Editor's Corner

Through the gift of a friend, I recently acquired a number of old Holland Society Yearbooks, some of them published seventy years ago. Beautifully printed and elaborately designed, they have made great bedside reading these past few weeks. I can see why they had to be discontinued since the cost of their publication today would be literally astronomical.

Scanning them, however, I have a clear impression of certain basic changes which have taken place in our Society over the years. For one thing, we are much less of a social organization and much more of an historical one. In former days our members gathered in goodly numbers in a New York hotel, ate a gargantuan meal and then listened to several speakers. This happened several times a year. Here, for example, is the menu for the annual banquet which was served at the old Waldorf-Astoria on January 19, 1912.

**Oysters on the Half Shell**

**Westmoreland Soup**

**Assorted Relishes**

**Filet of Kingfish with Shrimp Sauce**

**Hollandaize Potatoes**

**Crown of Sweetbreads with Mushrooms**

**Medallion of Lamb**

**Chateau Potatoes and Macedoine of Vegetables**

**Netherland Sherbet**

**Roasted Philadelphia Squab**

**Lettuce Salad with French Dressing**

**Chestnut Pudding with Chantilly Sauce**

**Cakes, Fruit and Coffee**

After that repast, there were nine toasts, an address of welcome and three major addresses! One wonders how many of the company were still awake at 11:15 when the evening closed with the singing of *Auld Lang Syne*! The record does not indicate what the cost of the evening may have been, but your Editor shudders to think what such a menu would cost in the Waldorf-Astoria today.

There was no *de Halve Maen* in those days so one must judge the interests of the Society by the addresses at the dinner meeting, the full text of which was always carried in the *Yearbook*. Here too there has been a significant change. Almost without exception these addresses dealt with the Netherlands, its history and its virtues. At the January, 1912 dinner, for example, the three addresses were *Our Ancestors and Others* and *The Motherland, Our Ancestors and Others and the Hollander and Liberty of...* (continued on page 11)

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Dutch Influences in Canada: I
1589-1624

by Dr. Jan Kupp

In the more readily available sources relating to the history of early Canada there are several indications that the Dutch — in French and English documents of that time sometimes called Flemish — exerted some form of influence on the development of that particular part of North America. In his "History of New France," Marx Lescarbot mentioned that in 1607 some Dutchmen caused the dissolution of the Monts Company despite the fact that France and the Dutch Republic were closely allied in their battle against the Spanish Hapsburgs.1

Champlain made certain suggestions to the French government, adding that if no settlers were brought over to Canada the English or the Dutch would make themselves master of the colony.2 The Jesuits in their "Relations" of 1634-1672 made numerous references to the influence of the Dutch on the Canadian fur trade. After 1644 they directly accused the Dutch States General and the Dutch West India Company of aiming at the complete destruction of the French possession.3 The danger of a Dutch presence in New York was pointed out to the French government by Fathers Le Jeune and Druillettes, by Governors Avaugour and Frontenac, and by the Intendant Talon.4

None of the sources mentioned above state clearly what policy the Dutch followed towards Canada. The "Jesuit Relations" which contain the greatest number of references to a Dutch influence sometimes hint at political intentions. At other times they merely describe the Dutch policy towards New France as economic. That there was a continuous Dutch influence in Canada is indicated by a reference appearing in the letters of the French official of Louisbourg who in 1758 accused the Netherlanders of exerting some form of pressure on the Canadian economy.5

What was the nature of this influence? At present this question is only partly answered. Perhaps the best way to shed a little light on the problem is by sketching the beginning of this influence during the years 1580-1624 when some merchants of Holland became interested in Canada.

Whatever influence the Dutch Republic exerted during the 17th and part of the 18th century — if any — it is certain that it had no political character. In the official State papers of the United Provinces of the Netherlands, Canada — also called Nova Francia — is mentioned only when the activities of some private citizens caused international repercussions, e.g. in 1607 and 1608 because of the raiding of the Monts Company. These are, however, very rare and are dealt with in a few sentences.

In the Resolutions of the Dutch States General and those of the two seafaring provinces, Holland and Zeeland, one meets the name of Canada not more than a dozen times during the period 1590-1760.6 Mostly this was during the Seven Years War. Politically, Canada did not exist as far as the Low Countries were concerned. This is also true of private correspondence and travelogues. The only description of some length may be found in the journey of Jan Cornelisz May to the American coast in the years 1611-1612,7 Evidently there was no interest in the northern region in Holland during

4. The correspondence of these persons is printed in the "Jesuit Relations" of 1640 and 1647-1651, in J.R. Brodhead (O'Callaghan) Documents relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York (Albany, 1856), Vol. IX (France) I. A general description of the efforts of Avaugour, Talon and Frontenac with regard to the proposed actions against the Dutch may be found in G. Lancot, History in Canada (Toronto, 1963), Vols. I and II.
6. Most of the Resolutions dating back to the 1580s are collected in print. They are, however, in Dutch or French.
7. The log of the skipper is edited by the Van Linschoten Vereeniging, a spiritual brother of the Champlain Society.

Dr. Kupp, a former Professor of History at the University of Victoria, B.C., presented this article as a paper at the annual meeting of Canadian Historical Association in 1971. It is reprinted here by permission. This is the first installment.
the years 1550-1620. Later interest was confined only to New England, New York, Virginia and the Carolinas and this was a commercial interest.

This negligence does not mean that Dutch ships did not visit the western hemisphere. The notarial contracts of Rotterdam of 1550-1650 indicate that many journeys were undertaken to the West Indies and Brazil, and sometimes the captains were forced to follow the North American coastline. Apparently neither the skippers nor their freighters saw any profit in a landing on the North American coast. If there had been any interest in the continent it could have been directed only towards furs and fish, two products in which the Dutch Republic had little interest when it declared itself independent of Spain in 1579.

The fishing industry of Holland dates back to the middle of the 14th century and was concentrated mainly in the Zuyder Sea, slowly expanding from there to the North Sea, the Baltic Sea and the cod and herring fisheries of Norway (the Lofoten Islands). It would seem preposterous to expect that the far-away Banks of Newfoundland could have any attraction to merchants who were aiming at controlling the fish industry of Europe. For a long time the fur trade of Europe had been concentrated in Central Europe mainly at Danzig, Novgorod, Leipzig and Frankfurt. The Netherlands had no fur market of any importance, Antwerp acting as an advanced post for Western Europe before the city was sacked by the Spanish armies and finally closed by the Dutch occupation of the mouth of the Scheldt.

Therefore, there were no reasons why merchants of the Netherlands should have become interested in the two Canadian products: fish and furs. Most probably they would have continued this attitude of indifference if it had not been for a sudden surge in the commercial activities of Holland which extended their former duties within the Hanseatic League as carriers of fish and grain and within a few decades made them the freighters of Europe.

Note that I have used the words Dutch and Netherlanders, giving thereby the impression that Netherlanders were mainly involved. This impression is not correct. The religious disturbances started by Luther in 1517 caused — as so many reform movements do — numerous wars, persecutions and changes. The reform movement led to a small Volkenwanderung. Lutherans, Roman Catholics, Calvinists, Baptists and those belonging to other denominations moved from one place to another searching for a refuge for their religious convictions and more often for a haven where they could apply their trade or craft with some measure of safety and security.

In the 1580's it became clear that the geographic conditions of the northern Netherlands made this territory invulnerable to the attacks of the various armies and navies of Europe. Therefore it attracted a flood of persecuted men and women who brought with them their skills, trade connections, and most often their capital. This in turn led to a search for an outlet of economic energy which brought the merchants of the Netherlands soon to the Moluccas, Muscovy, the Mediterranean, the Arctic, India, in short all over the world. These men were French, Dutch, Germans, Swedes, Spanish and Portuguese Jews, and many other nationalities all settling in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Dordrecht, Middelburg and in other trading centers of the Low Countries.

During 1585 a veritable deluge of Antwerp merchants came to Amsterdam. Despite their religious differences all had one common interest: trade. This conglomeration is meant when I use the word “Dutch” in the description of the trade of that time. Some of these men had formerly been closely connected with the French and English Newfoundland fisheries, or with the Central European fur trade which around the 1580s had established its headquarters in Cologne.

Two events brought these merchants in contact with the Canadian fur trade and cod fisheries. The first event was the spectacular rise of the London Muscovy Company in the good graces of Czar Ivan IV also called the Terrible.

By the last quarter of the 16th century Holland had acquired a sizeable part of the grain export of the Baltic ports of Riga, Reval, Danzig and Lubeck. This was a part of the Dutch herring fisheries of the Baltic Sea and was also connected with the salt trade of France. Dutch ships brought herring and grain to Western Europe and on the return journey transported salt from Brouage, St. Martin, or Aveiro in Portugal to the Baltic Sea and the herring fisheries of the North Sea and Norway.11 In the 1580s because of the influx of merchants and capital mentioned above there came a growing impetus to obtain a monopoly in the Baltic grain trade. Any attempts in this direction were, however, blocked by the London Muscovy Company which had received a monopoly on the Archangel trade, which in turn was responsible for the export of Russian grain. Archangel was also one of the major export harbors for the Russian sable fur, highly valued as a status symbol. It also exported beaver furs which slowly became of increasing importance in Western Europe when the beaver hat fashion began to receive a greater attention among the middle class.

In this commodity the Antwerp fur traders, who had moved to Amsterdam after the conquest of the city by Spanish troops in 1585, were very much interested. The result was that an intense competition developed between a combination of Amsterdam and Middelburg merchants and the English Muscovy Company. The struggle ended when these traders of the Low Countries managed to obtain some favourable trading treaties between the years 1604-1622 which gave them an almost complete monopoly in the Russian trade through the

8 A perusal of the contracts of these journeys demonstrates a close co-operation of Dutch and French traders, later (after 1600) extending to the Canadian fur trade.

9 The part Holland played in the Hanseatic League may be found in any work dealing with the history of the Hanse. A general discussion of this subject may also be found in the Cambridge Economic History of Europe, Vol. IV. For detailed description of the position of the commerce of the Low Countries at this time see: H.A.H. Kranenburg: The Fisheries of Holland in the time of the Republic (Amsterdam, 1946) (Dutch). H.E. Gelder, "Information regarding the Dutch Herring Fisheries at the end of the sixteenth century," Bijdragen en Mededeelingen van het Historisch Genootschap (Utrecht, 1911). That this commerce had considerable importance is indicated by the fact that Spain developed a special policy to ruin the Dutch fisheries and grain trade when military force proved to be inadequate. See P.J. Blok, "An extraordinary plan of attack against the Fisheries and Trade of the United Republic 1596-1605," Ibid (Utrecht, 1898). The original text of this plan may be found in Bibliotheca Nationale de France, no. 25576; "Affaire de Hollande 1566," suiv. fol. 420.

10 A superficial glance at the Vital Statistics in the Archives of the City of Amsterdam will reveal an astonishing number of nationalities which settled in the City in the years 1580-1585. The names appearing in this article indicate the cosmopolitan composition of the Netherlands at this time.

Archangel outlet. The English Company did not survive the contest and went bankrupt.12

The second event was the Dutch expansion of its grain trade into the Mediterranean area, which took place almost at the same time when the English and Netherlanders were battling for the Russian grain. This particular event, which would be the beginning of the Dutch Levant trade, one of the many pillars of the Dutch commercial empire, brought the merchants of the United Provinces in contact with the produce of Canada.

Before 1589 the Dutch merchants were complete strangers in the Mediterranean trade. This is not so remarkable as it may seem. Much of the former commerce of the great medieval trading centers of Venice, Genoa, Pisa, Florence and Marseilles had been severely damaged by the raiding of the Turkish fleets assisted by their allies of Tunis, Algiers, Oran and other pirate nests on the coast of North Africa. The battle of Lepanto (1571) had dealt a severe blow to the sea power of the Ottoman Empire but it took some time before shipping within the Mediterranean area became more safe.

The English had been the first to supply this region with goods, using the state of neutrality between Spain and England as a protection for their merchant navy. The Dutch were hard pressed by Spanish armies in their own country. Most important of all there were no reasons to extend their commerce into the Mediterranean. French and English shipping supplied the market with cod from the Newfoundland fisheries. Grain was little in demand because the fertile regions of northern Italy were sufficient for the demand.

Drought and other factors changed this situation. In 1587 came the first of a succession of poor harvests which caused conditions close to famine in the Mediterranean area, especially in Italy, Sicily and Crete. From their Dutch agents in London some merchants received information that there were possibilities of an advantageous commerce in grain, fish and other wares in Italy. In 1580 these merchants combined in a joint stock company and sent out an expedition in order to acquire first-hand information regarding the Mediterranean trade.13

Armed with an English and German passport and false papers the expedition loaded in Amsterdam and Harwich a strange assortment of goods, among which was also “trenteeyen,” or cloth of half linen and half wool material which the monks and nuns use for underwear or for bed sheets. Remembering the numerous white washings the Italian houses needed, a load of whitewash brushes was also taken aboard.

The enterprise was a success as far as experience was concerned. The poor harvest of 1587 was offset by a good crop in 1588, and Milan rice was loaded for Holland and England. Dried Newfoundland cod, or backeljauw, proved to

(continued on page 11)
Dutch Frontiers in the Mid-West
FAIRVIEW AND RARITAN, ILLINOIS
by Frederick W. Bogert

As the territory of the new American nation rapidly expanded westward during the first half of the 19th century, new frontiers appeared as settlers penetrated ever deeper into the area lying beyond the Allegheny mountains. The opening of the Illinois Territory in 1809, in particular, closely followed by the admission of Illinois to the Union as a state in 1818, brought both travelers and homesteaders to see for themselves the truth of the reports that fertile soil, free-flowing waterways and a climate favorable to farming could be found there.

It was inevitable that the glowing accounts of the "incomparable land" in the bright, new state would attract, among others, descendants of New Netherland pioneer families whose agricultural heritage often traced back several generations. As early as the latter part of the 17th century, less than a quarter-century after the final cession of New Netherland to the British, they had migrated across the Hudson River into East Jersey Province in search of improved economic and agricultural conditions. During the next century they advanced across the Delaware River into Pennsylvania, spreading into that part of Virginia that later became West Virginia, into western New York State's virgin lands and, during the years of the American Revolution, into Kentucky.

Now the central western section of Illinois, in the Spoon River basin later made famous by the poet, Edgar Lee Masters, became the attraction for a number of Somerset County, N.J., Dutch families that included such familiar New Netherland names as Brokaw, Wyckoff, Ten Eyck, Van Arsdale, Cortelyou, Hageman, Polhemus, Powelson, Voorhis, Suydam and others.

A large portion of these migrating families put down their 19th century roots in Fairview Township, Fulton County, Illinois. According to a recent History of Fairview Township, "the first known settler to inhabit the township was Matthias Swegle, who came from New Jersey and settled near the head of Swegle's Creek in 1829." Little else seems to be known about Swegle except that he was a blacksmith who served in the Black Hawk War of 1832, "made a wooden cannon to use in fighting the Indians" and purchased additional land "as late as February 18, 1836."

Although the first sizable contingent of Jersey families seems to have arrived here in 1837, there is a brief reference in the History of Fairview Township to the presence of "John G. Voorhees when he came to Illinois in the early 30's, possibly 1832-33." However, the organization of the First Dutch Reformed Church of Fairview, Illinois, appears to be the first solid "building block" in the founding of the town. However, the organization of the First Dutch Reformed Church of Fairview, Illinois, appears to be the first solid "building block" in the founding of the town. Historic Fulton County, compiled by the Fulton County Historical Society in 1973, in its section on the "Reformed Church of Fairview" summarizes the founding of Fairview and its church as follows:

"As early as 1836 some families from Somerset County, New Jersey, were migrating westward to the much advertised Military Tract in west-central Illinois. They settled in or near Fairview and others followed. This group had its roots in the old Dutch colony of New Amsterdam which surrendered to the British in 1664 and became New York. In August of 1837, the new settlement at Fairview consisted only of a log schoolhouse, three log cabins and another small frame building.

"Even though the settlement was small, the things of the spirit were uppermost in the minds of the people, and a meeting was called at the home of Daniel Groenendyke to consider the organization of a place of worship. As an outgrowth of this meeting, a memorial was sent to the Classis, the governing body of the Reformed Church in New Brunswick, New Jersey, asking that an ordained minister be sent as soon as possible to organize a church in the new settlement. The new church was to be called the First Dutch Reformed Church of Fairview, Illinois."

"The Rev. Abram Dubois Wilson was soon dispatched with appropriate instructions and on October 16, 1837, the new church was organized. Domine Wilson, his mission accomplished, then returned to the East, leaving eight members of the new church to organize a Sabbath School and conduct prayer meetings in the schoolhouse or one of the log cabins.

"The new group soon requested the New Brunswick body to provide a pastor to nurture the new flock at Fairview. When no one else responded, the elderly Rev. Wilson volunteered to go. He arrived with his family in Fairview July 31, 1838, bringing along a young physician, Dr. J.V.D. Gaddis."

"On November 26, 1838 the cornerstone of the present structure was laid. The ground was a gift of Peter Pumyea, one of the first settlers in Fairview. It was a tribute to the faith and vision of these original eight members that a building to seat 600 was later completed. The style of architecture was similar to that which was common to churches in New Jersey and the Mohawk Valley of New York."

This church, currently used by the congregation, was completed in 1841 and is the oldest Reformed Church in America house of worship west of the Alleghenies. A plaque noting this fact has been placed near the east entrance to the church by the Daughters of the American Revolution. In appearance it closely resembles the same denomination's church at Millstone, N.J.

An interesting account of the journey of one central Jersey contingent to Fairview in the autumn of 1837 is found in a letter printed in an old issue of the Somerset County Historical Quarterly. This letter was written by the Hon. Peter A. Voorhees of Six-Mile Run (now Franklin Park) N.J., to Henry Vroom DeMott of Middlebush, N.J. The letter was sent from Middletown, Kentucky, December 9, 1837 while "Sheriff" Voorhees was enroute home via Kentucky, Ohio, Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Philadelphia.

"We left the 12 of October," wrote Voorhees, "and reached Fairview in Illinois the 16 of November. Just five weeks, but we did not travel on Sundays. Lost some time for rain, besides our visiting on the road, and some distance out of our way we

Trustee Bogert continues our exploration of New Netherland descendants who "went West."
travelled to see the country. I think we rode about 26 or 27
days, making about 1030 miles and old 'Blacky' took me safe
through. We had good company, mostly good roads, and for
the length of time the finest of weather. We travelled to
Wheeling, eight in number with 5 carriages, and attracted
a good deal of attention, being generally treated with marked
respect. But it was hard on their coffee pots and tables where
we supped and breakfasted; and here I would remark that our
specie came sometimes in excellent demand. I spent one week
in Fairview, Ill., leaving there the 23 of November and going
by water to Louisville, Ky., which I reached Dec'r 2 in the
morning . . . . Almost all of our number purchased land at
Fairview. Abm. Cortelyou bought 400 acres for $2,300, a
delightful place. Daniel Polhemus bought 240 acres, 80 acres
of which is good woodland, for $1800. Cheap; cheap! John G.
Voorhees bought 240 acres and five town lots—one with a
new frame on it—and 3 log cabins and 1300 rails to be
delivered on the farm for $3326. Abm. Williamson bought
80 acres next to town for $850 . . . . I traded Black for 5
acres of land next to town and two town lots, so now I am a
landholder in the West—an honor, you know, for a Jerseyman
Yankee. Fairview is a Jersey settlement and Mr. Wilson has
organized a Dutch church there and they are in fine spirits
about building a house next summer . . . .

After looking through the list of 1841 pew-holders in the
Fairview Reformed Church, one has no doubt about the number
of Jersey Dutch who were among the founding fathers. Heading
the list was Isaak Brokaw who was followed in alphabetical
order by Johnson DeHart, Richard Garretson, Isaak Hageman,
William Hageman, Daniel Perrine, Daniel G. Polhemus,
Cornelius Suydam, J. W. Suydam, and William Suydam, Peter
Ten Eyck, Peter B. Van Arsdales, David Van Fleet, W.T.
Vander Veer, John G. Voorhees, Abraham Ten Eyck Wyckoff,
Cornelius Wyckoff, John S. Wyckoff, Simon Wyckoff and
William Wyckoff. Members of the first consistory of the
church were Clarkson F. Van Nostrand and John S. Wyckoff.

Some of these same names were connected with the first
educational efforts in Fairview. "In 1838 just after the Village
had begun to function," notes the History of Fairview
Township, "Simon S. Wyckoff was employed by the villagers
to teach school in an old log cabin set aside for that purpose
which was located on the south side of the Public Square.
Abraham Gulick, the second teacher in Fairview, taught the
1839 term with the following families represented: Groenendyke,
Martin, Voorhees, Wilson, Wyckoff. David. Gilmore,
Pumyee, Durland, Hageman and Polhemus." In 1838 the
Fairview Academy was built by Isaac Hageman Sr. and Isaac
Hageman, Jr. It was a two-story structure, 26 x 40 feet,
whose "upper story" was used by the congregation of the
church until their own building was finished. It boasted an
enrollment of 45 pupils according to the Census of 1840.

A glimpse of the life led by these pioneering Fairview
families is revealed in the letter of Christianna Vanderveer,
wife of Peter Van Arsdales, written in January of 1845 to her
husband's grandfather, Capt. Samuel Beckman of Harlingen,
N.J. Despite an epidemic of "fever" that cost the family of
William Wyckoff two of their children as well as being
responsible for a number of severe illnesses in the colony
(Christianna noted that "Mr. Pumyea has been very low with
the fever" and "appeared to be dying" but all the medicine
given him was "brandy" which led her to the conclusion that
"I am persuaded to believe if brandy was ever the means of
saving a person's life, it was his."), difficulties in getting their
grain to market ("We want some enterprising men here to
build store houses and flatboats, so people can have a place to
store their grain and send it off to the Southern states.") and
what she considered to be the high cost of "groceries" (coffee,
18 cents a pound; tea, one dollar a pound; pepper, ginger,
allspice, 25 cents; butter, 18 cents.). Christianna could still
say "I feel perfectly contented. We live comfortably."

In a final paragraph she mentions other details about their
activities on the Illinois prairie ("We have log stables, corncribs
and pigpens. Vanderveer Polhemus lives with us this winter. I
have had as much sewing for the public this winter as I could
do so far . . . . Domine Wilson and his wife and John C.
Voorhees and his wife spent the evening with us last week.
We did not forget to have a talk about Jersey . . . .") concluding
the letter with a statement of complete satisfaction with her
current location: "I must change my mind very much if I ever
want to come back to Jersey to live. I would rather live
here—we have certainly a better prospect here than we had in
Jersey."

Scattered through this same geographical area of Illinois
were other, perhaps somewhat smaller, settlements whose
inhabitants, like those of Fairview, were transplanted descen-
dants of colonial Dutch families from central New Jersey. At
most of these locales, places with names such as Vanderveer,
Brunswick, Spring Lake and Bushnell, the relocated Jersey
Dutchmen, having been faithful members of the old Dutch
Reformed Church of their ancestors, organized congregations
of the same denomination despite the fact that they were
generally too few in number and too rigid in theological
dogma to attract others, handicaps which, when combined
with the subsequent departure from the colony of some of its
members for greener pastures further westward, proved to be
too great for the support of a church and minister over a
sustained period of years. Nevertheless descendants of these
pioneering Dutch families, undoubtedly still can be found in
the region.

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The Dutchmen were determined to have a careful firsthand look at their purchase. In 1785 brothers Peter, John, Cornelius, Daniel and Jacob Banta with their brother-in-law Henry Shively and probably others took Harrods Trace from Mercer into Shelby County. Leaving the trace they traveled north to James Hogland's Station. Hogland's and Daniel Ketcham's Stations had both been built very recently near the Dutch purchase. Ketcham's was built in November 1784 and Hogland's about the same time. Hogland's was immediately outside the Dutch Tract along its southwest line, along present-day highway 241 a half mile northwest of its intersection at Cropper with highway 43. Ketcham's can be placed a little less than two miles south of Cropper near East Clear Creek. Both stations were little more than cabins housing their namesakes' families. The nearest fortified station was Squire Boone's Painted Stone about six miles southwest of the Low Dutch Tract.

The Bantas plunged into the wilderness and built a cabin about two miles northeast of Hogland's Station on what was afterwards known as the old Magruder farm. This, beyond doubt, was the first Dutch cabin built in the limits of the Low Dutch Tract. It was constructed of blue ash logs and stood as a landmark until after the Civil War. The Bantas perhaps planted the first crops on the Dutch Tract in 1785, but more probably spent their time on hunting expeditions. They

Mr. Akers concludes his fascinating story of the Dutch settlements on the Kentucky frontier.

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87 George W. Demaree, "Low Dutch Tract" (originally published May 15, 1873 in the Shelby Command) reprinted in T.M. Banta, Banta Genealogy, 51. Demaree did not include Peter Banta or Henry Shively in the group, Albert Voorhis, however, in his deposition named these two plus Jacob and Daniel Banta as the first settlers in the area from the Dutch Tract. Jarrett vs Ogden, loc. cit.

88 Since Ketcham's and Hogland's Stations played such important parts in the early attempts to settle the Low Dutch Tract, it seems appropriate to detail here what little information is available regarding them. Moses Boone (Fall 1846) stated that several small stations were formed in Shelby County in 1784 and 1785 including James Hogland's eight miles northeast of Boone's on an upper branch of Brashears (Clear Creek) and Dan'l Ketchum's on another upper branch of Brashears. Draper Mss. 19C40. Daniel Ketchum (Sept. 10, 1817) stated that he had been acquainted with the area around the head waters of Six Mile since November 1784. Aberhard vs Tyler, loc. cit. He also stated (Dec. 14, 1808) that he had been on the head waters of Susie Creek in 1784. Smith vs Lynch, loc. cit. Regarding Ketchum's settlement, Peter Banta recalled (Aug. 27, 1873) "I never understood whether any person lived there except Mr. Ketchum himself & his family." Albert Voorhis, in the same suit, said that Daniel Ketchum settled about 3/2 miles from Beard's preemptions while James Hogland's Station was about two miles from the preemptions and was settled before Banta's first purchase from Boone. Jarrett vs Ogden, loc. cit. David Standeford (Feb. 15, 1817) stated that in 1786 he traveled the buffalo road south from Drennon's Lick and he could cross the head waters of Six Mile then he followed a path, not a buffalo road, to Daniel Ketchum's. Traveling south he had come to another path which led to Hogland's Station before finding the path to Ketchum's. Depositions of John Arnold, Seneca McGurken and Robert White (Oct. 17, 1816) in the same suit also refer to Ketchum's Station. Jarrett vs Spriggs. Bundle 110, No. 5, Shelby Co. Circuit Court Records.

A letter written April 2, 1873 to G.W. Demaree from his older brother D.V. Demaree contains answers to eleven specific questions which G.W. Demaree was asking while preparing his history of the Low Dutch Tract. D.V. Demaree stated, "The most of the Dutch lived in Hogland's Station which was located if I am not mistaken near the site of the Pleasant Grove Methodist Meeting House." A copy of this letter is on file at the Filson Club. Trustees to the Methodist Episcopal Congregation Meeting at Pleasant Grove were appointed Oct. 9, 1843, Shelby Co. Deed Book J-2, 122. A mortgage dated Aug. 26, 1843 from Elijah Smith to Albert Bergen describes Smith's ninety-one acres "beginning at the southeast corner of Mr. Ford's tract of land near Pleasant Grove meeting house..." ibid., 86. Hezekiah Ford's tract of 200 acres is described in a deed dated April 7, 1799 as being on the waters of Clear Creek adjoining the southwest line of Squire Boone's 12.335 acre tract. James Dunn to Furlow, Shelby Co. Deed Book A, 438. The precise calls of Elijah Smith's tract are given in a deed dated Feb. 1, 1860 from Jesse J. Hill, executor of Smith's will, to Wm. W. Smith, Shelby Co. Deed Book W-2, 244. From these deeds the precise location of the Pleasant Grove Meeting House (and Hogland's Station) has been determined. Nicholas Smith, in a deposition given Sept. 19, 1814, stated that a branch of Clear Creek heading about a half mile northwest of this spot was known as Hogland's Branch. James Swan vs John Miles and others. Bundle 105, No. 13, Shelby Co. Circuit Court Records.

Daniel Ketcham lived on 200 acres purchased out of John Warford's 1,400 acre settlement and preemption. John Warford and Daniel Ketchum vs Nicholas Merrivweather, Plaintiffs' Bill, Bundle 30, No. 27, Shelby Co. Circuit Court Records. The approximate location of Daniel Ketcham's station is based upon the location of Samuel Demaree's 400 acres near the station (see footnote 98).

89 Demaree, "Low Dutch Tract." Banta Genealogy, 51. When the Low Dutch Tract was divided by deed among its individual owners in the 1830s, Josiah Magruder was deeded 414 acres, originally lots 13 and 30 in the tract, Henry Co. Deed Book 14:201-205. This was the only division deed to a Magruder. Lots 13 and 30 were originally part of Potter's preemption. Albert Voorhis stated that Daniel and Jacob Banta built cabins on Potter's and Lattimore's preemptions while their brothers first settled on the Boone purchase. Jarrett vs Ogden, loc. cit. Patrick Jordan (June 27, 1801) said he went by a place said to be Bonta's and another said to be Ketcham's in the fall of 1785 while on a hunting trip through the area. James Swan vs John Miles and
at Westerfield's Station. The cabin was perhaps built on the 400 acre tract entered by Samuel Demaree December 1, 1785. That tract adjoined the southernmost corner of the Low Dutch Tract.

The novel position the Bantas enjoyed that summer of 1785 did not last. One of those periodic storms of Indian wrath burst upon the frontier settlements, and the men wisely decided to concentrate their forces at Hogland's Station. The station proved to be poorly manned and provisioned, and was threatened daily with attack from redskins. So desperate did the situation become that the little garrison determined to send to the Dutch in Mercer County for reinforcements and provisions. Jake Banta, the youngest of the brothers, volunteered to perform the dangerous mission. The wilderness being full of prowling savages, he chose the darkness of night to pass through the "narrows" on the waters of Benson Creek near present-day Graefenberg on the Shelby-Franklin County line. But poor Jake never reached the Mercer County stations. As he crept silently and all alone in the darkness of night through the dreaded "narrows," the redskins pounced upon him from ambush and cleaved his skull with a tomahawk. They left Captain Banta on the tragic spot with his own tomahawk buried in his skull and his flesh hacked to shreds as a token of their fierce vengeance.

Jacob Banta had married Catherine Voorhies but a few weeks before he left with his brothers on the Shelby County venture. Now there was yet another widow in the Dutch community. As soon as the troubles subsided the other men returned to the Low Dutch Station fully satisfied that their attempt to take possession of the isolated wilderness at that time was premature. It can hardly be doubted that their good report of the excellent quality of the lands, carried back to the Dutch Company, led to finalization of the purchase and ultimate settlement of the tract.

In February of 1786 ten or twelve of the Dutchmen again left Mercer County for the Low Dutch Tract this time to make the final survey of the Boone tract. Isaac Hite was the surveyor in charge. Hite, a prominent figure in frontier Kentucky, was himself of French Hugenot background but was not one of the Low Dutch Company. John Voorhis and William Shuck served as chain carriers and Daniel Voorhis served as marker. Isaac others. Bundle 105, No. 13, Shelby Co. Circuit Court Records. John Arnold also remembered Banta's and Ketchum's Stations near the buffalo road which crossed Six Mile. Jarrett vs Sprengs, loc. cit.

Albert Voorhis stated that the Banta brothers who first settled on the Boone purchase moved to Westerfield's Station. Ibid. Cornelius Banta, in a deposition given Mar. 25, 1815, confirmed that "in the year of our Lord 1785 I lived at Westerfields Station within the bounds of Shelby County, as it now stands," Masterson Ogden vs John Roberts, Bundle 103, Shelby Co. Circuit Court Records. Another Shelby Co. suit contains a small survey of 175 acres, part of Daniel Sullivan's 400 acres, which shows "an old improvement occupied under James Westerfield in the year 1855;" Ogden vs White, Bundle 94, No. 4.

The surveys of Samuel Demaree's 100 and 300 acre adjoining tracts dated Aug. 19, 1797 are recorded in Old Kentucky Survey Book 4:178-179. The grants dated May 13, 1798 are in Old Kentucky Grant Book 8:93-94. A copy of the entry for the 100 acres if filed in Abraham Demaree vs Samuel Demaree's heirs. Bundle 58, No. 1, Shelby Co. Circuit Court Records. An assignment in this suit indicates that the 400 acres lay "... on the south branch of Brashears Creek adjoyning John Warford's preemption near Daniel Ketchum's Station ... the south branch of Brashears Creek is now East Clear Creek. The tract was sold sometime before the fall of 1793 to James Westerfield, Alexander Montgomery vs James Westerfield. Bundle 2, Shelby Co. Circuit Court Records.

Demaree, "Low Dutch Tract," Banta Genealogy. 51. John M. Shively

With the Boone tract of 5,945 acres less Boone's 335 acres plus the three 1,000 acre preemptions purchased from Richard Beard, the Low Dutch Tract totaled 8,610 acres. Approximately 3,500 acres lay in Shelby County and 5,100 in Henry County. One of the 1,000 acre preemptions was almost immediately sold to Samuel Demaree to meet the first installment obligation on the Beard Purchase. That left a tract belonging to the formal Low Dutch Company of 7,610 acres. The acreage of the tract has often been given as larger than this, sometimes as large as 20,000 acres. Later writers were probably confused by the vast acreage of adjoining and nearby lands purchased over the years by Dutch families independent of the Company.

On March 13, 1786 Squire Boone assigned the 5,945 acre survey to Abraham Banta. The witnesses were Barney Smock and Daniel Banta. The price contracted for the tract was 935 pounds sterling; 250 pounds down and the remainder due in seven annual installments of 97 pounds 17 shillings due each June 1st beginning 1786. The installments were payable in produce such as hemp Tobacco flour pork & Baken to be delivered at the falls of the Ohio at Market price at or upon the 1st day of June.

The next day, March 14, 1786, the Dutchmen congregated, probably at the Low Dutch Station, to sign the Article of Agreement. The families were then spread throughout the several stations in the Harrodsburg area. The convention formed that day to draw up the compact was probably the most joyous occasion in the six years since the Dutch had been in Kentucky. A tract had at last been purchased and was about to be settled. The agreement served as a sort of constitution which set forth the details of the purchase and some basic rules to be followed in the settlement of the Low Dutch Tract. With it the Low Dutch Company began a formal existence.

in his memoirs stated that a brother of his mother (a Banta) was ambushed and shot dead at a crossing of Benson in the same vicinity in which a brother of his father had earlier been killed. loc. cit. Demaree is the source for the tomahawk in the skull; Shively for the flesh hacked to shreds. Frederick Ripperdan (Oct. 10, 1809) recalled that Jacob Banta was killed "on Benson or somewhere along there towards Drennens Lick," some years after the Dutch attempt to settle in Madison County. Madison Co. Deed Book 1. 191-197. Albert Voorhis stated that the Bantas moved back to Mercer County because of the Indians. Jarrett vs Ogden, loc. cit.

The Boone tract survey appears in Virginia Survey Book 7:285-287; the Griffith survey in Book 8:158-159. Albert Voorhis is the source for the number of men: he, however, incorrectly thought the survey was made in the summer of 1784, Jarrett vs Ogden, loc. cit. David Griffith's background and Isaac Hite's interest in his claim is discussed in Abraham Hite vs David Griffith's heirs. Bundle 91, No. 1, Shelby Co. Circuit Court Records.

Abraham Banta to Samuel Demere, July 25, 1786, Supreme Court Deed Book A. 196-198; depositions of Lucas Vanarsdel and Abraham Brewer, Voorhis vs Banta's heirs, loc. cit.

Virginia Survey Book 7:285-287. The original assignment with Squire Boone's signature is on the backside of the original survey no. 5933 on file in the Secretary of State's office at the Kentucky State Capitol Building. One of Abraham Banta's bonds, for the 1789 installment, has been preserved and is filed in Box V 1. Mercer Co. Circuit Court Records.
ARTICLE OF AGREEMENT made and Concluded on and Between Abraham Banta of Linconen County and State of Virginia of the first part and We who Names and within writing Father Henrery Banta Samuel Banta Uncle Peter Banta Daniel Banta Peters Banta Peter Banta Cornelius Bogert Andrew Shock Abraham Brewer Albert Vorhes John Comangore big John Vorhes Henrery Banta ble John Vorhes Simon VanArsdelen Jacob Smock Barney Smock Henrery Shivelle Francis Coorsart Luke VanArsdelen Luke Vorhes Uncle Albert Banta Daniel Vorhes Samuel Dumere Aran Monfort John Manfort Albert Banta Jacob Banta William Shock Soviah Vorhes John Banta Cornelius Cozine Frances Manfort Daniel al Banta of the other part Witnesseth that whereas the said Abraham Banta has purched a Certain tract or quantity of land of Squier Boon of the County of Jefferson in the State of Virginia aforesaid containing five Thousand Six hundred and Ten acres of Land Situated in the County Jefferson aforesaid lying on the waters of Six miles Beginning on the Deviding ridge Between the waters of Six mile Creek and Clear Creek. Excepting and reserving 335 acres out of the above mentioned tract at the price of $.16,.13,.4 per hundred acres amounting in the whole sum of £935 payable in Eight years in seven payments Each payment £97.17 with and intent and Desine to inCourage and promote a Settlement of the Low Dutch Reformed Church Society now it is Covinated and agreed by and Between the said Abraham Banta and those person Names above mentioned and there seals afixted by these presents that Each of them shall be intitled to any quantity or Numbers of acres of Land of the above mentioned 5610 acres as they andsd Banta may agree for allowance Being made for Quality of said Lands Subject to and under the following Restrictions Viz 1 That we our heirs Executors administrators of Assigns will pay or Cause to be paid to the said Abraham Banta his heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns yearly and Every year such a sum or sums as shall bear in proportion to the Quantity and Quality of Land. Each of us shall hold to the whole Quanity of Land or sum giving till the whole sum be paid 2d That we will subscribe to and support the Low Dutch Reformed Church Society by giving a Call and Invitation to a Regular Instituted Low Dutch minister to associate in said Church as much as in us lie and that we will endeavour to have our children Taught and instructed in the Low Dutch Tongue so that they may Read the word of God and understand the Gospel when Preached unto them 3d That we will Each of us in proportion to the Quantity of Land we may hold thereof and in proportion to the Quantity and Quallity of Land Each of us holds of the mentioned Tract; 6d Now be it known that We the above mentioned will and Shall aid and Assist the above mentioned Abraham Banta and his heirs Executors Administrators in Defending both the first and second mentioned tract aforesaid all as one; now for the True performance of all and both Tracts mentioned the second agreeable with first mentioned Tract We the above mentioned will and Shall aid and Assist the above mentioned Abraham Banta and his heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns Doth bind ourselves Jointly severally by these presents the one to the other in the penal sum of Three Thousand pounds In Witness whereunto we have set our hands and seals This fourteenth Day of march in the year one Thousand seven hundred & Eighty Six

Signed Sealed in the presents us

Darra tharp his
Benlemens X Stout mark

Henry Shively
frances Cosart
Lukes Van arsdel
Luk Vorles
un Albert Banta
Daniel Vorhis
Samuel Demarce
Aron Monfort
John Monfoort
Albert Banta
Jacob Banta
William Shock
Sophia Vorus
John Banta
Cornelius Cozine
Francis Monfort
Daniel Al Banta
Abraham Banta
fa Hendreck Banta
un Peter Banta
Daniel Banta
Samuel Banta
Petrus Banta
Peter Banta
Cornelius Banta
Andrew Shock
Cornelius Bogart
Abraham brower
Albert Voorhis
John Commingor
big John Voorhis
Henrery Banta
Bu John Vorus
Jacob Smock
Simon Vanasdal
Barny Smook

This agreement lay forgotten for 150 years until discovered in 1974 neatly filed away in an old Shelby County Circuit Court case. The document measures forty-three by thirteen inches. It is on four pieces of heavy parchment sewn together. Taken with the 1783 petition to the Continental Congress, the master plan, which had been the unifying force for the Low Dutch since leaving the Conewago Pennsylvania colony, is dramatically described. Their design was to encourage and promote a settlement of the Low Dutch Reformed Church Society. They intended to associate together, to build a church, to secure a Dutch Reformed minister and to instruct their children in the Dutch language. In short their intention was to perpetuate on the Kentucky frontier an ethnic culture whose roots in this country dated back 150 years to New Amsterdam.

At the time the Article of Agreement was drawn up not a single acre had been purchased by a Dutch family in the Mercer County area even though this had been the Dutch community's temporary headquarters since 1781. The formal Agreement was signed by not more than perhaps one-third of the Low Dutch family heads in Kentucky in 1786. Nevertheless the entire Dutch community stood behind the project. The region in which the tract had been surveyed was virtually unsettled. Most of the adjoining and nearby lands were held by speculators who would be willing to sell to Dutch families on an individual basis. The Dutch had only to take possession and settle their land to make their master plan a success.

Despite the misfortune of the Banta brothers the summer before, the Dutch organized immediately to move on to their tract. It is impossible at this date to say how many families left Mercer County that spring of 1786 headed for the promised land. Perhaps all of the families signing the Agreement were
represented. Harrods Trace could be taken the greatest distance north to Shelby County. Even that was hard traveling, but once into Shelby County the trail turned west while the Dutch turned north to cut their way through the difficult terrain of eastern Shelby County to the Dutch Tract.

Daniel Ketcham’s Station became the headquarters of the settlement. Several families probably stationed themselves nearby at Hogland's. A few more venturesome families may have moved immediately on to the tract. Besides the immediate necessity of strengthening the two stations, clearing the land for the first crops must have been the first priority. Without a doubt this first attempt was exactly that, for the only hope for success was through cooperation and community action. They found their tract a virgin forest without a stick amiss, with but one exception. A hundred acres about a mile southeast of present-day North Pleasureville was as clear as a prairie, not even a stump. They first thought some mineral had interfered with the natural production, but found the land quite productive.

The foundations of their settlement had hardly begun to be laid when trouble with the Indians began again. It was a period of severe Indian depredations in this region of Kentucky and particularly in the immediate vicinity of the Dutch Tract. Hunters would later recall that in 1785 and '86 they kept to the woods when traveling to Drennon's Lick; they considered the marked trails as an invitation to death. The Dutch were driven by the marauding Indians to consolidate their forces at Ketcham’s. Here on May 4, 1786 Simon and Rachel Van Arsdale’s daughter Eleanor was born. On her ninety-second birthday Eleanor Van Arsdale Banta would recall her parents' stories of 1786. The morning she was born one of her uncles was shot near the station and the woods around the station were full of Indians. When she was nine days old her mother with the other women and children were evacuated under the cover of night to Boone’s Painted Stone six miles back, the nearest fortified settlement.

The men stayed in the Dutch Tract area to fight for awhile, but it became apparent that the battle was hopeless. That same May 1786 Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the president, was killed by Indian raiders about twenty miles to the west. Families could not be settled in such an area. The times were against them. The Dutchmen faced the bitter reality and moved their families back to Mercer County.

Retreat again in the face of defeat! It would be nearly a decade before the Low Dutch Tract could safely be settled and by then the community would have lost much of its unity. Troubles would die down and smoulder until hopes rose, then flare again hot as ever. Tyler’s Station on Tick Creek was attacked in 1788 and most of Bland Ballard’s family killed. This and other incidents made talk of new settlement attempts unnecessary. Nevertheless, a few Dutch families remained close to the Dutch Tract, but their examples only added to the discouragement.

On Sunday May 23, 1790 Matthew Smock, one of the Low Dutch Company members, was attacked by Indians as he returned from preaching near Boone’s Station with Moses Boone, Captain James and Henry Hogland, William Cline and Miss Betsy Van Cleve. Six or seven Indians lay concealed behind bushes and a log. They raised a yell and shot, mostly at random, as their intended victims came within about thirty steps. The fire did no harm other than to scare the horses causing Boone and Miss Van Cleve to be thrown. Boone remounted. The Hoglands and Cline who had guns attempted to keep the Indians at bay while all tried to get Miss Van Cleve onto one of the horses. But the Indians reloaded and the men were forced to retreat without the girl. She ran nearly a quarter mile on foot before being overtaken and captured. Cline was shot and killed as he rode more than a quarter mile away. A few minutes later several others returning from the same meeting took up the Indians' trail and easily followed it through the pea vines. Within about a mile they came upon Miss Van Cleve’s senseless body - tomahawked and scalped. The girl died soon afterwards.

The Demaree family had claimed a 400 acre tract adjoining the Dutch Tract on its south corner and just east of Ketcham's... (continued on page 17)

96 Abraham Bonta’s heirs vs George Bergen, Bundle 190, No. 28, Shelby Co. Circuit Records.
97 William L. Vories, Biographical Sketches of Vories and Montfort Families (New Castle, Ky., 1905), 53. Vories indicated this was the lot of old Dr. Fallis which would make it Daniel Banta’s lot 14.
99 Ibid. The deposition of Henry Banta (Oct. 10, 1809) indicated that he lived in the neighborhood of the Mercer Co. Dutch Station “... until spring 1785 or 6 then moved on the waters of Besheares (Clear) Creek in the now County of Shelby and removed back in the neighborhood of Harrods Station in the same year...” Banta vs Clay, Madison Co. Deed Book I, 197-204. George L. Willis, Sr., History of Shelby County, Kentucky (Louisville, 1929), 195-200, contains a long discussion of the Lincoln killing and conjecture as to where it took place. The exact location of Abram Linkhorn’s cabin, near which he was killed, is shown in the several plats in William Taylor vs John McCampbell, Bundle 157, No. 23, Shelby Co. Circuit Court Records. The cabin was on Squire Boone’s old wagon road at the ford of Long Run. Present-day highway U.S. 60 crosses Long Run at the same place. The plats in this suit show approximately twelve miles of Boone’s road, almost its entire length.
Putting New Netherland's Old Records Into Print

In 1973, a continuing program of translating, annotating and publishing documents relating to the Dutch West India Company's colony of New Netherland was initiated by The Holland Society of New York, in collaboration with the New York State Library, repository of a majority of the old Dutch manuscripts and records. Some of these records had never been translated from the 17th century Dutch language in which they had been written into English. Others had been put into English by the late Arnold J.F. Van Laer, New York State Archivist and 17th century Dutch scholar, but never published due to lack of funds. In keeping with the objective of The Holland Society to collect and preserve information respecting the history and settlement of New Netherland, four volumes of Van Laer's typescript translations covering The Registers of the Provincial Secretary 1638-1660 and the Council Minutes 1638-1649, the earliest records extant, were put into print in 1974 under the sponsorship of the Society.

The first of the series to appear under the general heading of New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch, they received praise-worthy comments from historians and genealogists alike. Dr. Michael Kammen, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian of Cornell University, called these volumes "important sources for the economic and social historian" and added that "we should be grateful that these records will at last be available to every serious research library."

To date a total of thirteen other volumes in the series have appeared of which seven comprise The Records of New Amsterdam 1653-1674, a long out of print work, which was reprinted through a generous grant from the Asiatic Petroleum Corporation. The six other volumes cover a wide latitude of New Netherland territory and settlements, including the administrative records of the old New York Dutch colony at Wiltwyck, later re-named Kingston by the British (a two-volume set) and the Delaware Papers 1664-1682 consisting of correspondence, reports, petitions, survey-returns, warrants, land patent records and other documents concerning with settlements along Delaware Bay. In 1978 the Notarial Papers of Solomon LaChaire 1661-1662, a register of legal documents of many kinds (bills of sale, partnership agreements, wills, powers of attorney, settlements of estates, inventories and like matters) appeared. Its content presents a picture of the cosmopolitan population of New Amsterdam, with the financial, civil and personal problems there that required legal attention. This was followed by the publication in 1980 of Land Papers, translations of three Dutch record books lettered GG, HH, and II, listing land patents, conveyances of land and purchases of land from the Indians in and about New Amsterdam as early as 1630. In the same year appeared the Administrative Papers of Governors Richard Nicolls and Francis Lovelace 1664-1673, the first two English governors of New York following the English conquest of 1664. The latter book, published under the general heading of New York Historical Manuscripts: English, discloses the manner in which Dutch law, government and commerce were superceded by their English equivalents during a transitional period in which Dutch influence there was still strong.

The Holland Society has made annual contributions to this important project since it was first undertaken. A grant by New York State made possible a basic study of the known documents which enabled a working plan to be formulated. The National Endowment for the Humanities has made grants on a matching fund basis from time to time to greatly assist the continuation of the project. Ashland Oil Company has also been a financial contributor and both the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Washington and the Netherlands Consul-General in New York have lent their support to the project.

If further funds are forthcoming (a continuing grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities will require matching funds from Society members) the entire project, when completed, will number some 40 to 45 volumes. Currently, Council Minutes, the Collee Papers (some 500 pieces relating to the administration of New York and surrounding area after its re-capture by the Dutch in 1673), Ordinances, Court Records, the Curacao Papers 1640-1665 and the Andros Papers 1674-1680 are scheduled for future publication after being translated and/or edited. Three manuscript volumes of Schepen's Notes, supplementing the Records of New Amsterdam, translated by the late E.B. O'Callaghan in the 19th century but never published, have also been found. Scheduled to appear this year are two volumes of significant import: the Delaware Papers 1646-1664, covering the records, correspondence, land patents and other documents of the Delaware Bay settlements under Dutch rule (a counterpart of the Delaware Papers 1664-1682 already published) and General Entries (Volume 1) containing communications, orders, warrants, commissions and other official papers revealing an almost daily record of provincial actions and reactions to political, social and economic events.

In marked contrast to the large amount of source material available in print centering on the English colonies in New England and Virginia (which has been widely utilized by historians almost to the exclusion of non-English colonies in colonial America) New Netherland documentary material has been virtually non-existent prior to the inception of this current program. Thus the history of colonial America frequently becomes a monolithic topic limited to the English colonies and their people while the Dutch colonies are generally overlooked.

This project merits the full support of those descendants of the Dutch who settled New Netherland, the members of the Holland Society of New York, in order that an extremely important and heretofore neglected area of research can be opened up for historians and genealogists allowing them an unprejudiced view of the social, cultural, religious and political character of New Netherland.
THREE CENTURIES: The History of the First Reformed Church of Schenectady 1660-1980 (two volumes).

In 1662 a group of settlers from the neighboring areas of Beverwyck (Albany) and Rensselaerswyck under the leadership of Arent van Curler planted a new colony, just west of the former two settlements, known formally as Schenectady and informally as the “Dorp.” Like most Dutch colonists in New Netherland the founding fathers made one of their first priorities the organization and building of a Protestant Reformed Dutch church. The exact year in which this church started to serve the community is a moot question but by 1680 it had a working consistory and was holding services. As this very comprehensive history relates, it has been a very active religious body ever since.

Throughout its first century and even into the second, according to historian Pearson, the church had to contend with a variety of conditions ranging from wars to unsettled local conditions and a lack of permanent ministers. The most serious of these occurred on a February night in 1690 when a French and Indian war party attacked the little settlement, burned it and killed 60 of its inhabitants including the church’s first domine, Poeter Tesschenmaker. A time of extreme peril followed during which “many forsook their plantations and sought places of greater security and it is a matter of surprise,” writes Pearson, “that the hardy pioneers of Schenectady clung to the soil in the midst of such discouragements.” However, the hardiness of such families as the Vroomans, Wemps, Peeks, Vedders, Van Antwerpens, Schermerhorns and Glens, as well as others, kept the church as well as the settlement of Schenectady alive.

Among the many distinguished ministers that served the church during its first two centuries, Rev. Dirck Romeyn, the minister from 1784 to 1804, is credited with establishing Schenectady Academy in 1785, the first educational institution, which ten years later became Union College. Earlier domines included Bernardus Freeman and Johannes Lydius, who acted as missionaries to the Mohawk Indians and Barent Vrooman, the only “native son” of Schenectady to serve as minister of the church, who was pastor during the years of the American Revolution. One of Schenectady’s 19th century ministers, the Rev. William Elliot Griffis, was not only the author of books (The Story of New Netherland, The Story of the Walloons) about New Netherland but also twice a speaker at banquets of The Holland Society of New York in 1907 and 1914.

The reprint of Pearson’s 1880 narrative retains the somewhat stilted style of that period. It is filled with primary source material relating to the church and settlement with voluminous footnotes, some of which are untranslated from the Dutch-Mohawk language used in that region. At times it becomes confusing due to the insertion in the text of long documents and communications. As such it is an excellent reference work on the Schenectady area but leaves something to be desired as a free-flowing narrative.

Volume II, on the other hand, is a much more polished, interesting and cohesive account of the more recent years. Although the time span covered is only 100 years (as compared to the 200 years of Pearson’s work) it is actually 138 pages longer than Volume I. Many of the problems with which the church has been faced in the recent past and current times are, of course, the same as those of other churches of the Protestant denominations. In addition to Parts I and II, written by Mrs. Pontius which tell the story of the church up to the present time, an introductory essay by Dr. De Jong and a final epilogue by the current minister, Dr. Dykstra fill out the history of the church and its relation to both the spiritual and worldly spheres of which the Schenectady congregation has been a vital part since 1680.

F.W.B.

Dutch in Canada (continued)

be a success in Italy. Malvesy and muscatel wines, of which Venice was the staple market, were found not marketable. Instead, the ventures took back sulphur, alum, anise seed and other goods. But during the following years the poor situation of Italian agriculture led the Amsterdam merchants to an increasing export of Baltic grain.

Where the city previously had been a market where Italian, Genoese and Portuguese merchants had come to buy Baltic grain, now a combination of Dutch merchants brought this merchandise directly to the Mediterranean countries. To this was soon added the backeljaauw, which had proved to be a profitable article during the first journey. The first load had been obtained in English harbors; and this practice was followed in succeeding years. It is interesting to mention some of the names of the first entrepreneurs in the Dutch Mediterranean commerce. The leader of the expedition had been Jacques de la Faille, a Huguenot. The agent in Italy was Bukentop, of German Lutheran extraction. The company’s business representative was Herman Pelgrum, a Lutheran of Haarlem, born in Antwerp. The Pelgrums were interested in Norwegian stockfish (dried cod) and had a branch in Bergen. With interests in the fur trade they had branches in Nuremberg, Frankfurt, Antwerp, and Prague with their relations the Spranger family. We shall meet them again the the New Netherland Company.

It is not my intention to pursue the development of the Dutch Mediterranean grain trade. However, for the purpose of demonstrating the beginning of the Dutch connections with Canada, we shall have to devote some space to the fish trade of the Netherlands which developed side by side with the grain export of Amsterdam into the Mediterranean area. But before devoting more attention to the fisheries we first have to consider some of the personalities involved in the trade of the Netherlands during the 1590s because, more than anything else, their widespread commercial activities explain why Canadian cod and furs had some attraction for these merchants of the Low Countries.

Editor’s Corner (continued)

Conscience. Seldom if ever was there anything about the history and tradition of New Netherland. Scholarly historical studies such as make up most of the material in today’s Halve Maen were simply unheard of.

Naturally, the focus has changed as our membership has become less regional and more national. It has also changed by reason of the interest in colonial Dutch studies. It is not up to the Editor to evaluate the change, but simply to point out that it has happened.
Society Activities

Potomac Branch Luncheon

Elmer B. Staats, Comptroller General of the United States, hosted a luncheon for members of the Potomac Branch in his office suite on March fourth. His Excellency, Dr. Jan Hendrik Lubbers, the Ambassador of The Netherlands, was the guest of honor and after lunch gave an interesting talk on relations between our two countries over the years. He commented also on the activities his country planned to take part in during the Netherlands-American Amity Bicentennial Celebrations in 1982. Mr. Charles R. Tanguy, Executive Director of NAAT, outlined in considerable detail the plans the United States is developing for this bicentennial year. Members present at the luncheon included: John D. Van Wagoner, President of the Potomac Branch, Jerome K. Kuykendall, William B. Kuykendall, Jr., Edwin H. Van Wyck III, Welman H. Ouderkirk, Richard Van Wagoner, Allen E. Durling, George F. Bogardus, Rear Adm. Blinn Van Meter, Wynant D. Vanderpool, Jr.

March Trustees Meeting

Announcement of the gift of an endowment fund for the Historical Publications Committee of the Society to assure continued future publication of Dutch colonial records in America highlighted the first quarterly meeting of the officers and trustees held March 12th at the Union Club in New York.

The $30,000 Marion Wilson DeGroff Fund, consisting of shares of stock, was given by Trustee Emeritus Ralph L. DeGroff and his son, Trustee Ralph L. DeGroff, Jr., for the purpose of providing income to be used to further the program of translating, editing, and otherwise preparing and publishing historical works pertaining to the Dutch in colonial America. It was accepted by the trustees and a resolution was adopted expressing the gratitude of the Society for the handsome gift.

Other matters to come before the meeting included the Treasurer's report which disclosed a surplus at the end of the 1980 budget year. The 1981 budget was submitted and approved. Upon the recommendation of the Library Committee, an assistant librarian will be hired to help the librarian in the cataloguing manuscripts, books and microfilm as well as checking volumes for re-binding and other essential items which need attention. The Aims and Purposes Committee urged the trustees to allocate funds for the celebration of the Society's centennial anniversary in 1985 and reported that Trustee Emeritus J. Cornell Schenck is engaged in his task of writing the history of the Society which is intended for publication during the 100th anniversary year.

Candidates for the Distinguished Achievement Award made each year at the banquet of the Society were proposed by the committee designated for this purpose. After some discussion, three candidates were selected from which one, Lowell Thomas, was chosen and two alternates designated. The committee also announced that the Distinguished Achievement Award made at the annual meeting to a member of the Society would be given this year to Elmer B. Staats, the retiring Comptroller-General of the United States.

A new function, a joint meeting of all standing committee members, officers, Trustees and Past Presidents to be held in September, was suggested by the Meetings Committee as a means of coordinating the various activities and inducing a closer acquaintance among those concerned in the affairs of the Society. It was the consensus of the meeting that such an affair would improve the agenda of the Society. Burgher Guard Captain Donald D. Van Siclen reported a successful dinner meeting in February of Guardsmen, officers, trustees and some members of the Old Bergen Branch. He announced that a dinner for members of the Guard only would be held on March 18th at the Seventh Regiment armory in New York.

Among the new members proposed by the Committee on Genealogy were three junior members and residents of eight states and one foreign country. Those admitted to membership were:

- Dale Rowe Hockabout, Watsonville, California
- Charles Maynard Mapes, Jr., Richmond, Virginia
- James Randolph Schermerhorn, San Lorenzo, California
- Andrew Worley Ten Eyck, Troy, Michigan
- John Hervey Williamson, Sanibel, Florida
- Kipp Cronk Van Aken, San Clemente, California
- Robert William Van Alstine, Ballston Spa, New York
- John Ward Van de Water, Canton, New York
- Joseph Feaster Van Horn, Bay Head, New Jersey
- Derek Carlton Van Loan, South Utica, New York
- Eric Schuyler Van Loan, Bedford, New Hampshire
- Nicholas Shedid Van Loan, Saudi Arabia
- Scott Everett Van Valen, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
- Arthur Preston Rynearson, Fayetteville, New York

Ulster County Branch Meeting

The Ulster County Branch of the Holland Society of New York, held their spring meeting at Locust Tree Inn, New Paltz, New York on Saturday evening, March 21, 1981.

A social hour preceded the dinner. As usual the famous Poucher’s punch was served; however we apologize that it appeared to have undergone a change of ingredients. Nevertheless the libation was good and the hors d’oeuvres excellent.

Members and guests that attended included: Trustee Robert Van Wagoner and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Deyo, Mrs. James P. Tobey, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth E. Hasbrouck, Charles J. Hasbrouck, Alfred Hasbrouck, Mr. and Mrs. John Van Benschoten, Mr. and Mrs. Allard A. Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Myers, Jr., Mrs. Harold Delamater, John H. LeFevre, Mr. Melvin Van Sickle, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Buys, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lent, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley L. Van Rensselaer with guests.

Following dinner, the President of the Branch, Kenneth E. Hasbrouck, introduced Mr. Allard A. Sutton, President of the Dutchess Branch and Mr. Stanley L. Van Rensselaer, President of the Patroons, Albany Branch. Both gentlemen noted that they would like to see as many members and guests as possible attend their annual meeting. Trustee Van Wagoner was called upon to speak for the Society.

The scholarship fund has been increased and it is hoped that by next year a student may be able to receive some aid. Both Dutchess County and Ulster are combining forces to aid the scholarship fund.

Mr. Melvin Van Sickle read the names of the officers placed in nomination from the Chairman, Mr. Jay A. LeFevre. For President, Kenneth E. Hasbrouck, Vice President, Mr. C.C. DuMond, Secretary, Mr. Charles E. Deyo, Treasurer, Mr. Richard Lent. One ballot was cast by the Secretary for the entire slate.
Annual Meeting

Promptly at six o'clock on Monday, April 6, President Demarest called the annual meeting of the Holland Society to order in the Union Club in New York. All the reports presented indicated that the Society was in good health, its membership stable, its budget balanced and its total assets just short of a million dollars. A pleasant part of the business of the evening was the recognition of those who have completed fifty years of membership in the Holland Society: James Roosevelt and John Van Siclen.

Upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, those officers and trustees whose names appear on the inside front cover of this issue of our magazine were unanimously elected. President Demarest spoke briefly of his year in office, especially citing the great work of the Publications Committee and announcing that our trip to the Netherlands will be held in 1982 because of the celebration that year of the 200th anniversary of unbroken diplomatic relations between that country and the United States. (In the usual ten year sequence, the next trip would have been held in 1983.)

Following dinner, provided for the members by the generous bequest of the late Frank Vedder (to whom a toast was drunk in piam memoriam), the Society's distinguished achievement medal was given to our fellow member, Elmer B. Staats, the retiring Comptroller General of the United States. In response Mr. Staats spoke movingly about his long career in government as well as his membership in the Holland Society. After the benediction the members enjoyed a time of fellowship with Dutch beer and cheese.

Memorial Church Service

More than thirty members, their wives and families attended the Annual Memorial Church Service of the Society on Sunday, May 3rd held at the First Reformed Church, New Brunswick, N.J. Domine Hageman preached the sermon on "The Real Presence" in which he stressed the importance and Christian necessity of involving oneself with other people. President Kenneth L. Demarest, Jr., read the scripture and the names of those members of the Society who have passed away since the last memorial church service in 1980.

The First Reformed Church, one of the finer examples of Federalist church architecture in New Jersey, was formally organized in 1717. The present edifice was built in 1812. Among the names of New Netherland pioneer families represented in the old burial ground adjoining the church are those of Voorhis, Van Deventer, Tunissen, Heyer, Aheil, Romaine, Van Nuys and Van Arsdale.

Following the service Domine and Mrs. Hageman entertained the members and their guests at a delicious luncheon at their charming home, the President's House of New Brunswick Theological Seminary.

Old Bergen Branch Meeting

Old Bergen Branch's annual spring meeting was held May 7th at the Allendale Bar and Grill, Allendale, N.J., with a lively representation of members and guests present who enjoyed a delicious roast beef dinner and an evening of convivial social conversation. A brief business meeting following dinner was conducted by Branch President Leigh K. Lydecker, Jr., and included a greeting from President Kenneth L. Demarest, Jr., and the introduction of guests as well as election of officers for the coming year.

Chosen as officers were: President, John R. Voorhis III; Vice-President, Albert G. Bogert, Jr.; Secretary, Donald D. Van Siclen and Treasurer, William D. Blauvelt, Jr. President Voorhis asked for suggestions regarding a fall meeting of the branch to which the wives of members would be invited and said that plans would be made for such a meeting.

In addition to those already mentioned the following members were present: William W. Amerman, Bruce E. Amerman, Eugene Bogert, Jr., Trustee Frederick W. Bogert, Robert W. DeGroat, Donald R. Demott, Donald A. Fonda, M.D., William L. Paulison, Jr., Trustee James E. Quackenbush, Domine Louis O. Springsteen, Bruce B. Storms, James R. Sutphen, Trustee Emeritus W.B. Talman, Peter D. Talman, C. Spencer Terhune, Ralph D. Terhune, Trustee Kendick Van Pelt and Trustee Harold B. Zabriskie. Guests included: Leigh K. Lydecker III, Bruce Storms, David Talman and Warren Terhune.

Burgher Guard Outing

About 85 members of the Guard with their families, friends, and guests gathered at Sagamore Hill on the afternoon of Saturday, May 16. Members of the Roosevelt family were on hand to guide small groups through the house, which had been Theodore Roosevelt's home and is now part of the National Park System. Following these personally guided tours, the entire company enjoyed cocktails and dinner in one of the adjacent buildings where TR memorabilia is also displayed. All those present were deeply grateful to former Guard member Tweed Roosevelt, who had arranged such a splendid afternoon for those who attended.

June Trustees Meeting

Officers and trustees of the Society held their June meeting in Squadron A Club, located in New York City's Hotel Biltmore, on the 11th of that month with five branch presidents also in attendance. Each year the branch presidents of the Society are invited to this meeting. Those present from the branches were: New York County, Harry A. van Dyke, Patroons (Albany), Stanley L. Van Rensselaer, Long Island, John H. Vander Veer, Old Bergen, John R. Voorhis and Central New Jersey, James R. Van Wagner, Jr. President Kenneth L. Demarest, Jr., presided at the meeting.

In addition to the regular reports of the officers and committee chairmen, attention was focused upon a request for the cooperation of the Society to aid in a drive to raise $1,250,000 for the rehabilitation of Gardner Sage Library of the New Brunswick Theological Seminary at New Brunswick, N.J., and a preliminary account of plans being formulated for the contemplated trip to The Netherlands which it is hoped can be undertaken by the Society in the spring of 1982. Peter G. Vosburgh is the committee chairman for the latter venture and is currently attempting to arrange details regarding the fare, length of stay and other items in connection with the trip.

The proposed rehabilitation of Gardner Sage Library, built in 1875 and modeled after the library at Trinity College, Cambridge, England, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, has a particular significance as it is the repository for the archives of the Reformed Church in America whose records trace back to the first Dutch Reformed Church in New Amsterdam organized in 1628. A portion of these funds would be used in upgrading the archives. Another part would be used to provide a Dutch Colonial Room in the library to house the books, pamphlets and other written and printed materials pertaining to the
Here and There with Our Members

George B. Wendell, Jr. and Mrs. Wendell recently became parents of their first child, a daughter, Elizabeth Anne Wendell, born at New York Hospital, January 23.

Walter Cronkite, renowned TV newscaster and the Society's Medalist in 1973, was honored when presented with the 16th annual Charles Evans Hughes Award for courageous leadership in governmental, civic and humanitarian affairs by the National Conference of Christians and Jews at a formal dinner held at the Waldorf, February 9.

Gen. Cortlandt V.R. Schuyler, retired Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe (SHAPE), former State Commissioner of General Services during the Rockefeller administration and a trustee of the Society from 1968-74, has been bereaved by the death of his wife, Mrs. Wynona Goykendall Schuyler, mother of Philip V.R. Schuyler of Bound Brook, N.J. and Mrs. Edward Saxby of Menands, N.Y., grandmother of eight and great-grandmother of two; at Albany, N.Y., January 27, in her 79th year.

John S. Van der Veer and Mrs. Van der Veer became parents, and former President and Mrs. Thomas M. Van der Veer grandparents, of Anne Owens Van der Veer, born at Bellevue Hospital, Schenectady, N.Y., December 22, 1979.

Paul B. Van Dyke, Jr., Vice-President of the Society and President of the Florida Branch announced that the first meeting of the West coast area of the Branch was held at Smitty's Beef Room in Fort Meyers, Florida on March 28. The fall meeting of the Florida Branch will be held on Saturday, November 2, 1981 in the Boca Raton vicinity.

Ralph L. DeGroff, Jr. recently joined the firm of Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette, investment bankers of this city, as vice-president in charge of the Banking Department.

Rev. William S. Ackerman was elected to the Chaplaincy, and Dr. Arthur F. Ackerman, Samuel H. Ackerman and Rev. James Blauvelt to the board of directors, of the associated David Ackerman Descendants-1662 at the 19th annual reunion at Ponds Reformed Church, Oakland, N.J. last October 18.

Richard H. Amerman's wife Helen and their daughter Katherine, 15, visited Rome and Florence during an eight-day trip abroad from which they returned in July.

Wilfred B. Talman gave an interview, published in the Rockland, N.Y., Journal-News of June 26, which produced a column-length article relating in detail the history of that region beginning with the trading post opened near South Nyack in 1675 by Harman Douweswezen, son of the Dutch pioneer Douw Harmansen.

C. Douglas Dillon, board chairman of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, former Secretary of the Treasury and Ambassador to France, and the Society's Medalist in 1978, was one of seven persons to be presented by Mayor Koch with the Award of Honor for Arts and Culture, at Gracie Mansion, June 23, in recognition of outstanding contributions to the cultural life of New York City.

Dr. William B. Deyo and Mrs. Deyo returned from a camera safari in Africa to their Ridgewood, N.J. home in June. Participants in the Kenyan-American Clinical Study Tour, the Deyes traveled by minibus to visit hospitals, medical facilities and native villages, as well as the national wildlife reservations where sights and sounds were captured on camera and tape recorder.

Howard C. Van Arsdale, chairman of the '63 trip to Holland and former Potomac Branch president, was recently depicted in the Newport News, Va., Times-Herald with an article about his 60-year hobby of collecting picture cards — some 21,000 of them in 20 albums. Issued in the late 19th and early 20th centuries here and abroad by cigar and cigarette companies, the little pasteboards illustrate in color or black-and-white popular events and personalities, chiefly on the American scene although a number of items come from England, France and Germany.

Langdon Van Nordan during World War II served with a group of young Army officers whose faultless performance of duty is praised by the English journalist and historian, Stephen E. Ambrose in his book, "Ike's Spies: Eisenhower and the Espionage Establishment" (Doubleday, 1981). The assignment of this group, in Special Liaison Units, was to...
relay to field commanders vital intelligence gained from ULTRA cryptanalysis of intercepted messages sent by Nazi leaders after encoding on a machine believed absolutely safe, called Enigma.

Henry H. Livingston's office at 10 Hanover Square with Kidder Peabody & Smith is across the street from a "dig" where archaeologists from the Landmarks Commission recently found evidences of the house belonging to his colonial forebear Robert Livingston (1654-1728), a prosperous merchant who became proprietor of Livingston Manor. It was reported in The New York Times, July 5. The site is in a block bounded by Hanover, Water and Pearl Streets and Coenties Slip, where an office building will soon rise.

President and Mrs. Kenneth L. Demarest, Jr., and Past President Amerman attended the Peter Stuyvesant Ball held with H.R.H. Princess Margriet, her husband the Hon. Pieter van Vollenhoven, and a notable assemblage present in the New Amsterdam Ballroom of the newly opened Vista International Hotel in downtown Manhattan, May 28. The gala benefit for the restoration of West India House in Amsterdam and St. Mark's-in-the-Bowery here, attracted some 700 persons including Netherlands Ambassador J.H. Lubbers, Consul General L. Quareses van Ufford, and three former U.S. Ambassadors to the Netherlands, William J. Middendorf, Geri Joseph and Kingdon Gould, Jr.

William B. Deyo, M.D. and Mrs. Deyo are parents of the former Miss Deborah J. Deyo, who was married to Robert A. Grimwood at Upper Ridgewood, N.J., Community Church, April 11. An accomplished pianist and singer although blind, and a certified music therapist, the bride is an alumna of Indiana University School of Music and did graduate work at Illinois State University. Her husband, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan W. Grimwood of Lincolnshire, England, was graduated from Worcester College for the Blind, and has won recognition for his musicianship in piano and organ. After a wedding trip to England, the couple now live in Baltimore where Mr. Grimwood is studying political science.

Lloyd Van Syckle of Sussex, N.J., son of L. George Van Syckle, a Blair Academy student class of '82 at ceremonies in June was awarded by Blair the highest achievement in Bible for the year 1980-81.

The Historical Society of Rockland County in February dedicated a reproduction of a colonial kitchen at its history center in New City, N.Y., in memory of the late Leland Rickard Meyer, long an officer of that society and a Holland Society member active in the Old Bergen branch.

The kitchen in the historical society's Jacob Blauvelt house contains materials and artifacts that largely reproduce one Mr. Meyer had rebuilt in authentic detail in his own Eckerson house some miles away. In his own kitchen Mr. Meyer conducted classes in colonial fireplace cooking for some years. Similar classes will be held in the new Leland Rickard Meyer kitchen as part of a series to help those who attend relive history.

The first meeting of the New Jersey Chapter of the Wyckoff House and Association, Inc. was held at New Brunswick Seminary on March 7, with 28 Wyckoff descendants in attendance. Plans were made for a family picnic at Lake Hopatcong in August. If there are any Wyckoff descendants interested in joining the Association, which is concerned with the preservation of the Wyckoff House in Brooklyn, they are asked to get in touch with Mrs. Harriet Stryker-Rodda, who is General Chairman of the New Jersey Chapter.

Dutch in Mid-West (continued)

By contrast, the colony of Raritan, Illinois, settled by "Jersey men" and first known as "The Jersey Settlement on Honey Creek," has together with neighboring Fairview, some 35 miles away, an active Reformed church whose members include representatives of founding families. Like Fairview Raritan's origin is closely tied to the organization of its church, dating back to 1855 when Joseph Nevius, Simon P. Nevius, Henry D. Voorhees and their wives and Mrs. Simon Simonson, with the aid of Rev. Abram D. Wilson, the minister from Fairview, and the Rev. Samuel A. Burstead, brought The Raritan Reformed Church into existence. The Raritan church received added impetus in the year following its organization, 1856, when "a number of families" from Fairview removed there. Among these was Andrew Hageman who became the first superintendent of the Raritan Church Sunday School, using a renovated blacksmith shop belonging to Peter Nevius to house his pupils. This church, which last year celebrated its 125th anniversary, still numbers among its congregation members of such pioneer Dutch families in New Netherland as the Brokawks (originally Brouard), Cortelyou, Corzatts (originally Cousseau) and Van Arsdales, The first minister of the Raritan Reformed Church was the Rev. C.D. Eltinge of Port Jervis, N.Y., a descendant of Jan Roelof Eltinge or Elting who came to New Netherland in 1663.

The names of other towns in this section of Illinois suggests similar settlement by the Dutch, probably from New Jersey, by way of Kentucky or Ohio. In addition to Brunswick, one finds Monmouth, West Jersey, and a little further south, Griggsville, which would seem to have a connection with Griggstown in Somerset County, N.J.

Writing in 1883 to the Rev. J.K. Demarest of Gettysburg, Pa., in reply to a query regarding the Dutch migration to the Mid-West, Judge D.D. Banta of Franklin, Indiana, stated his belief that "the Dutchmen in the west have always been colonizers." "They have," he noted, "put out streams from the settlements here and became the nucleus for settlements in Kansas and Iowa. The old families were generally agriculturists. They were fond of the country life. Their families were usually large and they were usually well-to-do..." Judge Banta concluded the observations in his letter with a phrase which provides perhaps the best and most concise summary of the migration an penetration by 19th century heirs of New Netherland's Dutch settlers: "All over the west and south, one finds representatives of these old families."
HENRY L. VAN HORN

Henry Logan Van Horn of Baltimore, Md., a member of The Holland Society of New York since 1954, died at the age of 79 on Thursday, January 8, 1981. Descended from Christian Barentsen Van Horn who came to this country from Hoorn, North Holland, before 1640, he was born at Chamberlain, Brule County, S.D., September 9, 1901, son of William Burton Van Horn and Jane Elizabeth Bairey. A retired insurance executive, he was graduated from Yankton College in 1923. After studying law he was admitted to the South Dakota Bar in 1928; subsequently he qualified as a Certified Public Accountant in New York in 1941. Initially a high school teacher and then an auditor for Western Surety Company of Sioux Falls, he was with Joseph Froggatt & Co. Inc. in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York from 1929-43. In the latter year he became associated with the Commercial Credit Company’s insurance subsidiaries in executive capacities, serving as president of the American Health & Life Insurance Company, chairman of Calvert Fire Insurance Company of Baltimore, vice-chairman of Farmers & Bankers Life Insurance Company of Wichita, and a director of American Credit Indemnity Company of New York. Formerly president of the Pennsylvania Casualty Company and Executive Vice President of the Manufacturers Casualty Company, he was Secretary of the Commercial Credit Company from 1961-64. After his retirement in 1966 he served as consultant to the group of insurance companies and did similar work in Guatemala and Singapore as a member of the International Executive Service Corps. A former trustee of Yankton College, he was a member of the American and South Dakota Bar Associations; the American Institute, and Maryland Association of CPA’s, and belonged to the Masonic Order, Baltimore Rotary, the Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Club and Baltimore Country Club. Actively affiliated with the Potomac Branch of the Holland Society, he and Mrs. Van Horn took part in the Society’s “Meeting in Holland” in 1963. He is survived by his wife, the former Elsie Agnes Frick; a son, James H. Van Horn, a member of the Society, of Brussels, Belgium; a daughter, Mrs. Phyllis V. Tillinghast of New York, and three grandchildren. Interment followed a memorial service held in the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Baltimore.

GARRET D. ONDERDONK

Garret D. Onderdonk of Spring Valley, N.Y., a member of The Holland Society of New York since 1975, died at the age of 84 on Sunday, February 8, 1981. Descended from Andries Adrianse Onderdonk, a colonist born before 1653 at the Dutch settlement which became New Amstel (now New Castle, Del.), into a family traditionally linked with the noted Adrian van der Donck, he was born at Nyack, N.Y., September 30, 1896, son of Daniel Ajax Onderdonk and Adelie Cooper. A retired stock broker, World War I combat veteran and well known for his participation in public affairs, he was educated in the Rockland County schools. In 1917 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving initially on transport and destroyer duty and then with a Marine Corps unit of the A.E.F. in France, where he was wounded by shrapnel and gassed in action. Honorably discharged in grade of Sergeant in 1921, he continued for many years in the Organized Reserve. He was associated with the former New York brokerage firm of L.A. Mathey & Co. more than 40 years, becoming a partner and floor broker on the American Stock Exchange. He retired in 1960. Member of one of Rockland’s old families, deriving from the Garret Onderdonk who came from Long Island and bought land near South Nyack in 1736, he was prominently identified with community activities, concerning which his many contributions and forceful views gained him wide recognition. During World War II he directed Rockland’s civil defense operations and gasoline rationing program. Appointed to the Nyack draft board in 1943, he became chairman of the county-wide Selective Service system and served until 1971. He chaired patriotic programs in Spring Valley for 50 years, heading Memorial Day parades and other civic observances. Active with the Civil Air Patrol, he served also as deputy sheriff and volunteer fireman, and was a leader in charity campaigns. He was presented with the “Man of the Year” award by Stony Point chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, and was honored for his services by the Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Selective Service, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and many public bodies and community groups. He is survived by his wife, the former Muriel G. Buckmaster; a son, Garret D. Onderdonk, Jr.; a brother, Roy Onderdonk of Emerson, N.J.; seven grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. Following the services, burial with military honors was at Brick Church cemetery near Spring Valley.

WILLIAM V.B. VAN DYCK

William Van Bergen Van Dyck of Schenectady, N.Y., oldest member of The Holland Society of New York, with which he was affiliated since 1930, died at the age of 105 on Friday, March 13, 1981. Descended from Hendrick van Dyck who came to this country from Holland in 1642, he was born in New Brunswick, N.J., September 8, 1875, son of Dean Francis Guyler Van Dyck of Rutgers College and Rebecca Jane Van Bergen. An internationally known electrical engineer, and in his youth a noted scholar-athlete, he attended Rutgers Prep and was graduated from Rutgers College in 1896, earning also the electrical engineering degree at Columbia University in 1897 and M.S. degree at Rutgers in 1898. After serving on the Rutgers faculty from 1899-1901 and as an engineer in North Carolina until 1906, he was associated for many years in Chile and Brazil with the General Electric Company, rising to become managing director of its Brazilian subsidiary in 1914 and president of General Electric South America in 1918. In 1927 he returned to this country and for 11 years was manager of the home office in Schenectady, serving afterwards as assistant to the president of International General Electric Company until his retirement in 1945. Decorated by the Brazilian government with the Order of the Southern Cross in 1939, and recipient of many honors in this country, he was a trustee of Mackenzie College of Sao Paulo, president of the American Chamber of Commerce of Brazil, and prominently connected in Rio de Janeiro with the Red Cross, Strangers Hospital, American Society and Country Club. A former trustee of Rutgers University, director of the Morris Plan Industrial Bank of Schenectady, and president of the Mohawk Club, he belonged to many civic, professional and foreign trade organizations. For nine years president of the former Schenectady County Branch, he was awarded the Society’s 50-Year Emblem and elected to Honorary Life Membership in 1980. Member of Phi Beta Kappa and Tau Beta Phi, he was a varsity football player at Rutgers and captain of the ’94 team, besides serving as coach of football in ’99. He is survived by a step-daughter, Mrs. John Logan of Concord, Mass.; a niece, Mrs. Florence V.D. Bucher of Schenectady, and three step-grandsons. Following a memorial
service in St. George's Episcopal Church, Schenectady, internment was at Riverside Cemetery, Coxsackie.

WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT

William H. Vanderbilt of South Williamstown, Mass., a member of The Holland Society of New York since 1929, died at the age of 79 on Tuesday, April 14, 1981. Descended from Jan Aertsen van der Bilt who came to this country from Holland about 1650, he was born in New York City, November 24, 1901, son of Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt who went down with the Lusitania in 1915, and Ellen French. Formerly Governor of Rhode Island, university trustee, philanthropist and veteran of both World Wars, he attended St. George's School in Rhode Island, the Evans School in Arizona, and Princeton University. Appointed a midshipman in the Naval Reserve at the age of 15, he was one of the youngest Americans to serve in the first World War. During World War II he entered the U.S. Navy as a Lieutenant in 1941 and served with the Office of Strategic Services until honorably discharged in grade of Captain, USNR, in 1945. He served in the Rhode Island State Senate from 1928-34, and was elected Governor of the State for a two-year term in 1938. A former member of the U.S. Naval Academy Board of Visitors, he was for many years a trustee of Vanderbilt University, which was founded upon acquiring the Five Corners grocery and service station at South Williamstown, a Greek revival building dating back to 1830 that might have become part of a fast food chain. In the Holland Society he was presented with the Distinguished Service Medal and Citation at the Mid-Winter Dinner in February 1970; and the address he gave on that occasion, contrasting the early settlers' advantages with the plight of minority groups in present-day urban ghettos, was published in de Halve Maen (April '70 issue). In 1979 he was awarded the 50-year Emblem and elected to Honorary Life Membership. He is survived by his third wife, the former Helen Cummings Cook, whom he married in 1930; a son, William H. Vanderbilt, Jr., of Seattle, Wash.; three Daughters, Mrs. Emily V. Wade of Bedford, Mass., Mrs. Anne V. Hartwell and Mrs. Elsie V. Newburg, both of this city; 12 grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.

Low Dutch Company (continued)

Station. Samuel Demaree, Jr. with his new wife, Mary Brewer Cozine, widow of Cornelius Cozine, was determined to settle it. In 1789 or '90 they moved in with the Ketchams and tended crops planted near the station. On August 9, 1790, nine year old Sarah Cozine, step-daughter of Samuel Demaree, and her twelve year old brother Daniel were pulling hemp about fifty yards from the station when six or seven Potto- wattomic Indians came running at them from out of a cornfield. The Indians were without guns except one who fired at the children. They were chased to a fence where the boy's skull was crushed by a tomahawk. Sarah got over the fence but was captured by her pursuers who left the boy's dead body without scalping it.

Once safely away the Indians scalped the girl but spared her life. Sarah Cozine was a captive of the Indians for five years, being released September 14, 1795 after the Battle of Fallen Timbers. She married and lived to be an old woman (she was living in 1855). Family legend records that she was regarded as somewhat eccentric for following some Indian habits learned during her captivity. It seems she kindled her fires Indian fashion and preferred to live in a wigwam in the summertime. 103

The murder of one child and capture of another broke their spirit and the Demaree family returned to Mercer County. 104 The Dutch host, Daniel Ketcham, continued to have difficulties. Three men had been killed on his farm and twice his family had been compelled to seek protection at Painted Stone. Finally he himself was captured by Ottawas. He was taken to near Detroit and held prisoner several months. He escaped into Canada, made his way to Maryland and eventually returned to Kentucky. 105

Samuel Demaree's brother-in-law Jacob Smock attempted to settle his family on the Demaree tract in 1794. His daughter Lea Smock was captured by the Indians, scalped, escaped and later married and raised a large family. His son Matthew was killed. Jacob's fourteen and thirteen year old sons, John and Peter Smock, were captured by Pottowatomies in March of 1794. Family legend says the boys were kidnapped by Chief Winomac and ransomed for a keg of rum after General Wayne defeated the Indians. The boys were released June 10, 1795. 106

The Virtue of Psalm-singing

While working in his fields at the Wallabout (modern Brooklyn) Hans Hansen Bergen found himself confronted by a band of hostile Indians. According to family tradition, Bergen climbed into a nearby tree and "fearful that he was about to be killed, began to sing in a strong and moving voice the old Dutch Hymn 'In mijn grootste nood, O'Heere' (In my greatest need, O Lord)." The savages reportedly were so moved by his singing that they withdrew without harming him.