

Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center

Sven August Johnson papers, 1831-1921

MSS P:9

.25 linear feet (1 box)

- Creators:** Johnson, Sven August, 1831-
Romwall, Johannes
Romwall, Gustav
Pettersdotter, Anneka
Johnson, Andreas
Johnson, Emma Albertina
Nilsson, Anna Cajsa
Nilsson, John
- Language:** Swedish (bulk), English
- Access:** The collection is open for research. A limited amount of photocopies may be requested via mail.
- Subject headings:** Håkabo (Sweden)
Älvsborgs län (Sweden)
Winnebago County (Ill.)
Letter writing--19th century
Naturalization records
- Processed by:** Swenson Center staff
Finding aid updated by Lisa Huntsha, 2013
- Repository:** Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center
Augustana College
639 38th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201
309-794-7204
sag@augustana.edu

Custodial History/Provenance

The collection was transferred to the Swenson Center in 1981 from the Special Collections at Augustana College Library, who received the collection from the Lutheran Church of America Archives in Chicago, Illinois in 1976. The earlier history of the collection is not known.

Biographical Sketch

Sven August Johnson was born in the parish of Wing in Västergötland in 1831 to Johannes Romwall and Anneka Pettersdotter. He immigrated to Rockford, IL in 1852, where he met and married Emily Peterson, a Swedish immigrant from the City of Kumla in Östergötland. The couple had seven children. In 1879, Sven August became president of the newly founded Central Furniture Company in Rockford and became a successful businessman. The family belonged to the First Lutheran Church in Rockford and Sven August was an avid Republican.

Content/Description

The collection consists of approximately 50 letters written by Sven August's parents, Johannes Romwall and Anneka Pettersdotter and siblings, Anna Cajsa, Andreas, and Gustaf. Both of the brothers eventually immigrate to Minnesota. The majority of the letters are about family matters and news from their hometown of Håkabo. Included are also Sven August's original naturalization papers from Winnebago County, IL.

Inventory list

1. Naturalization Papers - Winnebago County, Illinois
 - 1a. Biographical material and typewritten description of the letters
 2. Letters 1853 - Johannes Romwall
 3. Letters 1854 - Johannes Romwall and Anneka Pettersdotter
 4. Letters 1855 - Johannes Romwall and Anneka Pettersdotter
 5. Letters 1856 - Johannes Romwall and Anneka Pettersdotter
 6. Letters 1858 - Johannes Romwall and Anna Cajsa & John Nilsson
 7. Letters 1860 - Johannes Romwall & Andreas Johnson
 8. Letters 1862 - Johannes Romwall & Anneka Pettersdotter
 9. Letters 1865 - Johannes Romwall & Anneka Pettersdotter
 10. Letters 1866 - Johannes Romwall & Anneka Pettersdotter, and Emma Albertina Johnson
 11. Letters 1867 - Jonas Nilsson, Johannes Romwall and Anneka Pettersdotter, and Andreas Johnson
 12. Letters 1868, 1869 - Johannes Romwall & Anneka Pettersdotter, and Andreas Johnson
 13. Letters 1870 - Johannes Romwall & Anneka Pettersdotter
 14. Letters 1872-1875 Johannes Romwall & Anneka Pettersdotter, and Gustav Romwall
 15. Letters 1876-1878 Johannes Romwall & Anneka Pettersdotter, and estate inventory papers from Sweden
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Publication Note

When citing this collection, use the following credit line: Sven August Johnson papers, 1831-1921 (MSS P:9), Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois