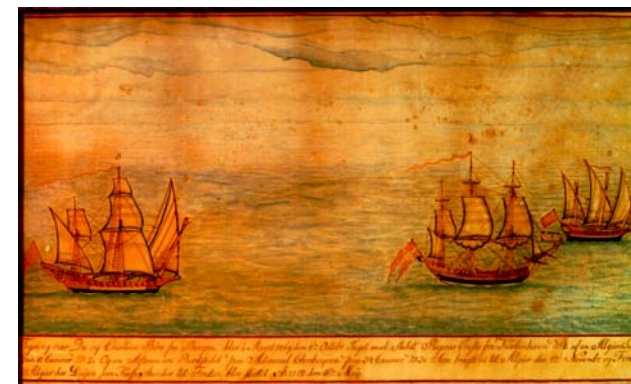




## *Christian Claussön Börs* (1746-1826)

Already as a child I believe I was told that one of my direct ancestors, Christian Börs had been taken as slave to Algier and served as coffee servant with the Dey of Algier. In due course a ransom was collected and payed, and he was liberated. The story I inherited from somewhere was that nobody knew exactly if or when he might return to Bergen. Upon arrival in Bergen, he set his way to his beloved Mother (or was it his grandmother ?) and knocked at the door which was locked. ‘Mother, it is me, Christian !’ whereupon his Mother replied: ‘No, it is not Christian, he had his tongue cut out !’ Well, happily he still had all parts of the body. When he was set free, he could opt between a sum of money or the dress he had been carrying.



In 1993 I worked on an e-book on the Börs family and I managed to get in contact with Vilhelm Teting Börs Lind. He immediately replies: ‘... Det er ikke til å tro at jeg plutselig – i min alder – har fått på bordet noe jeg har drømt om å få laget til selv, men som jeg neppe hadde fått gjort noe med selv om jeg blir meget gammel. ....’. It happened that Christian had sent a letter from captivity to Bergen and that this letter was in Vilhelm’s possession.

[http://www.falsen.se/Bergen/Vilhelm\\_Teting\\_Bors\\_Lind\\_brev\\_1993-03-29.pdf](http://www.falsen.se/Bergen/Vilhelm_Teting_Bors_Lind_brev_1993-03-29.pdf)

[http://www.falsen.se/Bergen/Vilhelm\\_Teting\\_Bors\\_Lind\\_bilagor\\_1993-04-15.pdf](http://www.falsen.se/Bergen/Vilhelm_Teting_Bors_Lind_bilagor_1993-04-15.pdf)

Successively I found the drawing of Christian deposited with Bergens Sjøfartsmuseum:

[http://www.falsen.se/Bergen/three\\_vessels.pdf](http://www.falsen.se/Bergen/three_vessels.pdf)

and the Universitetet i Bergen, (Kultur-)Historisk Museum kindly provided a diapositive of Christian’s dress in captivity (now found on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the museum):

<http://www.falsen.se/Bergen/dress.pdf>

In 2005 Berit Börs published ‘Familien Börs En fortelling om familien’ with all archival documents on this remarkable event. (pp 44-71). Christian became honoured and remembered in Bergen.

<http://www.falsen.se/Bergen/Kaffeskjenkerdrakt.pdf>



I 2013 a book is published by Vetle Lid Larssen: 1001 Natt. Den utrolige historien om to norske slaver i Alger.

[https://www.cappelendamm.no/\\_skj%C3%B8nslitteratur/romaner/1001-natt-vetle-lid-larssen-9788202350130](https://www.cappelendamm.no/_skj%C3%B8nslitteratur/romaner/1001-natt-vetle-lid-larssen-9788202350130)