

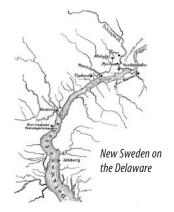
THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY JOURNAL

PRESERVING THE LEGACY OF THE NEW SWEDEN COLONY IN AMERICA

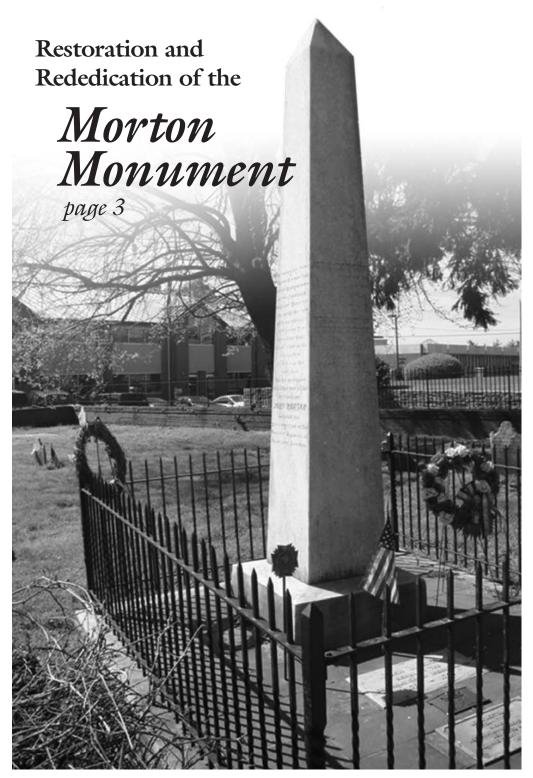
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THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

916 SOUTH SWANSON STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19147



Greetings, everyone,

Saturday, October 1, 2016, was indeed a very special day. We celebrated and paid tribute at his gravesite to an unmistakable American hero, John Morton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and greatgrandson of Mårten Mårtensson, an early New Sweden settler from Finland. John Morton was born in 1725 in Ridley Township south of Philadelphia, and died of tuberculosis on April 1, 1777, age 51. He was interred at the Old Swedish Burial Ground which dates back to 1684-5. The memorial obelisk that marks his burial site was in serious need of repair so The Swedish Colonial Society undertook to raise funds to restore and preserve it, which was accomplished successfully. You can visit this historic cemetery, enclosed by a low brick wall, in Chester on PA Route 291 between Avenue of the States and Welsh Street.

At the ceremony, it was my pleasure and honor to introduce our premier speaker, H.E. Ambassador Björn Lyrvall, Ambassador of Sweden to the United States. You can read his remarks in the article on page 6. Special thanks to the Rev. Kim-Eric Williams, The Swedish Colonial Society's historian, for presenting an historical overview, and also to our special guest speaker Erik Burro for his excellent reenactment of John Morton which included an oration.

Many dignitaries attended and made commemorative remarks. Please see details in the John Morton Commemoration article on the next page. Many benefactors contributed to make the occasion possible and they are listed on page 5.

What made this preservation project real was that it happened at the actual burial site of John Morton, his final resting place, not a replica nor a symbolic icon. The preservation ceremony was followed by a Swedish buffet luncheon at the Corinthian Yacht Club in Essington PA.

There are big undertakings initiated for Governor Printz Park in Essington PA. The entire Swedish Farmstead, recreating a typical 17th-century Swedish farm, constructed in 1988 to help commemorate the 350th anniversary of New Sweden, will be moved from Bridgeton NJ and all seven cabins will be reinstalled in Printz Park, which will be part of a New Sweden Theme Park. The Swedish Colonial Society is supporting this project; we will start with one cabin and proceed from there.

The location of Governor Printz Park is historic: The Printzhof, which was located on the spot where Governor Printz Park is, was the home of Johan Printz, governor of New Sweden, who in 1643 moved his capital from Fort Christina to Tinicum Island, making it the first European settlement in Pennsylvania.

The Farmstead, as part of the New Sweden Theme Park, will be for children of all ages to enjoy, and include educational programs as well as hands-on activities such as a vegetable garden, tot lots, bocce courts, recreational paths, music events, a path of "Stepping Stones" to Printzhof, food, and other outdoor activities. Stop by the park this spring and summer and enjoy the present Gov. Printz Park and its views overlooking the Delaware River. Then come by over the next months and years to see how the Farmstead and Theme Park are progressing.

Very best regards,

Michael R. D'Andrea, Governor

Michael (En) Conducer.



THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

Our Mission is to preserve and promote the history, genealogy and culture of the **New Sweden Colony in America**

Our Purposes are:

- 1. To collect, archive and publish materials
- 2. To make colonial genealogical records broadly available
- 3. To acknowledge members' proven descent from colonial forefathers
- 4. To encourage awareness and preservation of monuments at historic sites
- 5. To celebrate historic and cultural events and accomplishments relating to the colonial Swedes and Finns in America

Visit our website www.ColonialSwedes.net







Follow us on Facebook and Twitter facebook.com/SwedishColonialSociety twitter.com/ColonialSwedes

Also enjoy our Swedish website: NyaSverigeiNordAmerika.se

Commemoration of

JOHN MORTON,

SIGNER OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

and Celebration of the Restoration of the John Morton Gravesite Obelisk

On Saturday, October 1st, approximately 45 people gathered under overcast skies at the Old Swedish Burial Ground on Rte. 291 and Avenue of the States in Chester, Pennsylvania, to celebrate the restoration of the obelisk at John Morton's gravesite.

The Old Swedish Burial Ground dates back to as early as 1643 and adjoins the original site of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, built in 1702.

John Morton (1725-1777) was a Pennsylvania farmer, surveyor, and jurist who was the only signer of the Declaration of Independence of Scandinavian descent. He had held local and state-wide positions including High Sheriff of Chester County and a Justice for Chester (now Delaware) County.

He was elected to the Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly from 1756 to 1776 and he also served as associate justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

John Morton was born in Ammansland, Ridley Township, the posthumous son of John Morton (1683-1725) and Mary Archer (died 1777). His paternal grandfather was Mårten Mårtensson, Jr., of the family that emigrated from Sweden in 1654.

continued on next page



John Morton (1725-1777)







John Morton reenactor Erik Burro in period costume holding forth dramatically about the situation and events that led to John Morton casting the deciding vote in favor of the Colonies adopting the Declaration of Independence.

Discovered: An Unknown Copy of the Declaration of Independence

by Edward R. Root

A previously undiscovered copy of the U.S. Declaration of Independence has been found in England, of all places, namely in the West Sussex Record Office. The two scholars who are researching this early (mid-1780's) parchment manuscript, Danielle Allen and Emily Sneff, are from Harvard University.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about this copy is that the names of the signatories are at random, not like all other known copies, i. e., arranged by state. The theory is thus propounded that this copy may have been commissioned by James Wilson, a nationalist lawyer from Pennsylvania who attended the 1787 Constitutional Convention.

Historians are intrigued because this copy may shine a bit of light on an ongoing debate in American history: Was the random order meant to send the message that the signers are individuals of the nation and not representatives of states?

Ref.: The New York Times, April 22, 2017, pp. C1, C4

JOHN MORTON

continued from page 3

Not only is the grave marked by a handsome monolith with inscriptions on all four sides but also by 3 plaques including one placed by the Delaware County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and another by the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, Inc.

The ceremony was highlighted by a procession of more than nine colonial reenactors and descendants of John Morton. Michael R. D'Andrea, Governor of The Swedish Colonial Society, welcomed everyone and the Rev. Kim-Eric Williams, Historian of SCS, gave an incisive John Morton historical background.

Our premiere speaker, His Excellency Björn Lyrvall, Ambassador of Sweden to the United States, delivered a fine speech covering the historical context of John Morton and of the excellent and constant Swedish and American relations since the early days of the Republic.

Honorary Governor John Cameron introduced the dignitaries. Each gave brief congratulations in recognition of this John Morton historical event: the Honorable Thaddeus Kirkland, Mayor, City of Chester PA, State Representative;





Councilwoman Elizabeth Williams, City of Chester PA; the Honorable Thomas J McGarrigle, Pennsylvania State Senator; Councilman John P. McBlain, County of Delaware; Carol Fireng, Education Director, Delaware Historical Society; the Reverend Z. Mark Smith, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chester PA; Ridley Township Board of Commissioners representative; and Marja Kaisla, Finnish-born President of the Finnish American Society of the Delaware Valley made some concluding commemorative remarks.

Four of the dignitaries presented Resolutions promulgated by their respective government institutions: the Senate of Pennsylvania, the Board of Commissioners of Township of Ridley, the Council of Delaware County, and the City of Chester, Pennsylvania.

Two Special Guest Speakers included a few words about preserving and passing on colonial Swedish and Finnish history, from Aleasa Hogate, Education Director of the New Sweden Centre.

The second Special Guest Speaker, Erik Burro, John Morton reenactor, complete with cape, commanded a great presence as he strode confidently back and forth as John Morton. He presented facts about his life during



Kristina Antoniades, left, and DeAnn Clancy admire the John Morton Monument Restoration cake

the very important and historical Revolutionary period as the American colonies, together, sought to forge a new nation. On the national level Morton was chairman of the Committee of the Whole of the Continental Congress which adopted the Articles of Confederation.

The commemorative event continued with a Swedish buffet luncheon at the Corinthian Yacht Club in Essington PA, sponsored by The Swedish Colonial Society. A good time was had by all as they ended the meal by munching on some John Morton Monument Restoration cake.

BENEFACTORS

The Swedish Colonial Society Finnish American Society

of Delaware Valley Marilyn Ware, US Ambassador

to Finland 2006-2008 Kristina Antoniades

Jill D'Andrea

Herb Rambo

Ron and Cynthia Beatty

Forney Foundation

Ann Moore

TWO PHOTOS, TEN GOVERNORS!

All Governors from 1977 to the present are pictured except Herbert Gullberg, 1982-1984, and William B. Neal, 1997-2000.



Governors celebrate the Morton Monument restoration October 2016, left to right, Herbert R. Rambo; current Governor Michael R. D'Andrea; Margaret Sooy Bridwell; The Rev. Kim-Eric Williams, D.Min.; and Ronald A. Hendrickson, Esq.

From Swedish Colonial News, Volume 1, Number 13 (Spring 1996)



SCS Governors gather at Julmiddag 1995. From left to right: John Widtfeldt, present governor with past governors Wally Richter, Benkt Wennberg, Erik Törngvist and John Cameron. (photo by Beth Linnerson-Daly)

Morton celebration photos by Edward R. Root

REMARKS BY SCS PATRON HIS EXCELLENCY BJÖRN LYRVALL, AMBASSADOR OF SWEDEN

Good morning,

I'm happy to see so many here to honor one of our brothers who was so instrumental in starting this great country. Thank you for inviting me to take part.

Just last weekend I was up in this general area to attend the King Neptune Gala (I probably saw some of you there).

Both of these events, and the others held throughout the year, help to honor our forefathers and keep the memory alive of the roles Swedes have played in making America great.

It's an honor to be here near the final resting place of the many Swedes who settled in this area, and whose final resting place became the site of this place of worship.



Björn Lyrvall, Ambassador of Sweden to the United States since September 2013 at the Morton Monument ceremony, Chester PA.

I've read that arrangements were made by the Government to fund monuments for each of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence. John Morton, of Swedish and Finnish descent, was the only Scandinavian to sign the document, and inserted Sweden once again into the history of the formation of the new nation.

While his signature was not as large as John Hancock's nor his footprint on history as large as those of Thomas Jefferson and George Washington, nor is his obelisk as large as the one in Washington, DC, honoring George Washington, John Morton was instrumental in changing the course of history forever by casting the deciding vote to leave England on July 4, 1776.

He also served as chairman of the committee which wrote the Articles of Confederation. I am honored to meet so many of his descendants here today.

And it elevated his position among Swedes who came to this country. Many others rose above the crowd during the Revolutionary War, developing the Midwest and taming the Wild West, the Civil War, Reconstruction, industrialization, and everything that has happened in this country since its founding.

Like John Morton, Swedish Americans have shared values of hard work, a sense of community, a strong faith and a steadfast belief in the opportunities of their new homeland. They became an indispensable part of the United States of America.

Today's partnership between Sweden and the United States is bound by these same values.

We share the same interest in addressing the most critical challenges in an ever changing global environment. We strive to create a world defined by peace, security, and respect for human rights.

We are working closely together with the United States to find the important balance between Internet freedom and data privacy and security.

Together we address climate change and air pollution through international climate negotiations, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, and the Arctic Council.

John Morton and his fellow delegates took a leap of faith by signing the declaration of separating from England. But the results have far exceeded the expectations of those men so long ago. They saw great potential in this land between the oceans. This country has prospered – and I'd like to think that Swedes had a lot to do with that.

Sweden is a proud ally of the United States and proud of all the sons and daughters who have helped to create our great friend in trade, innovation and human rights.

And we are very proud that John Morton signed his name on that fateful day in 1776!

Thank you

In an effort to see that New Sweden History Conference scholarly speeches are presented for more general use after the presentations, herein are two of the speeches from the November 2015 (Fifteenth Annual) NSHC entitled "Power and Politics in New Sweden, 1638-1655," on Governors Ridder and Risingh.

Unfortunately other fine speeches have not yet been presented, with the sole exception of The Rev. Kim-Eric Williams' thought-provoking article entitled, "Johan Björnsson Printz (1592-1663): Tyrant or Tactician," which can be found in "The Timen Stiddem Society Newsletter," issue 65, winter-spring 2016, pp. 17-20. This newsletter also has articles in 2015 and 2016 by Christina W. Lassen reporting on each conference.



GOVERNOR

Peter Hollender Ridder

Development of Ft. Christina military fort into the New Sweden Settlement, 1640 – 1643

HOLLENDER RIDDER AND HALONEN FAMILY STORY

The first time I heard about Peter Hollender Ridder was about 50 years ago. The Hollender Ridder family story says that he used to be the Commandant of Viipuri Castle and he put the Viipuri Councilors into chains. As a reward Queen Christina gave him a Mill near Viipuri.

My conclusion then was: How fascinating, I have married Matti Halonen, a descendant of a pirate! About five years ago I happened to ask my husband "What about finding out who that Dutch pirate ancestor of yours was anyway?" This is what we are still trying to figure out.

WHY WAS THE FINNISH FAMILY OF RIDDERS CALLED "HOLLENDER"?

Peter Ridder was about 15 years old when his father Master Skipper Hans Ridder and his family sailed from the Province of Holland to Tammisaari, (Ekenäs in Swedish), Finland, where he grew to manhood. Besides seafarers, the men of the Ridder family were literate. In the 1620's ambitious Skipper Ridder sent his sons to the Stockholm Admiralty where Peter was promoted to lieutenant.

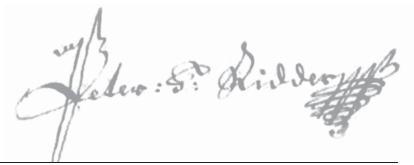
Introduction

REDISCOVERED LETTERS OF PETER RIDDER

I have based this lecture on rediscovered letters of Peter Ridder. Five years ago I happened to find at Swedish National Archives five of Ridder's letters written in 1640 from New Sweden and an undated after his return. They are written to Admiral Klaus Larsson Fleming and Axel Oxenstierna, who was the Lord High Chancellor of Sweden while Queen Christina was still a minor. These letters were also addressed to the Queen.

In a newly discovered letter, found in Finland archives, apparently penned in 1644 (sic 1944) or 1645 to Oxenstierna after Ridder's return to Sweden, he seeks compensation for his nearly 5 years of service, having received none.

It was hard to find an expert able and willing to transcribe and translate the letters. We are in invaluable debt of honor to two highly competent experts. Dr. Tette Hofstra, Professor Emeritus, University of Groningen, the Netherlands, transcribed the Old High German texts in full for the first time to Latin script. After that we were fortunate to have these complete texts for the very first time translated into English by Dr. Alfred R. Wedel, Professor Emeritus, University of Delaware.





ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tytti Halonen lives in Helsinki and is a member of the Swedish Colonial Society. She received her MA in Historic Philology from Helsinki University and her Librarian degree from Tampere University, and she transcribed Old Swedish manuscripts at Helsinki University and worked as Chief Librarian at Järvenpää Library.

She has made Ridder biography research trips to actual historic locations in Stockholm, the Netherlands, the Delaware Valley, and to Viipuri/Vyborg, formerly in Finland, now in Russia.

Dr. Wedel used to be a neighbor of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Seppälä, our great friends, whom I suppose I am to thank for the honor of standing here in front of you.

In 2014 Swedish Colonial News published all these letters edited by Dr. Edward Root with introduction by Dr. Kim Eric Williams.¹

2015 is the 375th Anniversary of Commandant Lieutenant Peter Ridder landing at "The Rocks". This is good reason for us to find out what part this Commandant played here. The two most important points of his time on the Delaware I will concentrate on:

- Ridder and the Dutch Officers of Fort Christina and
- Ridder and the Paradise of Forest Finns

Part 1: Ridder and the Dutch Officers of Fort Christina

"TO GOVERN" OR "TO OBEY"

Peter Ridder was chosen by Admiral Fleming as the Commandant of Fort Christina. He must have noticed that Lieutenant Ridder had good judgement and strong resolution. Later he was also found to be able to work independently and be efficient in controlling the interests of the New Sweden Company.

I think this Episode of The Old Mayor characterizes Peter Ridder: In 1639, the Admiralty sent Ridder to his old home town Tammisaari to supervise the recruitment of boatmen. The mayor refused to obey the orders of young Lieutenant Ridder. Peter had his men put the Mayor in chains.²

Chancellor Oxenstierna wanted to see Ridder for himself so he was commanded to come to Oxenstierna's Palace, Tidö, his Baroque manor on Lake Mälaren west of Stockholm. In Ridder's post-New Sweden letter to Chancellor Oxenstierna, he wrote that Oxenstierna at that face to face meeting in 1639 had spoken "highly" of him and said that he should "continue the voyage in good spirits." Oxenstierna had also told him "to use all his diligence, loyalty, and best abilities in governing the enterprise New Sweden."³

Ridder had also received written Instructions undersigned 1 July 1639 by Fleming. These Instructions, with their complicated expressions, commanded Ridder to obey the Dutch Captain and ask advice of the Dutch Commissioner.^{4,5}



Officer fashion in Ridder's time: The man here is not Peter Ridder but he represents the officer fashion of his time. A Baroque period officer's collars, trousers, even boots had laces. And look at his mustache and the ostrich plume in his hat. Isn't he handsome?

Now Ridder had two orders: Fleming's written Instructions, which were completely conflicting with Oxenstierna's oral orders.

In each of his letters Ridder was asking Fleming and Oxenstierna to solve this contradiction. But he never had "good orders" from Stockholm. He had to decide for himself what to do and to bear alone the responsibility without the support of Fleming and Oxenstierna.

CONFLICTS WITH THE DUTCH OFFICERS

The *Kalmar Nyckel* set sail at the beginning of September 1639 from Stockholm harbor bound for Gothenburg. In addition to Ridder, on board were three Dutch Officers, a Swedish Reverend, some soldiers, servants and settlers with families.⁶ It is difficult to know who was a Swede and who was a Finn, but it has been estimated that the number of Finns were three.⁷ Later Ridder reported to Stockholm that, "In all of Sweden there are no dumber and coarser people than the ones that are here now." ⁸

Here is Ridder's account of the Dutch sailors of the Kalmar Nyckel: "The wine and aquavit—all gone. Wine for religious services of our Lord was also boozed. The steward was completely drunk every day. The Captain and the Commissary were boozing every evening and every morning in secret. There was no discipline on board, everybody did what he wanted." 9

Actual conflicts between Ridder and the Dutch officers began. He must chose: was he "to obey" or "to govern". In harbor he avoided open conflict with the Dutch officers. But he reported to Fleming and Oxenstierna on the conduct of "the Dutch Cockroachs," as he called the Dutch officers. Ridder was never allowed to know where the food or provisions, or often other things, could be found. 10 The ship was inspected and it was found that the Captain had stolen from the provisions. He was removed from his service and another was appointed.¹¹

On 7 February 1640 the sails were spread and the course was taken through the English Channel over the Atlantic Ocean. 12 The Castle of Medemblik north of Amsterdam was the last of the Old World the people on board the Kalmar Nyckel saw as it vanished over the horizon.

RIDDER PLACED THE **BOUNDARY STAKES OF NEW SWEDEN**

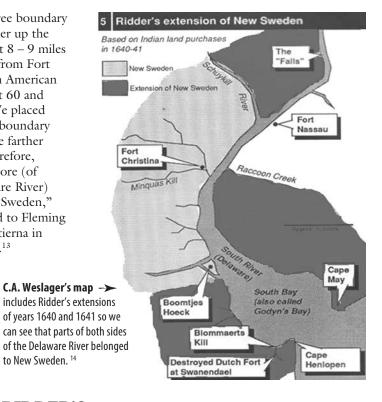
It took seven strenuous months for the voyage from Gothenburg to Fort Christina, arriving on 17 April 1640. Thus did the Kalmar Nyckel return for the second time to "The Rocks."

Relations between Ridder and the Dutch officers were tense. Without telling Ridder, they sailed up the Delaware River in a sloop to place the boundary stakes of New Sweden. But the Dutch Fort Nassau did not allow them to sail farther upstream. So they came back. After their failed excursion, they planned to sail with the armed Kalmar Nyckel in front of the Dutch fort, though their instructions ordered them to try to do everything in a friendly manner.

Now Ridder had to choose again between whether he was "to obey" or "to govern." In this crucial situation Ridder did not obev.

On 21 April Ridder and his men sailed upstream in the sloop to explore the intentions of the Dutch fort. When the sloop was passing by, the fort shot at them and one of Ridder's men fired his musket. However, when they arrived upstream they bought land from the Indians or "the wild men" as Ridder called them. Ridder wrote that he

"placed three boundary stakes farther up the river almost 8 – 9 miles farther up from Fort Nassau," in American miles about 60 and farther, "We placed the fourth boundary stake a little farther down. Therefore, the west shore (of the Delaware River) belongs to Sweden," he reported to Fleming and Oxenstierna in Stockholm.13



PETER RIDDER'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN NEW SWEDEN (1640-1643)

The Dutch Officers tried to sabotage Ridder's every effort: They even let the seeds get spoiled, they ordered damage to the fishing nets and had the sawed planks for building chopped into useless pieces. 15 They refused even to give gun powder to Ridder, the commandant of the the Fort.¹⁶

In spite of this sabotage, Ridder not only set stakes for the expanded boundaries for New Sweden, but also

- suggested a new fort be built below the narrowest point of the river for the control of the Delaware River 17
- repaired the tumbling walls and enlarged the fort
- fortified the artillery of the fort ¹⁸

After the Company became entirely Swedish he ordered built:

- a windmill 19
- a meeting house or chapel, or perhaps even a little church, which was built before he left New Sweden 20
- three dwelling houses, a store house and a barn inside the fort 21

contined on next page

BULLETIN

News of Sweden

Sweden's royal family now has a new member. Princess Sofia gave birth to a baby boy at Danderyd Hospital near Stockholm on August 31. This is Prince Carl Philip and Princess Sofia's second child and second son (Prince Alexander was born in April 2016). King Carl XVI Gustaf announced that the new prince's name is Gabriel Carl

Walther and he is styled as Duke of Dalarna, which is no surprise since Princess Sofia hails from that province.

At present King Carl Gustaf and Queen Silvia's three children each has two children, but that won't last very long: The court recently announced that Princess Madeleine is expecting a third child.



 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{O}}$ INSTAGRAM/PRINCE CARL PHILIP, THE ROYAL COURT, SWEDEN



PHOTO BY FREDRIK SANDBERG/TT

As of September first, Sweden has a new ambassador in Washington, Karin Olofsdotter. Most recently her post at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs was Director-General for Trade Policy and she previously was Ambassador to Hungary and has held posts in the Embassies in USA and Russia as well as having represented Sweden at NATO and the European Union.

She is married and has 2 children. She comes from Halmstad in Halland province on Sweden's west coast.

We wish her well on her return to Washington DC!

Part 2: Ridder and the Paradise of Forest Finns

"BETTER CLASS OF COLONISTS AND FREEMEN"

In the fall of the next year, 1641, the Company became entirely Swedish.²² This solved Ridder's problem of "obeying" or "governing." Ridder was the highest representative of the Swedish Crown and now he had free hands for two years. Fleming and Oxenstierna had decided to support Ridder. Ships *Kalmar Nyckel* and *Charitas* brought most of the articles Ridder asked for.²³

"A better" class of colonists and freemen also arrived at "the Rocks". The number of Finns was about forty,²⁴ many of whom were Forest Finns. After a rough voyage we can imagine how delighted a Forest Finn would be when he looked around Fort Christina: Outside the fort he observed good land for sowing crops and beautiful meadows for grazing cattle and horses. Once again he could legally cultivate surrounding deep forests. (Finnish scholars prefer in English "swiddening" instead of "slash-and-burn" and "burn-beating" terminology.)

It was now that Ridder realized the abilities of the Forest Finns: "one man's planting would produce enough corn for nine men's yearly food". 25 According to ethnographer Kustaa Vilkuna, the Grand Old Man of Finnish ethnography, Forest Finns were able to make one grain of rye yield up to 80 grains. 26

This brings us to just one example of the Forest Finns' sophisticated culture: rye seed produced in the riihi or drying barn.

RYE SEED PRODUCTION IN "RIIHI" (DRYING BARN)

Inside the riihi (pictured on page 21), the stone oven was heated to a precise temperature in order to dry every grain so that it would not rot. Usually an old master of the house knew this best from his experience. He was awake day and night to maintain the correct temperature. Most important is that every grain must have just enough smoke to preserve its fertility for many years. As a result of long development "riihi" grew in size, but their function remained the same.

contined on page 21

Johan Classon Risingh

GOVERNOR OF NEW SWEDEN

BACKGROUND

Johan Classon Risingh, the last governor of New Sweden, was born in 1616 or 1617. He was the son of Claes Bothvidi, the dean of Risinge parish in Östergötland and also cousin of Governor Johan Printz.

The career of Johan Risingh may exemplify that of a successful public official in seventeenth century Sweden. He studied at the gymnasium in Linköping and at Uppsala University he defended a dissertation in philosophy in the year 1640 (23-24 years old). After further studies he became the private tutor for two young counts, Claes Tott and Sten Bielke. He accompanied them on their foreign journeys, an activity which in the seventeenth century was part of the education of every nobleman of high birth.

Risingh was interested in economic theory and practice early on. He studied the subject thoroughly in the

Netherlands and England, became very knowledgeable and was regarded as a promising young man. He had close contacts with central figures in Sweden's cultural and learned circles. With one of them, Georg Stiernhielm, he had a lively correspondence, and during his stay abroad he acquired scientific instruments and books for Stiernhielm.

During the 1640's, Risingh's life was filled with work on a thesis concerning national economy. Stiernhielm recommended him to Queen Christina for a grant for the writing and printing of his work. Furthermore, his knowledge of economics qualified him for a post on the newly established Board of Commerce. In the summer of 1651 he became secretary to the Board.

His career developed quickly: In
December 1653 he accepted the task of travelling to New
Sweden as an appointed commissioner of the Board of
Commerce and as assistant councilor to Governor Johan
Printz. At the same time, he was raised to the nobility with
the name Risingh (thereafter spelled with the 'h'). At the
end of February 1654, after Risingh had already started
his journey to New Sweden, it became known in the home
country that Printz had sailed from America the previous
October. Risingh was assigned to lead the colony until
a new governor arrived. Not before June 1655, shortly
before it was lost to the Dutch, he became governor of
New Sweden.

RISINGH AS THE LEADER OF NEW SWEDEN

The instructions (known as a 'memorial' at the time) Risingh received from both Queen Christina and the Board of Commerce bear witness to a strong determination to defend the colony. In the memorial which the Queen sent with him, it was declared that New Sweden must be maintained and, furthermore, be expanded for the sake of trade. Risingh's instructions also emphasized the value of the extension of New Sweden's borders, the distribution of land to the colonists, as well as the administrative, judicial, and religious organization of the colony with an eye to the development of the economy and trade. The memorial even stated that the person who wished to purchase land in New Sweden from the company or from the Indians should receive allodial rights (free and clear ownership) for himself and his heirs.



Risinge Old Church

Joh: Risingly

An admirable energy characterized Risingh's rule, judging by his journal notes. He stubbornly strove to get people to stay and to get those who had moved to Maryland to return, and he did everything in his power to integrate the Dutch colonists there into the colony. As far as the Indians were concerned, he systematically tried to renew the agreements regarding land transfers and initiate trade with them. In cooperation with the colonists he worked out an ordinance that was in accord with the new instructions from Sweden for freer forms of land acquisition and business enterprise which stimulated life in the little society for which he was responsible.

Risingh's interest in promoting future trade influenced his location of new settlements, buildings, and defense. In these matters, he appears to have had a consistent long-range strategy. While Printz developed the Indian trade at the mouth of the Schuylkill River, Risingh had another view of the prerequisites for a trade policy. He came to an agreement with the Minquas on the purchase of a large tract of land which increased the area of the colony in the west, gave ample space for new settlements, and provided a buffer to expansion from Maryland. That can be seen not only as a part of his attempt to facilitate trading with the Indians from the Susquehanna River, but also to establish permanent connections with the important trading areas on Chesapeake Bay. His plans envisioned Fort Christina as the central settlement of New Sweden, from which trade could be established for the long run between the Dutch and English colonies to the north and south. Thus, the intended primary port, Christinehamn, could flourish.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hans Norman is a Professor **Emeritus of history at** Uppsala University, Sweden. Professor Norman's research and writings have focused on Swedish emigration in the 19th century and also on Sweden's Age of Greatness. Among his many publications is The Rise and Fall of New Sweden. Governor Johan Risingh's Journal 1654-1655 in Its Historical Context, which includes his essay The Swedish Colonial Venture in North America, 1638-1655.

RISINGH'S STYLE OF GOVERNING

Johan Risingh's administration can perhaps best be illustrated by comparing it to the conditions that existed under the previous governor Johan Printz.

In the various accounts of New Sweden's history Risingh has been overshadowed by Printz. Several circumstances have contributed to this reputation. Risingh's period as director lasted only one year and four months while Printz served ten years. The latter was probably also a more colorful personality, and his government has been regarded as a forceful authority in the grandiose spirit of seventeenth-century Sweden.

In contrast, Risingh may perhaps best be characterized as a learned public servant. As he lacked military training, which probably was a disadvantage in such an exposed border position as New Sweden, it can be debated if he was the most suitable man for his post.

Risingh's methods and orientation diverged on important points from Printz' rule, circumstances which made him a good leader. The two governors clearly had different attitudes towards the treatment of the people in the colony. Printz was authoritarian toward the colonists, probably influenced by his long service in the Thirty Years' War, an attitude that created great opposition against him and, in turn, strong reactions from Printz.

Risingh strove to dampen antagonism and to tone down the earlier opposition to the colony's leadership. He assembled the colonists and informed them about the existing rules and the measures that needed to be taken. From the first day, he ruled the colony with a three-man council, including himself, Sven Skute, who was in command of the soldiers in the colony, and Johan Papegoja, who was son-in-law to Johan Printz and vice governor when Risingh arrived. This group was sometimes increased with the most experienced colonists.

The assertion of New Sweden's boundaries, the administration of justice, the creation of order, and the establishment of permanent settlements were given high priority by Risingh. He regarded this policy as a prerequisite for the development of trade and other economic activities in New Sweden for the long run.

RELATIONS WITH STUYVESANT

Risingh's relations with the Dutch colony New Amsterdam and with Petrus Stuyvesant should also be seen in the light of what Johan Printz had experienced. In the beginning Printz could have had mostly peaceful relations with the Dutch, because the former Dutch governor, Willem Kieft, was a weak leader. With his rather incompetent rule, the Dutch were for long periods occupied by war with the Indians.

With the arrival of Stuyvesant as the new Dutch governor in New Amsterdam, Printz was confronted with a person who was his equal in taking action. Like Printz, Stuyvesant, an experienced military man, was described as a person with a strong will and energy. He made several military demonstrations on the Delaware River with the purpose of frightening Printz and his colonists.

In addition, Stuyvesant purchased land from the Indians (which the Swedes earlier had purchased) on the western bank at Sandhooken and (although Printz made strong protests) he erected Fort Casimir five miles below Fort Christina. Printz' efforts to demonstrate the Swedish rights were completely ignored by Stuyvesant, who relied on his military superiority. The Dutch could now control the traffic on the Delaware.

The conquest of Fort Casimir

When Risingh arrived in May 1654 in the Delaware area and sailed up the river with the warship *The Eagle*, he was forced into a difficult decision. Should he merely try to pass Fort Casimir, or should he assert the Swedish claims to the area where the fort was located by taking possession of it? After a war council with his officers he gave the order to capture the fort, which was surprisingly weak and poorly manned.

The question has often been raised whether Risingh should have taken possession of Fort Casimir. A close look at Risingh's instructions shows that it was possible to interpret them in various ways. They encouraged resolution and action on behalf of Swedish interests, but that action should not go as far as open hostility. On the other hand one instruction says, "First get rid of the Dutch (at their Sandhook fort) but with all possible caution." (Erik Oxenstierna and Christer Bonde, 1653)

Risingh was in a difficult situation. He could be held responsible if he did not take advantage of the situation. On the other hand, if he acted at that time he would perhaps be considered to have exceeded the bounds of his instructions. The problem was, as Risingh says in his journal, that the decision had to be made on the spot.

Among the officers on *The Eagle*, Sven Skute, who had been in the colony when Stuyvesant established the fort, said that Printz had informed Stuyvesant that Fort Casimir would be retaken as soon as help arrived from Sweden.

Risingh also says that the war council agreed to try to get the fort not by any acts of aggression but rather by forcefully demonstrating Sweden's legal rights. In that way, the instructions Risingh had received would be followed. The fort, with only nine soldiers in it and with most of their weapons turned in for repair, was easily taken without struggle by the twenty Swedish musketeers sent ashore under the command of Captain Skute and Lieutenant Gyllengren.

Communications with Stuyvesant

Risingh's contact with Stuyvesant thereafter was only through correspondence of a few letters. On May 28, six days after he landed at Fort Christina, he sent a letter to Stuyvesant in Manhattan, carried by one of the freemen in the colony, Peter Jochim, accompanied by the Indian, Taques. Risingh informed him of his arrival. He extended all neighborly good wishes and told Stuyvesant that Fort Casimir had been transferred to the Swedes without hostilities and that the governments in the Netherlands and Sweden surely could come to an agreement over it.

The next day a letter arrived from Stuyvesant, mediated by the former commandant of Fort Casimir Gerrit Bicker. (It must have been written before Risingh's letter reached Stuyvesant.) The Dutch governor came with a surprising and polite message welcoming Risingh and offering cooperation against the Indians.

After Risingh's seizure of Fort Casimir it was, however, not without uneasiness that Stuyvesant's countermove was awaited. Stuyvesant sent another letter on June 25 with the returning Indian Taques (Peter Jochim had died in New Amsterdam) with the message that he had nothing more to add to what he had said in his previous letter, but that he intended to come to New Sweden on a suitable occasion.

In September 1654 Stuyvesant received an excellent opportunity for revenge when the Swedish ship *The Golden Shark*, upon its arrival along the North American coast, made a navigation error and entered the mouth of the Hudson River instead of the Delaware River.

Stuyvesant immediatly confiscated *The Golden Shark* and its cargo of Swedish food necessities despite the strongest protests of Henrich von Elswich, the leader of the expedition. Von Elswich, who had been appointed as factor (agent) for New Sweden, eventually arrived there by land with a few of the remaining Swedes from the *The Golden Shark*. The ship stayed in the service of the Dutch being used on routes to the West Indies. The Dutch governor later wanted Risingh to come to Manhattan to settle the business with the ship and Fort Casimir, but Risingh did not go.

As we can see there were few contacts between Risingh and Stuyvesant and it appears that both were satisfied not to meet. Risingh was of course concerned over Stuyvesant's menacing silence and wondered what was happening in New Amsterdam. For awhile, he was relieved by information received from New England through his business contacts. The merchant Isaac Allerton on June 25, 1654, informed Risingh that Stuyvesant was occupied with countering an attack planned by the English.

The situation soon changed, however. From his emissary to New Amsterdam, the freeman Hans Månsson, Risingh in the middle of August 1654 heard of the rumors in the Dutch colony saying that the Swedes were starving to death and that the Indians were preparing to kill them. Another rumor had it that Stuyvesant was going to attack New Sweden, as peace had now been concluded between England and the Netherlands.

The situation grew more and more menacing. When the directors of the Dutch West India Company in Amsterdam learned about the expedition of *The Eagle*, they immediately took measures to strengthen Stuyvesant militarily. The entire Swedish colony should be conquered because the Dutch were eager to decisively terminate the Swedish presence on the Delaware. They also wanted the action to be swift since they had been informed that a new Swedish expedition was planned. So, in Amsterdam the ship *De Waegh* was leased from the city and loaded with war materials and soldiers which were then transported to New Amsterdam.

contined on page 23



MEMBERS in the NEWS

The Swedish Council of America, meeting in Philadelphia this year, along with the Delaware Valley's own New Sweden Alliance, presented numerous awards at the Awards Dinner at the Union League of Philadelphia on May 5, 2017. Receiving Awards of Merit sponsored by The Swedish Colonial Society were The Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams, Society Historian (above left), and Ronald Beatty, Society Genealogist (right). An SCA Proclamation was also presented to recognize the recent dedication of the Augustana Museum at the Lutheran Archives Center in Philadelphia. The SCS has a large presence in the Museum. (See the last issue of this *Journal*.)

Sandra Pfaff, SCS Council member, received the exceptional SCA's Founder's Award for "furthering SCA's mission far and beyond the norm," and SCS Treasurer Linda Alexy, sponsored by the American Swedish Historical Museum, also received an Award of Merit.

THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

Fellow Award

The recognition and honor of "Fellow of The Swedish Colonial Society" is bestowed by the Officers and Council for distinguished service upon those individuals who have contributed their time in a leadership capacity or supported the Society's Endowment Fund. A 14-karat gold-filled medal of the Society's seal depicting a log blockhouse encircled with the words "Swedish Colonial Society Fellow" atop the Three Crowns, which represent Sweden, accompanies this commendation.

In keeping with Society tradition, J. E. Caldwell Co., Jewelers, Philadelphia, was commissioned to produce the award and medal. Caldwell's has created all our regalia, including the silver scroll engraved with the Society's 1909 invitation to His Majesty King Gustaf V requesting that he accept the title of "High Patron of the Swedish Colonial Society," which he graciously did. Honorary Governor William B. Neal proposed that the Fellow Award be created by the Society; he also designed the medal.

The Council authorizes this award to be given 1) for outstanding service, 2) to members contributing a minimum of \$500 to the endowment fund, and 3) posthumously as a Memorial.

FELLOWS OF THE SWEDISH COLONIAL SOCIETY

2000: Mr. Wallace F. Richter Ms. Katerina K. Sheronas Mr. William B. Neal

2001: Mr. Malcolm L. Mackenzie Mrs. George C. McFarland, Sr. Mrs. Dorothy Richter Dr. Erik G.M. Törnqvist (could be 2002)

2002: Mr. Ronald A. Hendrickson, Esq. The Very Rev. David B. Rivers The Rev. Dr. Kim-Eric Williams

2004: Mrs. Frances O. Allmond Mr. Hans Ling Mrs. Sandra S. Pfaff Mr.Herbert R. Rambo At the 9 April 2000 Forefathers' Luncheon held at the Union League, Honorary Consul of Sweden at Philadelphia Agneta Hägglund Bailey presented the first three Fellow Awards.

When a candidate is approved, the Fellow Award medal can be presented immediately. Then the new fellow is formally recognized at a subsequent Society function.

Adapted by the editor from Herbert R. Rambo's article, "Fellow Award Created," in the Swedish Colonial News, vol. 2, no. 3, Fall 2000, p. 6



John B. Tepe Jr., our newest fellow, displays his Fellow Award along with, on the left, the Fellow Medal, presented to him at SCS' Julmiddag celebration at the Corinthian Yacht Club on December 17, 2016. Congratulations and thanks for all your efforts on behalf of SCS.

2005: Mrs. Nancy C. Hendrickson Mrs. Aleasa J. Hogate

2008: Mrs. Margaret Sooy Bridwell Mrs. A. Doriney Seagers

2009: Mr. Kenneth S. Peterson

2010: The Rev Dr. Cynthia Forde-Beatty Mr. Ronald Beatty

2015: Mrs. Marie Boisvert

2016: Mr. John Tepe, Esq

Compiled by: Earl E. Seppälä March 28, 2009, Updated February 19, 2017

Y-DNA points to a Finnish origin for the likins of new sweden, earlier from Ljusnarsberg, sweden

"Nils Andersson" could have just been a loose-hanging name in Ljusnarsberg parish, Västmanland, for researchers. From records it can be proven that Nils lived there in the late 1640's and the early 1650's. But, thanks to Y-DNA testing, we can now reconstruct what specific markers on his Y-chromosome looked like and thereby find clues to his origin. The clues point to Finland.

Nils Andersson left Gothenburg with his family for New Sweden on the ship *Örn* on 2 February 1654. It is believed that Nils was one of the many who died during the journey across the Atlantic Ocean. When the settlers gathered to sign pledges of allegiance to the governor of the colony, Nils Andersson's widow (whose name is unknown) signed for the family. She soon remarried to Mats Hansson from Borgå/Porvoo, Finland. He became the first settler on Minquas Island (later called Boon's Island after his sonin-law, Anders Svensson Bonde (1). The area is now in Delaware county on the southern tip of Philadelphia. (2)

Nils had four known children: Anna, born ca 1637, Christina, ca 1639, Peter, ca 1641, and Michel, ca 1644. The sons adopted a family name which, among literate Swedes in their neighborhood, was spelled Laijkan, Laican, Laikan and Leikan. English scriveners used the spellings Lakian, Lykell, Lyckan, Lykan, Likin, Lycon, Loykan, Laycon, Laicon and Leycon. Today the family name is spelled Likins, Likin, Likens or Lykins.

The Lykins Family Project, started in 2008, at Family Tree DNA now has 29 members. (3) Some belong to other families but have a similar name, for example, one Laiconas from Lithuania. On the other hand, four men, Carney, David, Andrew, and Liam (figure 1) with known historical lineage from Nils Andersson turn out to match closely each other's Y-DNA, having many markers in common.

A second major finding has been made thanks to Y-DNA matching: Another Likens/ Likin family, which earlier was traced back only to Michael Likin, born 1785, (figure 1), is now identified as a branch on Nils Andersson's family tree. Since the Y-DNA link between the four Likins/Likens and Michael Likin's line covers such a long time span, it can preliminarily be presumed to be in Nils Andersson's Y-DNA line. If Michael Likin's branch can be shown historically to be a branch descending from Nils' son Michel, born ca 1644, that assumption would be proved. (The project also has shown evidence of a few non-paternal cases, that is, some branches of Nils Andersson's now-living legitimate relatives who are proven to have a different biological paternal origin.)

The Y-DNA profile that most Likins/Likens share (that is, presumably Nils Andersson's Y-DNA profile) shows a strong affinity to Finland, which is quite typical for the haplogroup that they belong to, N1c1 (N-M178) (4); it is by far the most common haplogroup among men with paternal origin from Finland. Besides matching each other, their best matches thus far to other families are to two Toivanens. (5) Nils Andersson's reconstructed 67-marker haplotype shows only 6 differences from them. They descend according to written records from Petter Toivanen (1658-1738) of Kajoo in Juga parish (Finnish Juuka), North Karelia, Finland.

The modal (most frequent) 12-marker haplotype of Jonas Likins, Sr., died 1804, (*Figure 1, next page*), (presumably also Nils Andersson's) shows a strong affinity to Finland: 423 or 15.6 % of 2,708 Y-DNA-tested men whose paternal lines as far as they know come from Finland and share the same 12-marker haplotype. The next highest frequencies by country are very low: Russia and Sweden (both 0.5 %) and Norway (0.3 %).



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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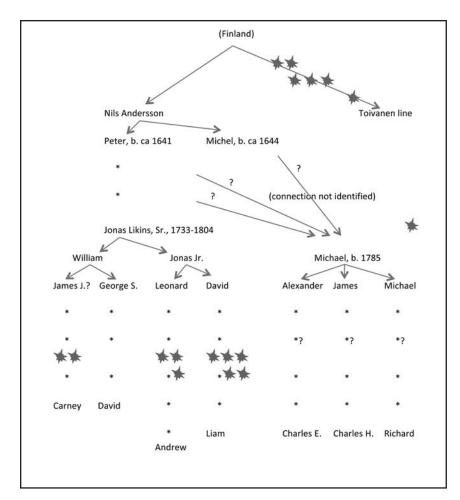


Figure 1
Nils Andersson and Likens Family Tree, highlighting the male descendants



Figure 2
Nya Kopparberget listing, 1651. Nils Andersson is found on the 7th line in the left column as Nilß Anderßon, 2 people total. (Note: the 'ß' letter is the German double 's '= English or modern Swedish 'ss'.)

YDNA evidence from this family tree is an example of how randomly Y-DNA STR mutations occur. (Short Tandem Repeat is a method to compare specific DNA loci from 2 or more people.) In David, Nils Andersson's original 67-marker haplotype is intact. On the branches leading to Andrew and Liam, on the other hand, three and five different mutations, respectively, have occurred. This means Liam is not shown as a possible relative to Andrew within the genealogical time frame at FTDNA, since eight differences separate them. (FTDNA shows only persons having a maximum of seven on the 67 marker comparison level.) But in this case they have Nils Andersson as their common paternal ancestor who lived as far back as the 18th century! (On the lines of Charles E., Charles H., and Richard are potentially more mutations but so far they have had only 37 markers tested.)

From burial records of two of Nils' daughters it is known that he came from Nya Kopparberget, now called Ljusnarsberg parish, in Västmanland. Can he be found in records from that parish? There is one charcoal-burner Nils Andersson, but he is still listed in 1655, when "our" Nils family was already in New Sweden. There is also a tailor Nils (without a mentioned patronymic and without a wife in 1645), who seems to have disappeared from the parish in 1653/54. And there is only one Nils Andersson who is evidently the Likens/Likin ancestor: He doesn't appear in the 1644 record, but does for the first time in 1645 as a mine worker ("gruvdräng"), with wife (her name is not mentioned). In 1651 (Figure 2) he is listed for the last time, now with his residence specified as Nya Kopparberget within the parish with the same name. In the next annual text records, for 1653, he is no longer listed.

That "our" Nils with his family came to Nya Kopparberget in 1644 (or early 1645) is consistent with the fact that none of his four children is recorded in the period 1636–1645 in the birth records of the parish, which are carefully kept and preserved without any breaks. In fact, no man with the name Nils Andersson had any children christened in that parish in that time interval.

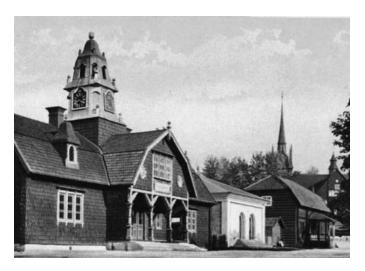


Figure 3
The courthouse and the church at Nya
Kopparberget. Today the town is called Kopparberg.
(Postcard from around 1900 from Wikipedia Commons)

Copper Mining Community: What kind of place was Nya Kopparberget in 1644? (Figure 3) It was a mining community which expanded rapidly just about that time. Copper had been found in the area only twenty years earlier, and privileges for mining had been received in 1641. The following year a courthouse was erected. The church was only nine years old. It's known that many Finns were involved in this mining industry, notably the founder himself, Mårten Finne (the by-name meaning the Finn).

What is the origin of the family's name? One hypothesis (Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig's) is that Lyckan ('a glen or clearing in the woods') could have been the name of Peter's and Michel's settlement in the woods of Schackamaxon (in present northeast Philadelphia), and that they derived their name from that. (It seems to be a coincidence that in present-day Ljusnarsberg there is a farm called Lyckan. That latter farm name was not in use in

older days according to parish records from the 1840's and before.)

Another hypothesis is that the name is derived from the village Liukola in the present town of Sankt Michel (Finnish Mikkeli) in Savolax, eastern Finland. Noteworthy is that Nils Andersson's descendants are not recorded as Finns, but ethnicity wasn't always mentioned in the records. There is one reference, though, that could indicate that his family was believed to have a Finnish origin. The naturalist Pehr Kalm wrote in his book *Travels in North America* after his 1747 to 1751 visit and commented that the surnames of the colonists: "Tolsa, Mullika and Likonen may be recognized as Finnish names." (It's uncertain if "Likonen" actually refers to Likens/Likin, though.)

A third theory comes via Andrew Likins who has been in contact with Auvo Kostiainen, Professor of General History at the University of Turku, whose opinion is that the family name most probably started out as Liikanen, or otherwise Loikkanen, Laukkanen, Liukkonen or Luukkonen. Professor Kostiainen has suggested that an Anders Liukkonen, who in 1601(?) left for Sweden from the village of Liukola, could be an ancestor of this family. Savolax was an area from which many Finns came to Västmanland, and specifically to Ljusnarsberg where around a third of the Finns arrived ca 1600. (6) Thus, a plausible working hypothesis could be that Nils Andersson didn't came from Finland himself, but his father (Anders Liukkonen) did. Hopefully, more DNA clues will come to solve the question!

Thanks to Andrew Likins, Colorado Springs, Colorado, for the above additional information.

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- 2) https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/New_Sweden). Map (accessed 21 March 2017.)
- 3) The Lykins DNA Project, see http://www.familytreedna.com/public/lykins/default. aspx?section=ycolorized. 29 members as of 18 March 2017
- 4) www.eupedia.com/europe/Haplogroup_N1c_Y-DNA.shtml. (accessed 13 June 2017)
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- 6) Veijo Saloheimo, "Det ser så ut: försöket att identifiera svedjefinnarnas ursprung i Finland," 2009, page 14, in Swedish; see http://www.migrationinstitute.fi/pdf/Svedjefinnarnas_ursprung.pdf. (accessed 24 March 2017). Title in English is "It looks like this: the effort to identify Forest Finns originating in Finland."

CRAIG COLLECTION Ronald Beatty

Craig Collection Activities



Dr. Peter Stebbins Craig, J.D., FASG, FGSP

The Craig Collection is historian Dr. Peter Craig's research books and papers which he willed to The Swedish Colonial Society. Dr. Craig was the genealogist of the SCS and had been elected to be one of only 50 Fellows of the American Society of Genealogists (F.A.S.G.), an exceptional lifetime honor, and this collection of books and papers was "his baby."

After his death in 2009, several industrious members of the SCS hired a truck, loaded 50 boxes of books and 50 boxes of loose papers and drove 200 miles to unload those boxes into the basement archives at the United Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia (ULS), located in Mt. Airy in Philadelphia. Appreciation is once again due to SCS's Sally Bridwell, Al Capotosto, Ken Peterson, Ellen Rye, Kim-Eric Williams and to ULS's Archivist John Peterson and Fellow James Ziebell as well as "two young strong seminary students" who unloaded the truck as described by Ellen Rye in Swedish Colonial News, vol. 4, no. 2, p.1, Summer 2010. Those books and papers provide an incredible resource to anyone researching the "Antient Swedes" as Peter did for so long.

A reasonably thorough finding guide is available because Ron and Cynthia Forde-Beatty put considerable time, effort, and money into raising funds from several councillors of the Society to pay for the digitization and inventory of the collection. Primary financing came from Ron and Cynthia Forde-Beatty. Other contributors were Sally and Nagle Bridwell, Al Capotosto, Michael and Jill D'Andrea, Alfred Nicolosi, Herb and Zofia Rambo, Edward and WenJen Root, Ellen and Ray Rye, John Tepe, Jr., and an Anonymous. Organizations that were very generous were the Swedish Council of America and the Order of the First Families of Maryland. The current online access to the Craig Collection would be impossible without these fundamental donations.

The actual scanning of half a million pages of loose papers and transcription of nearly 10,000 family group sheets was done by forefather member Austin Sisman, Cynthia's grandson. Austin deserves profuse gratitude for his unflagging dedication and tremendous productivity in accomplishing all that in about a year.

Ron Beatty continues to find ways to overextend himself using the materials in the collection. He has volunteered to create "packages" of family group sheets for patrons willing to pay \$99 per ancestral line. Requests have exceeded our wildest expectations; Ron has now delivered nine packages with seven more requested. John Tepe deserves rich praise for organizing the online sales site and deciding on the \$99 price! The most recent package for the Friend family took two months to assemble and totals 705 pages! (See next page for sales details).

Merely finding the family group sheets is quite the hunt for the proverbial "needle in the haystack". The group sheets for any single individual may be filed in any of twenty "folders" under the family name, or perhaps associated with the congregation to which the family belonged, or alternatively within the locale where they lived. Ron continues to develop a finding key that locates family group sheets; the list of names continues to grow. Since the family sheets are hand-written, computer searches often miss the mark. Similarly, the list of cryptic source citations (such as "Dern 368" or "Rac 330") also continues to grow. These interpretations of the source citations are prepended to each package, and Ron has recently decided to append a concise description of New Sweden daily life that appeared while researching the Friend package, information that was formerly available on The Swedish Colonial Society website before the latter was revised.

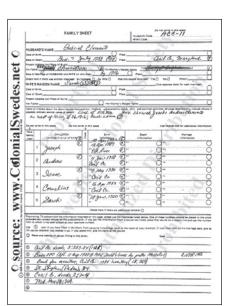
The Friend family package included a couple of newly-added optional features: 1) Peter Craig's analysis of two Andrew Friends and three Charles Friends on the frontier whose records were intermingled confusingly—a demonstration of the data gathering and analysis required to separate such individuals from the tangled mess of data (think of untangling a lot of string after a five-year-old finishes playing with it). And 2) Rumors that Refuse to Die: Peter Craig's refutations of five rumored individuals, again part of the confusions muddying the truth.

Ron contends that this is still fun because he learns about New Sweden behaviors and customs and discovers new Rambo (his forefather family) materials as he reviews the pages for each package. Since the materials include both correspondence and data from the web, the range of correspondents and topics varies widely. In all cases, Peter's analytical mind and attention to details shine through. It would have been easier to learn genealogical techniques directly from Peter while he was living, but these exercises with his correspondence are remarkably instructive. Adobe Acrobat Pro is a fun tool for techie types like Ron; it can convert scanned documents into computer-readable text, allow annotations, reorder pages, apply watermarks and enforce security. If anyone can remove indelible watermarks, Ron would love to know how. Even with the password he cannot remove those indelible ones.

Since there are now nine customers waiting patiently (we hope) for Ron to apply his perfectionist overachievement to their ancestral lines, we have decided to create quick "preliminary packages" consisting of ONLY the family group sheets, to be followed by the extensive package whenever time allows Ron to "Get 'round to it."

Craig Collection Packages Available Online—More to Come

The Swedish Colonial Society has posted on its website for sale to the public nine packages of family group sheets and related materials from the Craig Collection, with nine more being actively edited. Members can order further customized packages at *craigcollection.colonialswedes.net*. These packages are prepared with great effort by our genealogist Ron Beatty. They run from 18 to 260 pages in length and each costs \$99. They are for



the most part key word searchable. It is our hope that these materials, and others to follow, will facilitate the process by which members of The Swedish Colonial Society apply for forefather status as descendants of Swedish/Finnish colonists who arrived in the thirteen colonies before the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783.

For further information contact John Tepe at craigcollection@colonialswedes.net.

UPDATE

Swedish Colonial Society DNA Project

by Rev. Cynthia Forde-Beatty and Becky Griswold at Family Tree DNA.com

So far, the SCS New Sweden DNA Project is going very well, even better than we expected!

For those of you who have tested at Ancestry DNA or 23andMe and want to transfer your results to Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) and join the SCS DNA Project, we have good news! Now it is FREE to transfer your DNA results to FTDNA. After transferring you can unlock all Family Finder Features, which include the Chromosome Browser, myOrigins and ancientOrigins for only \$19. Please email Becky Griswold, beckygrizz@yahoo.com for more information.



https://www.familytreedna.com/groups

RESURRECT THE FARMSTEAD



Please lend your support toward the resurrection of a unique American open-air museum, the New Sweden Colonial Farmstead. You can support this exciting restoration by buying a full log for \$100 or a partial log for \$50.

While the Swedish Colonial Society has generously pledged \$25,000 to erect the first cabin, the entire Farmstead project will require several times that amount. This fund-raising campaign will contribute to preserving, promoting and protecting the Scandinavian heritage of the Delaware Valley. Donors' names will be permanently posted in the cabin they have helped to complete. Please specify "Farmstead" and send your tax-deductible contribution to the SCS treasurer: Linda Alexy, 438 Regina Street, Philadelphia PA 19116-2405.

In 1988 the Farmstead, consisting of 7 log cabins representing a 17th century settler's farm, was built under the supervision of Swedish craftsman Gunnar Zetterqvist based on existing farmsteads in Sweden. The museum was opened in Bridgeton NJ by King Carl XVI Gustav and Queen Silvia in celebration of the 350th anniversary of the founding of New Sweden on the Delaware in 1638.

The Farmstead was a popular attraction with school groups and tourists for about 10 years until the local economy experienced a significant decline and funding became unavailable.

Now the Swedish Colonial Society and the New Sweden Company have begun moving and restoring the cabins one at



a time from New Jersey to the site on the Delaware River that was originally proposed for this project in 1938 by New Sweden's foremost historian and founder of SCS, Dr. Amandus Johnson.

Governor Johan Printz ruled the New Sweden Colony from the Printzhof, in Essington, Tinicum Township PA, beginning in 1643.

The Farmstead will be a key part of Tinicum Township's Governor Printz Park Improvement Project whose goal is to develop the park as a community space and regional riverfront destination, and to restore the impressive and historic structure nearby, the 1799 Lazaretto. With Tinicum Township and the Tinicum Township Historical Society as partners, we look forward to celebrating this fascinating chapter in the history of the Delaware Valley while commemorating the introduction of the iconic log cabin that played an essential role in expanding America's western frontier.

by Joseph Mathews, Chairman, New Sweden Company Executive Committee (comments and questions to jpmathews1@aol.com)

Bridgeton NJ's Swedish Sister City 2017 High School Student Exchange Program



On Tuesday, February 21, the annual excursion to New Sweden sites in Wilmington, Delaware, was taken by the 2017 class of the Eskilstuna, Sweden-Bridgeton NJ exchange student program. Standing at the altar of Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church are (from left to right) Rebecca Wilson, Executive Director of Old Swedes historic site; Aiyahna McCoy, Bridgeton student; Ellen Eriksson and Johanna Rosenkvist, both Swedish students; George Linen, Bridgeton faculty; Dyanna Magee, Bridgeton student; and Karin Grenabo, Swedish faculty.

Each American hosts their Swedish counterpart and the favor is returned when the Americans go to visit Eskilstuna, Bridgeton's sister city in Sweden. This exemplary program has been running at Bridgeton High since the 1980's.

Thanks to Joe Mathews!

Peter Hollender Ridder

contined from page 10



Example of new settler's riihi, this one built 1937-1938. Every farmstead and almost every fort had a "riihi". Courtesy of Rääkkylä Seura.

NOT POOR PEASANTS, BUT RATHER WEALTHY FARMERS

The very source of success of Forest Finns was their highyielding but extremely wood-consuming cultivation method. In central Sweden, however, the swiddening ended suddenly. The rise of the copper and iron industries, which took wood resources from the same forests for their smelting, caused conflicts. Formerly welcomed settlers became forest-destroying criminals

Because the Crown had difficulty in finding eager emigrants to the Delaware Valley, these Finns solved two problems at once. Finns sentenced for illegal slash-and-burn cultivation were pardoned if they went to New Sweden, while others went voluntarily. In Sweden this "volunteerism" was strengthened by Queen Christina's vow to burn down the huts and houses of the swiddening Finns and to destroy their crops so they would be forced to leave the forests.²⁷

The Forest Finns of central Sweden were not poor peasants; they were rather rich farmers who traded their harvests as far as the coastal towns of Sweden and even abroad.²⁸ In central Sweden many Finns were fully bilingual.²⁹ To know who was a Swede and who was a Finn in New Sweden was an almost impossible task: the Finnish settlers spoke Finnish only among themselves. If even one visitor was present, they would consistently speak Swedish.³⁰ Because their agricultural method depleted resources within two or three generations, an integral part of their life-style was their willingness to migrate. This helped them adjust quickly to the New Sweden settlement of the Delaware Valley.³¹

Twenty years later the Dutch also noticed that the Finns, primitive or not, were very successful in cultivating the land, and many of them had attained prosperity. The Dutch requested that more farmers be sent, "not Hollanders, however, but other nations and especially Finns and Swedes, who are good farmers." ³²

Conclusions Concerning Commandant Peter Ridder

From this article it is not possible to draw far-reaching conclusions but the following could be possible points for further study:

The Dutch officers of Fort Christina had a problem of loyalty. There was a surplus of seafarers in the Netherlands. They had to donate their return to Europe as a service to their countrymen after serving the rival Swedes in America.

On the other hand, Peter Ridder and his family had no problem of loyalty: They had chosen their side when they settled inside the Straits off the southwest coast of Finland. Peter Ridder's future depended totally on the benevolence of Fleming and Oxenstierna in Sweden. This was perhaps one explanation for the tension between the Dutch officers and Peter Hollender Ridder.

Though Ridder's written responsibility included only military duties, he, at his own risk, also took care of the civil problems of the settlement; people accepted him as their civil administrative authority. Commandant Peter Ridder has been rightfully regarded as a Governor of New Sweden in role although not in title.

After three strenuous years Ridder left New Sweden, but the Forest Finns with their swiddening culture stayed. This was a lasting contribution that changed the military Fort Christina into the New Sweden Settlement; a new period of prosperity in the fertile Delaware Valley was in sight.³³

AFTER COMMANDANT RIDDER'S RETURN FROM NEW SWEDEN: "I HAVE ENJOYED MY DIFFICULT MISSION"

To give the last word to Ridder, we must remember that he used Old High German with Dutch dialectal forms. We needed two PhD professors emeriti to translate the letters.

According to Dr. Wedel's translation into English, Ridder wrote to Oxenstierna: "I was, however, the person who opened the way for the enterprise. As a refrain goes, I had to 'bite off the top of the point'". And later in the same letter, "I have enjoyed my difficult mission." ³⁴

HAPPY ENDING: DOUBLE WEDDING IN STOCKHOLM CATHEDRAL

Before leaving Stockholm for New Sweden in 1639 Ridder had proposed to a butcher's daughter but the father turned the young man down. Perhaps the suitor was not wealthy enough? So we can imagine the young Commandant landing at the Rocks with a broken heart!

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Ridder contined

After returning from New Sweden, Peter had better luck. In Stockholm Cathedral under the sword of St George, Peter Ridder was wedded to Elisabet Johansdotter and his elder brother Hans simultaneously married Brita Johansdotter. Sisters Elisabet and Brita were orphans: there was no father to say no and their late adoptive father had been a wealthy Councilor and Burgher of Stockholm.

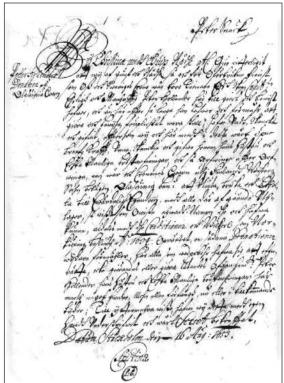
An "Old poor Finn," ³⁵ as Peter Ridder introduced himself, died when he was over 80 years old. According to his will, he was buried permanently 6 May 1697 in Viipuri (*Viborg* in Swedish), actually today inside Russia, east of the Finnish border.

Later, widow Elisabet Ridder did not inherit a kingdom, but

instead a stone house in Stockholm's Old City where it stands even today, housing the Gråmunke Café (with good coffee and marvelous pastries!).



Commandant's House in front of Viipuri Castle. Upstairs the residence of the Governor (Peter Ridder) and administrative offices (his brother Hans Ridder). Downstairs the residence and headquarters of the Commandant (Peter Ridder). Photo Tytti Halonen.



Queen Christina's letter, 1653, donating mills to Peter Ridder. Copy in Finnish National Archives.

THE FAMILY STORY OF THE VIIPURI COMMANDANT

You may remember my conclusion 50 years ago. I thought I had married a descendant of a pirate. I was wrong. The Hollender Ridder family knew better: Peter Ridder was not a pirate but during his long life he was Commandant of Viipuri Castle.

At various times during the 17th century, members of the Hollender Ridder family had moved one after another to Vyborg (Finnish: *Viipuri*; Swedish: *Viborg*; Russian: Выборг), then a rich international commercial city called "the Rose Garden of Viipuri" where the family thrived. Elisabet Ridder, four daughters, and two sons moved from Stockholm to Viipuri when Peter was appointed as the Commandant and had his headquarters and his residence (1666–1681) in the Commandant House.

MILLS DONATED BY QUEEN CHRISTINA

In addition the Hollender Ridder family had their mills, too. The Queen donated to Peter Ridder not one, but three, mills!

After World War II, Viipuri, the Rose Garden City, and the mills, all became part of Russia, USSR. Now you understand why the family, having this Swedish Royal Letter signed by Queen Christina of Sweden granting the mills to them "in perpetuity property" 'till Ewärdeligh Egendoom" wants their mills returned by Mr. Putin.

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- 35. Ridder to Per Brahe, undated letter written after 1681. Georg Luther's Archives, Finland.

Johan Classon Risingh

contined from page 13

The Dutch conquest

During the summer of 1655 Stuyvesant began energetically to prepare an attack. In late August he sailed up the Delaware River with seven ships, including the *De Waegh*, with more than 300 soldiers, a company of seamen, and artillery. He forced the Swedish defenders of Fort Casimir to give up, and after two weeks of siege, Risingh on September 15 also had to surrender Fort Christina.

What surprised the Swedes when they left Fort Christina was that Stuyvesant offered them the return of the fort. He also suggested a union for both defense and attack. It was sufficient for the Dutch to have the land below the Christina River, while the Swedes could retain the land north of that river. Thus both sides could come to an agreement on the Delaware River as a colonial territory. Risingh requested the proportion in written form to have time to think it over.

The reason for Stuyvesant's offer was that, shortly before the capitulation, he received word from the council in New Amsterdam that the Indians had penetrated the colony. By sailing to the Delaware with almost all his soldiers then available in New Amsterdam he had exposed the colony to an Indian attack.

Risingh's answer to Stuyvesant was that the offer could not be accepted under the existing conditions. The Dutch had devastated the colony so it would be difficult to survive the winter there. Nor did the Swedes feel they could rely upon the Dutch to keep their promise. They were afraid of new provocations when Stuyvesant had cleared up the problems in New Amsterdam.

Finally, Risingh believed that he did not have the authority to make concessions on the reparations to which the Swedish crown was entitled for the losses caused by the Dutch military action. This question was on a level which should be dealt with by the governments of the two states.

It was also surprising that Stuyvesant at Risingh's request left the cannons, other weapons, and equipment in the fort that belonged to the Swedish crown. It may be explained by the fact that he wanted to have good relations with the people in the Swedish area and because of the threatening situation in New Amsterdam.

In connection with the capitulation, Risingh and Stuyvesant wrote a separate article (Amandus Johnson argues that it was secret) about a loan to Risingh of 300 Flemish pounds to cover Risingh's needs on the home journey and the first months in Sweden. The weapons and effects (moveable property) in Fort Christina belonging to the Swedish state and the New Sweden Company was security for the loan. It should be repaid in Amsterdam within 6 months.

Risingh's relations with Stuyvesant had, up to now, been respectful, even during the capitulation negotiations. However, later, when Risingh with his followers were to leave New Amsterdam for Europe, they changed to a more irritable tone. Risingh, via von Elswich, made complaints about the various damages done to the property belonging to the Swedish state and the Company. He also accused Stuyvesant of breaching the stipulated capitulation, not providing proper lodging, and that the people departing with Risingh had to leave on various ships. Stuyvesant answered with counter protests after which Risingh, in a letter again calling attention to these complaints, also accused Stuyvesant of

GOVERNORS OF NEW SWEDEN

lying about the separate negotiations on the loan. Stuyvesant called them secret and without the knowledge of the people at Fort Christina. Risingh emphasized that they were made with the people's knowledge and signed by Stuyvesant in their presence and at the place where he and Stuyvesant had met during the negotiations on the capitulation articles. Stuyvesant did not answer this letter.

RETURN TO SWEDEN

After Risingh returned to Sweden in March 1657 King Charles X Gustavus appointed him as chief inspector of the tolls for Prussia and Pomerania. That post lasted to 1660, and in August the same year Risingh was back in Stockholm. He then held no other posts except for a temporary one as associate judge in a maritime court, which was established in 1665. This court was abolished the following year without having begun its work and without Risingh having served there or receiving any salary. For a short time, he was requested by Magnus Gabriel De la Gardie to make a city plan for Lidköping and some other city planning. Risingh now mostly lived in poverty and after several

King Charles X Gustavus

After his return to Sweden Risingh had been occupied mainly with three matters. One was his writings to convince King Charles Gustavus and the Swedish government to retake New Sweden. The current wars, however, absorbed the king and country too much for this objective to be considered. Another was the writing of his economic theses. A third was his juridical process with the New Sweden Company and the Board of Commerce concerning economic demands for his work in the colony.

years of illness he died in April 1672, 55 or 56 years old.

Risingh's legal process against the New Sweden Company was initiated by him in 1662 and it reached up to the court of appeal. The process went slowly. Not until four years later (1666) did the court receive an order from the regency to examine whether or not Risingh caused the loss of New Sweden. He was acquitted of that accusation in the fall of 1667, after which, in 1668, he received a resolution from the regency in which most of his financial claims were acknowledged.

Concerning the loan from Stuyvesant of 300 Flemish pounds, no source material has been found confirming that he paid it back in Amsterdam. The cannons at Fort Christina left there as a security were later found to be in New Amsterdam. Risingh probably looked upon the loan as a part of the settlement of his accounts with the Board of Commerce.

The loan amount was rather small compared with the demands he would later have for his service as governor. When he changed it to florins in London he got 1,800, with a value of 720 silver daler in Sweden. This sum today represents 186,970 Swedish crowns, an amount which corresponds to a little more than half a year's income for a Swedish high school teacher. It is a small amount compared to the repayment Risingh ought to have received for his expenses and the salary he earned while governor of New Sweden.



Israel Lagerfelt

The fact is that Risingh's claims in the judicial process were confirmed as legitimate. He was nevertheless damaged greatly by this six-year-long process. It was therefore difficult for him to reach a new position, as for example, in the Board of Commerce. It may have been that Israel Lagerfelt, whom

Risingh had been in conflict with during the trials, and who had a dominant position on the board, was an influence after 1668 on Risingh's not receiving the money for his acknowledged claims. At the same time he had large debts. Another reason could be the difficulties for the Swedish crown to pay salaries because of the previous long war period.

Therefore, during the rest of his life Risingh lived in poverty. But he still strove to finish his works on economics and to get them onto the market. His success in publishing two books despite setbacks and illness is witness to his perseverance.

POSTHUMOUS REPUTATION

Risingh is remembered by history primarily for three contributions. One is his research on economic theories. Another is the valuable historic information he has supplied to posterity in his diary from the expedition on *The Eagle* and in his governmental reports. The third is his role as a governor and leader of New Sweden and the subsequent loss of the colony.

Risingh's economic research

His book on economy and trade was called *A Treatise on Commerce* and consisted of three parts: One on goods, trading sites and shipping, one on currency, weights, and measures, and one on the business of exchange. Only the first part has been preserved. However, Risingh, in 1669, published a summary of his larger work titled *An Extract on Trade or Commerce*. Then in 1671, one year prior to his death, *Een Landbook*, concerning agriculture, appeared. He was also the author of several other unprinted essays on economics.

On his economic studies, he has been acclaimed by several economists. Eli F. Heckscher points out that, even if Risingh was not original, he introduced mercantile ideas into Swedish literature and was therefore significant in the development of the economic debate in Sweden. Sven Gerentz, another economic scholar, believes that Risingh had a great influence on the Board of Commerce. His ideas for many years formed the basis for the economic policy of the Swedish government.

Risingh's writings as historical source material

Risingh, with his intellectual personality, made daily notations in diary form in his journal aboard *The Eagle*. He also wrote several official reports from New Sweden to the government in Sweden. This material is regarded as one of the best historical sources for present day historical research on the seventeenth century colonial societies of eastern North America.

The loss of New Sweden

Some historians have stated that Risingh was guilty for the loss of the colony because of his capture of Fort Casimir. Other historians are of an opposite opinion, for example Ellen Fries. Stellan Dahlgren, the Swedish historian who specializes in the seventeenth century and seems to have studied Risingh most exhaustively, says that the capture of Fort Casimir has been exaggerated. The incident was of a type that continually occurred in the colonies, which normally did not give rise to any dramatic actions. Furthermore, there were other, more fundamental causes for the order from the Netherlands to bring an end to the Swedish presence in the Delaware region: above all was probably the fear that Sweden would strengthen its colony in America with new expeditions. The Dutch attack on New Sweden may also have been determined by their hostilities against Sweden in 1655 when they strongly competed with the Swedish trade in the Baltic.

It should be mentioned that Risingh's capture of Fort Casimir was initially looked upon with favor by the Swedish government and Risingh's resolute conduct towards the Dutch was praised, for example, by his later antagonist Israel Lagerfelt. When New Sweden was later lost, it was easy to seek an explanation in which Risingh was made the scapegoat. That is what has happened to many persons in history. After 1664 Stuyvesant was also looked upon as a scapegoat for the loss of New Amsterdam to the English.

The loss of New Sweden should be seen in a greater economic and political perspective in northwestern Europe and in colonial North America. Since the beginning of New Sweden, the Netherlands and the Netherland West India Company saw the Swedish colonial venture as something temporary. Previously the Dutch had explored and partially started colonization and a trade station on the Delaware. They believed that the "South River" area belonged to them. They hoped that New Sweden after some time would die out on its own.

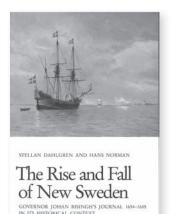
To speed up this process they appointed Petrus Stuyvesant as director. He was more efficient than Kieft and was strong militarily so he could act as he wanted in the Delaware region. By erecting Fort Casimir the Dutch could control all the Swedish sailing traffic.

The fact that the expedition with *The Eagle* and Risingh's leadership could for a while be successful was largely due to the war between the Netherlands and England. The military capacity of the New Netherland colony had to be concentrated on the defense against an English attack. With the peace between the Netherlands and England in the summer of 1654 and with the knowledge of a new Swedish expedition under preparation with the *Mercurius*, the West India Company started as soon as possible its military action against New Sweden by sending orders to Stuyvesant and by sending the ship *De Waegh* with soldiers to New Amsterdam. The existence of New Sweden soon came to an end.

Johan Risingh's hopes for New Sweden had been far-reaching when he left for the colony. The loss of it was the great setback in his life. It is a pity that this able person should devote some of the best years of his life to a leadership with so small a chance of succeeding, and that his life should end so tragically.

Risingh governed New Sweden with a deep sense of responsibility. With a long-range strategy, he made admirable progress for the welfare of the people and the colony. During his time as leader, New Sweden had a short period of prosperity, a development which promised much for the future, had not the Dutch put a stop to it.

It is now time for the descendants of the colonists of New Sweden to appreciate his achievements more. My suggestion is for the erection of a memorial monument, a bust or a statue.



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