefly in Minneapolis, MN, where he edited a "Christian nonsectarian monthly magazine called *Förgät-mig-nej* (*Forget-me-not*). — Ernst Skarstedt, *Våra Pennfåktare* (*Our Journalists*) (San Francisco, 1897), pp. 30, 239.
- ² I have checked and clarified the names in Wennersten's work, using as a frame of reference Ernst William Olson's *History of the Swedes of Illinois*, I-III (Chicago, 1908), 1,617 pp.
- ³ Olof Anderson Klasell (Clasell) was b. in Kläsinge, Sireköpinge Parish (Malm.) Dec. 6, 1858. After studies at a teacher's college in Lund he took his organist's examination and left for America 1885. He attended Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN and served for a while as organist in the Stillwater Lutheran Church. In 1887 he moved to San Francisco and ten years later he moved to Alaska, where he was to spend considerable time exploring the opportunities for mining. During one of his many trips he became lost and through a miracle was rescued by some Eskimos. With incredible hardships he crossed the entire Seward Peninsula, arriving in Nome during the winter of 1904, where he was hospitalized. He lost four fingers and half a foot through frostbite. Subsequently he settled in Port Townsend, WA. — Ernst Skarstedt, *Washington och Dess Svenska Befolkning* (*Washington and Its Swedish Population*) (Seattle, 1908), pp. 406–407.
- ⁴ John Edward Chilberg was b. in Iowa, the s. of Nils Chilberg and Mathilda Shanström. The father had arr. in Boston, MA Oct. 7, 1846 aboard the *Superb* from Göteborg, Sweden, with his parents, Carl Johan Killberg (he changed his name to Chilberg in the U.S.) and Johanna Johansdotter, and his siblings — Jöns Peter, Isak and Andreas. He became one of Seattle's most successful financiers and served as president of the Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exposition. — Skarstedt, *Washington*, p. 317; Nils William Olsson, *Swedish Passenger Arrivals in U.S. Ports 1820–1850* (*except N.Y.*) (Stockholm and St. Paul, MN, 1979), pp. 74–75.
- ⁵ Otto Godfrey Chealander was b. in Kalmar, Sweden June 18, 1868. He arr. in the U.S. at the age of 17, settling on his uncle's farm in Springfield, IL. In 1894 he moved to Washington State, began law studies, but just before his final bar examination he was caught up by the gold fever in 1897 and went to Alaska where he was to remain for several years. His first-hand knowledge of Alaska caused him to be appointed U.S. Commissioner for Alaska to the Lewis and Clark Exposition in Portland, OR 1905. When the Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exposition idea was launched, Chealander was its most enthusiastic supporter and as a result of the labor he put into the concept, he was generally considered to be the father of the exhibition — Skarstedt, *Washington*, pp. 310–312.
- ⁶ Ernst Teofil Skarstedt, Swedish American journalist and author, was b. in Solberga Parish (Göt.) April 14, 1857, the s. of Carl Wilhelm Skarstedt, clergyman (*kyrkoherde*) and later professor of theology at the University of Lund, and Hedvig Elina Wieselgren. After studies in Sweden he emigr. to America in 1878. He became editor of the *Svenska Amerikanaren*: (*The Swedish American*) in Chicago, IL from 1880 to 1884. In 1885 he moved to Washington Territory, where he became a pioneer settler in Clark County. For several years he was itinerant journalist, landscape photographer and some time magician. In 1891 he joined the staff of *Vestkusten* (*The West Coast*) in San Francisco and later became its editor and co-owner together with the legendary Alex. Olson. During the Great Fire of San Francisco in 1906 he lost his immense collection of 1,200 books, 4,000 letters and thousands of pictures

as well as newspaper clippings. He returned to Seattle, where he published his *Washington* book in 1908. He was a prolific writer, whose works on Swedish America are still cited by scholars on both sides of the Atlantic. — Skarstedt, *Washington*, pp. 546–547; *Svenska män och kvinnor* I-VIII (Stockholm, 1942–1955), VII, p. 80.

- ⁷ Andrew Chilberg was b. in Knåred Parish (Hall.) March 29, 1845 as Andreas Killberg, s. of Carl Johan Killberg and Johanna Johansdotter and a brother of Nils (see note 4 above). He accompanied his parents to Iowa in 1846. After extensive travels to the West Coast, he returned to Iowa, but already by 1875 he set out for the West, settling in Seattle, where he opened a grocery store. He became a successful businessman and in 1879 was appointed Swedish-Norwegian vice consul for Seattle. — Skarstedt, *Washington*, pp. 312–315.
- ⁸ Adolph Edgren was b. in Gävle Oct. 27, 1858. He received his entire musical education in Sweden. In 1892 he came to America, where he travelled widely with various musical groups, organized by him, such as the Philharmonic Concert Company of New York and the Jenny Lind Quartet. He lived in Omaha, NE, Kansas City, MO, Portland, OR and San Francisco, before coming to Seattle in 1906. Here he established the Edgren School of Music together with his wife, Emma Möller, a concert artist in her own right. — Skarstedt, *Washington*, pp. 325–327.
- ⁹ Carl Hjalmar Lundquist was b. in Bofors, Karlskoga Parish (Öre.) Oct. 11, 1883, the s. of Carl Johan Fredrik Lundquist and Hulda Serafia Wennerblad. In 1886 he and his family arr. in Chicago but after ten years his father was transferred back to Sweden, where Carl Hjalmar received his entire pre-university training. In 1905 the family returned to Chicago, where Carl Hjalmar became a newspaper editor, before deciding to turn his attention to the study of law. He passed his bar examination and became assistant corporation counsel for the city of Chicago. He was very active in Swedish American circles in Chicago. After his death, his vast collection of books and papers were donated to the archives of the Swedish Pioneer Historical Society in Chicago, through the instrumentality of the archivist at the society, Selma Jacobson. — *The Swedish Element in America* I-IV (Chicago, 1931–1943), III, p. 356.

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Norwegian Sailor Last Survivor

When Commodore John Paul Jones, on board the *Bonhomme Richard*, engaged the British vessel, the *Serapis*, off Flamborough Head on the east coast of England on Sept. 23, 1779, he commanded a crew made up of sailors from eleven different nations. Among them were seven Swedes, all able-bodied seamen, and three Norwegians, two of them able-bodied seamen, and one, an ordinary seaman.¹ The battle which turned out to be one of the most ferocious in the American War for Independence, ended with Jones' victory, his capturing of the *Serapis*, but at the same time losing his own vessel, the *Bonhomme Richard*, when it sank in the North Sea from the heavy damage she had sustained in the battle.

Of the total crew of 322, approximately 150 were either killed or wounded in the engagement. Very little is known concerning the fate of the Scandinavians who participated in the battle, but a notice in *Gleason's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion*, published in Boston, MA Aug. 2, 1851, has the following item concerning the last survivor of that bloody conflict:

“An old Salt — Thomas Johnson, a sailor, just 100 years of age, died at the Naval Asylum in Philadelphia on the 16th inst. [July 16, 1851]. He was Norwegian, and the last survivor of the gallant crew of Paul Jones, in his desperate conflict with the *Serapis* in 1779”.

¹ Samuel Eliot Morison, *John Paul Jones* (Boston, MA, 1959), p. 205.