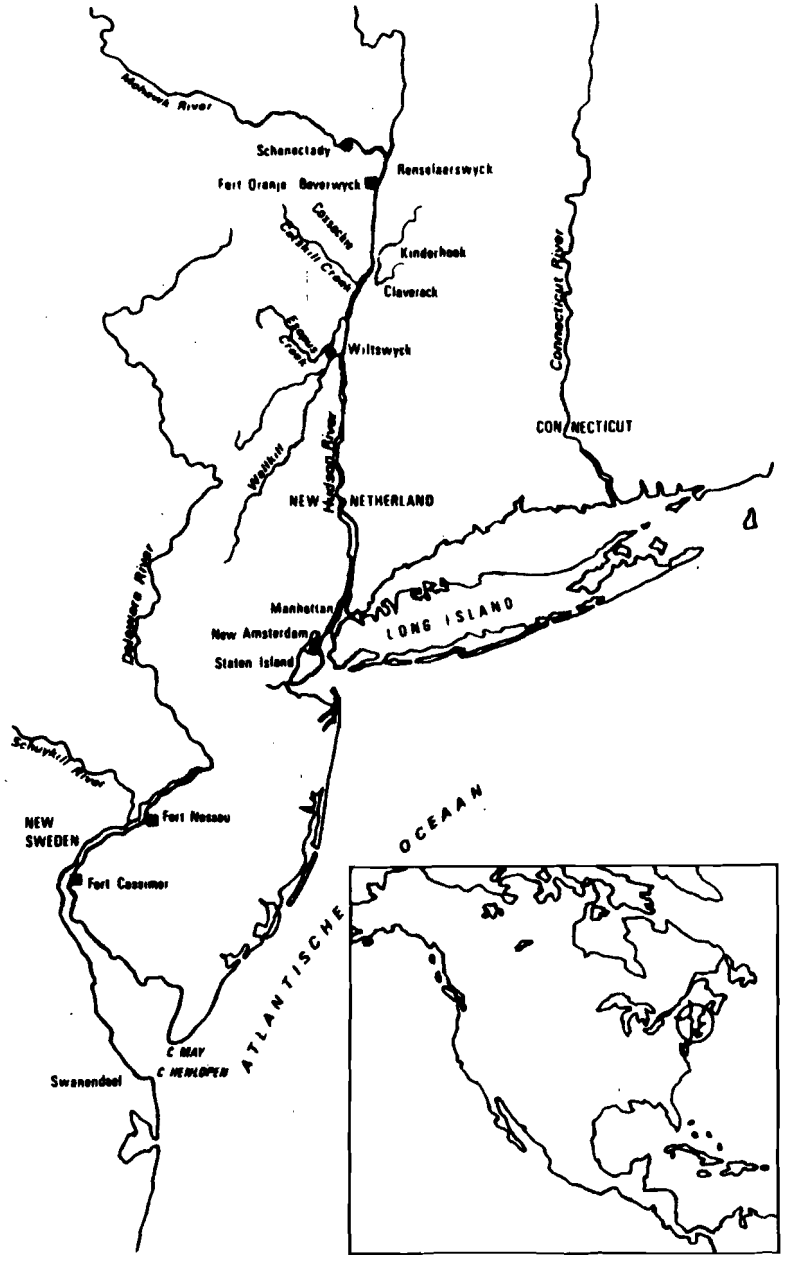
Unit III
Life in the New World



Afb. 2. Kaart van Nieuw-Nederland met de Nederlandse vestigingsplaatsen. (Tekening A. van der Kloot).

Unit Objectives

Present packets containing selected primary source documents which demonstrate cultural elements of daily life in the New World. These elements include work, recreation, society, shelter and food.

Lesson 1

Group 1 — Recreation

Objectives	Activities	Resources
1. Students will analyze and interpret original source translations. 2. Students will have an understanding of the recreational element of seventeenth century Dutch settlement.	1. Students working in this group analyzing (with help of directed questions/packet accompanying the packet) to detect games and other recreational pursuits.	1. Art books on seventeenth century Dutch artists (see listing of suggested sources in unit I). 2. *Laws and Ordinances*, p. 259. 3. *Fort Orange Court Minutes*, pp. 192, 473-474.

Group 2 — People

Objectives	Activities	Resources
1. Students will use original sources to acquire specific knowledge about people. 2. Students will identify with people in the seventeenth century.	1. Read and analyze various texts. 2. Locate places on the map. 3. Write dialogue for play. 4. Students as Teunis write diary or letter reporting on people's behavior.	1. Collage based on *Fort Orange Court Minutes* and *Early Records of Albany*. 2. *Early Records of Albany*, pp. 67-69. 3. *Fort Orange Court Minutes*, pp. 280, 494, 505, 538, glossary. 4. *Minutes of the Court of Albany, Rensselaerswyck, Schenectady. III*, p. 432.

Lesson 1

Group 3 — Food and Household

Objectives	Activities	Resources
1. Students will locate information about food and household items. 2. Students will gain insight about settlers daily life.	1. Read and analyze primary source documents and paintings. 2. Students as Teunis write a letter describing his visit to the home of a Native American, a wealthy trader or a baker.	1. *Description of New Netherland*, pp. 45, 50, 67, 68, 71. 2. *Early Records of Albany IV*, pp. 78-79. 3. Art books (see listing).

Lesson 1

Group 4 — Shelter

Objectives	Activities	Resources
1. Students will draw conclusions from primary sources regarding shelter. 2. Students will be able to identify with inhabitants of the community through their understanding of the housing situation.	1. Locate specific houses and gardens on the Beverwijck map. 2. Analyze documents using questions and assignments. 3. Students as Teunis write a petition to the court to have a lot for a house and business. Use at least five items based on the documents in your petition.	1. Histotext—see Unit I. 2. *Early Records of Albany*, pp. 535-536. 3. *Fort Orange Court Minutes*, p. 3. 4. *Early Records of Albany I*, p. 292. 5. *A Guide to Dutch Manuscripts*, p. 21. 6. Map of Beverwijck.

Lesson 1

Group 5 — Work

Objectives	Activities	Resources
1. Students will use document translations to determine ways that Dutch settlers earned a living. 2. Students will equate names of Dutch settlers with the jobs they had.	1. Look up Dutch words in a glossary. 2. Describe the workings and costs of a farm or a sawmill. 3. Students as Teunis write a letter to the patroon describing his work. Mention at least five facts from the documents.	1. Collage based on *Fort Orange Court Minutes* and *Early Records of Albany*. 2. *Early Records of Albany III*, pp. 258, 353-354, 383-384, 404-405, 532. 3. *Yearbook of Early Dutch Settlers' Society XIII.*, pp. 14-15.

Using original documents to locate specific information is sometimes difficult. Work with a partner to go through this packet.

1. Prepare a list of recreation activities and report this information to the class. You may want to make a poster which shows these activities.

OR

2. Go to the library to do research on paintings by Pieter Bruegel. Look particularly at a painting called "Children's Games." Report your findings to the class.

OR

3. Go to the library to do research on paintings by Dutch artists. Prepare illustrations of your own to show what clothing people wore.

L&O, 258-59

First, all persons from performing or doing on the Lord's day of rest, by us called Sunday, any ordinary labor, such as Ploughing, Sowing, Mowing, Building, Woodsawing, Smithing, Bleaching, Hunting, Fishing, or any other work which may be lawful on other days, on pain of forfeiting One pound Flemish for each person; much less any lower or unlawful exercise and Amusement, Drunkenness, frequenting Taverns or Tippling houses, Dancing, playing Ball, Cards, Tricktrack, Tennis, Cricket or Ninepins, going on pleasure parties in a Boat, Car or Wagon before, between or during Divine Service, on pain of a double fine; especially, all Tavern keepers, or Tapsters from entertaining any Clubs or tapping, bestowing, giving or selling directly or indirectly any Brandy, Wine, Beer, or Strong Liquor to any person before, between or during the Sermons, under a fine of six guilders, to be forfeited by the Tavern-keeper or Tapster for each person, and three guilders by every person found drinking at the time aforesaid.

Penalty.

Amusements, Drunkenness, Playing at Cards, Cricket, Ninepins, &c., Pleasure parties, and

Selling Liquor on Sundays, before, between or during Divine Service, forbidden.

Penalty.

FOCM, 192

Hendrick Jochemsz is granted permission to have the burgher guard shoot the parrot† on the third day after this coming *Pijnghsteren*‡ provided he keeps good order and takes care that no accidents occur or result therefrom.

Steeven Jansz, plaintiff, against Jan Jansz, defendant, about some money due him for tavern expenses.

The defendant is ordered to pay the plaintiff one-half now or within a month and the other half two months later, promptly, without any exceptions.

Maria Jans, wife of Steeven Jansz, is ordered by this honorable court to suspend tapping in this fort for the period of two weeks from this date, precisely.

The commissary and officer is ordered to pay within the space of forty-eight hours [211] to Jacob Jansz Flodder the sum of fifty-six guilders, being the same as what the officer received from the hands of the aforesaid Flodder on account of the late Hendrixsz, but the officer retains, nevertheless, entirely his cause of action on account of his

* "pine woods," now called Greenbush, a section of the city of Rensselaer; the English mistook Dutch *grene* "pine" for English "green," giving rise to such local placenames as Greenbush and Green Island.

† *den papegay door de burgerij te laten schieten*: an annual festival in the Netherlands, held on May Day or at Pentecost. Accompanied by three days of feasting, the local marksmen attempted to shoot the figure of a parrot from the top of a pole. The winner was proclaimed king of the marksmen until bested. See J. Ter Gouw, *De oude tijd* (Haarlem, 1874) 282; and George McCall Theal, *The History and Ethnography of Africa South of the Zambesi*, (London, 1909) 2:316.

‡ i.e., *pinkster* "pentecost," the Greek word for fifty; in the Christian calendar it indicates the seventh Sunday after Easter.

do, and demands payment of *f*100 and 6 beavers in specie, which debt the defendant denies.

[208] The defendant promises to complete the work at the first opportunity whenever it will suit the plaintiff's convenience and in case of failure to put someone else in his place to carry on the work, and promises to make good the tiles which happen to blow off.

The honorable court orders: *fiat*, provided that the defendant shall be held to make good the tiles which should happen to blow off, suspending decision as to the compensation demanded until further proof.

Gommer Poulussen, plaintiff, against
Default. Willem Martensen, defendant.

Abraham Carpeyn, plaintiff, against
Default. Hans Coenraets, defendant.

Hans Coenraets, plaintiff, against
2nd default. Jan van Eeckelen, defendant.

Jan Mangelsen, appearing before the court, refuses to take the oath to give witness to the truth as to the dispute between Hans Hendericksz and Lambert van Neck.

Lambert van Neck being asked by the honorable court whether he did not see that Hans Hendericksen drew his knife on him and whether he did not ward him off with the tongs, answers, "No," and refuses to take the oath to confirm his statement.

[209] The honorable commissary and magistrates of Fort Orange and the village of Beverwijck, pursuant to the ordinance issued by the honorable director general and council of New Netherland and published here on the 6th of October 1656,* ordain, as they do hereby ordain, that henceforth no one shall be allowed to engage in any business of tapping before and until he shall have obtained a license from the officer, on condition of paying therefor one pound Flemish and of being bound to renew his license every three months, on pain of suspension from his business.

The honorable commissary and magistrates of Fort Orange and the village of Beverwijck, having heard diverse complaints from the burghers of this place against the practice of playing golf along the streets, which causes great damage to the windows of the houses and also exposes people to the danger of being injured, which is contrary to the freedom of the public streets; therefore, their honors, wishing to prevent

* See *LO*, 262, for the ordinance dated October 26.

the same, hereby forbid all persons to play golf in the streets, under penalty of forfeiture of *f*25 for each person who shall be found doing so.

Whereas daily experience shows that many burghers of this village of Beverwijck deposit and pile their firewood in the street, contrary to the freedom of said streets, which must always be kept free and unobstructed, whereby not only people are inconvenienced, but wagons, sleighs, and carts can scarcely make use of said streets, to the serious inconvenience of the public; therefore, the commissary and magistrates of Fort Orange and the village of Beverwijck, wishing to provide against such inconveniences, hereby ordain that none of the inhabitants of Beverwijck shall hereafter be allowed to let any firewood lie in the street for more than ten days, under penalty of confiscation of the said wood and of being, in addition thereto, subjected to a fine of *f*25.

Likewise, the honorable commissary and magistrates prohibit, as they do hereby most expressly prohibit, any of the burghers or inhabitants of the village of Beverwijck from shooting on New Year's day, on account of the great damage and disorder which such firing causes, under penalty of twenty-five [guilders] for each person who shall be found to have done so.

Thus done in Fort Orange, at the meeting of the honorable court of the said place, on the tenth of December 1659.

[210] The honorable officer, debit, for receipt of the following fines which have been imposed from primo January 1658 to ultimo December Anno 1659

1658		
Jan. 22	Jan Teunissen, condemned to pay a fine of	*f*500:–:–
March 11	Jan Anderiessen de Graeff and Pieter Jacobsen Bosboom, each condemned to pay a fine of *f*125, amounting together to	250:–:–
29 ditto	Dirrick Bensingh, condemned to pay a fine of	150:–:–
May 21	Luycas Pietersen, fined *f*60	60:–:–
July 16	Poulus Janssen, condemned to pay a fine of	500:–:–
August 13	Dirrick Carstensen, condemned to pay a fine of	50:–:–
1659		
May 26	Steven Janssen, condemned to pay a fine of	300:–:–
		*f*1,800:10:–

Of the above listed fines the officer received as follows:
Jan Teunissen paid *f*195:–:–

Lesson 2

Objectives	Activities	Resources
1. Students will listen to reports prepared by classmates to acquire information about life in seventeenth century Albany. 2. Students will take notes for use in culmination activity.	1. Each group will present materials they completed using the packets and primary source documents. 2. Students will question presenters for specific details to be used in their own papers.	1. Student-prepared information based on their research.

Lesson 3

Objective: Students will demonstrate that they have learned material about New Netherland.

Objectives	Activities	Resources
Write a multi-paragraph composition without punctuation and capitalization errors, spelling errors, sentence fragments or run-together sentences.	Write a letter to someone living in the Netherlands describing life in New Netherland. Be sure to discuss recreation, people, food, housing and work. OR Complete the story given in Unit I by using all information students have learned. OR Write an original short story about life in New Netherland discussing all the cultural elements provided.	Notes which students have taken in class. Any materials which students used in previous activities.

People and Their Names: Backgrounds

Among the Dutch, people in New Netherland came from various backgrounds. In the whole colony of New Netherland, some 50% was not of Dutch origin. Around Albany that percentage was lower (around 25%) because the patroon, Kiliaen van Rensselaer, hired many people in the Republic.

In the collage people are mentioned with the place where they or their family very likely came from. The documents from which the names were abstracted are the *Fort Orange Court Minutes, 1652-1660.* It is important that these place names are mentioned in the translations; sometimes they become people's last names. Genealogists have an indication of where they might be able to find more information about a particular family.

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1. Mark X on the map of the Dutch Republic. X the places of origin of 10 people mentioned in the column on the left side of the collage (you can number the persons, and fill out the number in the map).
2. Some 25% of the population of Rensselaerswijck and Albany was not of Dutch origin. On the map of Europe, mark whereabouts they may have come from.
3. The Dutch word van often means "from". Find out where the people in the collage most likely came from and list these places. Many of the indications regarding the origin of these early settlers became their last names. In a phone book, find some names where this happened, and write them down.

Wouter Aertsz van Petten *Rademacker*

Claes van Rotterdam

Poulus Janssen, 32 years; born at Gurcum.*

Frans Gabrielsz van Delft

Willem Albertsz van Monickendam

Jan Machielsz, aged 55 years, born at Edam, and Gerrit Jansz born at Swoll.

Adriaen Jansz van Leyden

Marcelis Jansz van Bommel

Adriaen van Ilpendam

Jacob Jansz Stoll van Amsterdam

Cornelis Theunesz Van Brueckelen

Lambert van Valckenborgh

Dirrick van Nes

Teunis Com[elisz] van Vechten

Claes Jansz van Baren

Jacob van Loosdrecht

Eldert *de Goyer*

Christoffel Davids 42 years and born in the Bishopric in England.

Jan Jansz van Gottenburgh

Jantjen *de Iersman*

Jan van Aecken

Jacob Janssen van Noortstrant

Jan van Breemen

Cornelis *de Sweet*

the *Maquas*, the *Sinnekus*, or the Dutch

Jaques *de Fransman*

Pieter Teunisz van Brunswyck

Pieter *de Vlamingh*

Nicolaes Gregory Hillebrant 29 years and born at Prague.

the female Negro

Jan van Hoesem

Arent *de Noorman*

Carsten *de Noorman*

Joost Teunisz from Norden

Jan Roelofsz 20 years and born in this country

Jochem *Becker Backer* 38 years; at Jeveren.

Vostre tres humble et obeissant serviteur

La Montagne

Abram *Crowaet*

Loys Jacobusz About 22 years and born at Herentaels.*

* Herenthals, a city in the province of Antwerp, Belgium

Hans de Vosch 45 years old and born at Lunnenburgh.

Lüneburg in Hanover, Germany

Hendrick Cassersz van Oldenborgh

Hendrick *de Moff* *

* derogatory name for a German

Marten *Bierkaecker* 30 years, born in Oldenborch. Susanna, his wife, answers, Aged 23, born in New England.

Hendrick Reur from Munster

People and Their Names: The Patronymic System

In the collages you see, often names end as follows: ...sz, or ...sen. Examples are Machielsz, Janssen, Jansz, Theunesz. The Dutch naming system was a patronymic system, using the father's name as basis. Jansz, for example means Jansz zoon, which is in English Jan's son. Because the zoon was often pronounced as sen, some people would spell it likewise.

1. In the list below, and in the collages (there is also a collage in the file "WORK"), find 5 more names, based on the patronymic system.
2. In the phone book, check if you can find some of these names; list five (N.B.: the spelling may have changed somewhat under the English influence, Jansen may sometimes have changed in "Janson"
3. Looking at these lists, you can tell from many people what their fathers names were. List 10 popular men's names.

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Actum the 27th of May Anno 1660, in Beverwijck.
Underneath was written:

Which doing, etc. Praying in and upon everything, etc. Your honors' willing and affectionate subjects: Was signed: Jan Dircksen van Breemen, Arent Jansen van Hoeck, Jan Harmsen, Rem Jansen, Jacob Thijsen van der Heyden, Cornelis Theunesen Bosch, Daniel Verveelen, Jacob Jansen, the mark of Lambert van Valkenburch, Pieter Loockermans, Jan Jansen van Ekelen, the mark of Meyndert Fredricksen, Thoomas Pouw[elsen], the mark of Jan Fransen, the mark of Sijmon Volkerts, the mark of Theunes Cornelissen, the mark of Willem Fredricksen, the mark of Jan Harmsen, the mark of Mattheus Abrahamsen, the mark of Jan Cornelissen, Pieter Loockermans *de Jonge*, the mark of Jochem Ketteleyn, Jacob Loockermans, Willem Jansen Schut, the mark of Reynier Albertsen, Jan Vinhagel, Hendrick Anderiesen, Anderies de Vosch, Jan Schekel, Pieter Winnen, Jan Cornel[issen] Leyden, Jan Michaelsen, Jochem Wessel, Jurrian Theunesen, Daniel Rinckhout, Pieter Bronck, Harmen Bastiaensen, Jacob van Laer, Cornelus Bogardus, Pieter Adriaensen, Claes Marrechael, [171] Philip Hendricksen, Adriaen Appel, Sijmon Sijmonsen, Baerent Meyndersen, the mark of Wouter Albersen, Gillis Pietersen, Hendrick Rooseboom, Claes Jacobsen, Cornelis Vosch, Willem Jansen Stol, and Wijnandt Gerritsen vande Poel.*

The honorable court having read a petition presented to their honors by Jacob Tijsen, Gerrit Slechtenhorst, and Lambert van Neck, as representatives of eighty inhabitants of this village of Beverwijck, who signed the petition, whereby they earnestly request that the Dutch may be allowed to go into the woods as brokers, which, although of dangerous consequence, cannot be prevented without causing greater mischief. It is therefore left to the discretion of the petitioners to do or not to do it, the court protesting meanwhile their innocence of all mischief that may result therefrom, the more so as some of the petitioners have said that they would do it anyway, whether it was permitted or not.

People and Their Names: Nick Names

Nicknaming, through time, probably has been a custom people always have done. In your class or your neighborhood, you may use nick names yourself. If you do, list some. Why do people like to do this?

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1. The following list gives nicknames, found in the F*ort Orange Court Minutes*, the *Early Records of Albany*, and the *Deacons' Account Books*. Of some the meaning is obscure, and it is hard to think of the reason why they would have been used. Others are more clear.

*Pick 10 names of the list, and either illustrate with a drawing why the names would be used, or write down a reason for people applying that specific name.

2. What kind of information can nick names sometimes provide? Are they 100% reliable primary source material? How could you use them?
3. In the list one name really illustrates well how a nickname can almost be used as a real name. Can you tell which name?
4. Explain the name "Uylespiegel."

Jan Dircksen *alias* de Schreder

Oom Dirrick

called *Scheele* Herman
"squint-eyed" Herman

Huybert Jansz *de Guyt*
the rascal or rogue

Moy Aeltgie
Aunt Aeltgie, wife of Huybert Jansen

Willem Hap

Jan Barentsz Poest.

Lange Gijsbert

Swager Marten

Jacob *de Looper*

Tomas *Clabbort*

Claes Teunissen Uylenspiegel

Jacob Jansz Flodder

Teunis Cornelissen van der Poel alias Spitsbergen

Cornelis Cornelissen *de Jonge*

the *malle boer* and *hageboom* named Jacob Klomp

Jacob Neus

Jan Gauw

Arent Cornelisz Vogel

Jan *Roodthaer*

literally, red hair; this is Jan Hendricksen van Salsbergen *Timmerman*. He appears in the records with various combinations of these components for his name.

Jacob Adriaensz *Soo Gemackelijck*

Maria Goosens alias *Lange Maria*, "Tall Maria."

Pieter Adriaensz, commonly called *Gemackelijck*
"nice and easy" or "easy does it"

Henderick *de Snijder*, alias *Cordiael*

Henderick alias *de Stijve Snijder*

Jan *met den Baert*

"with the beard," referring to Jan Helmsen, whose wife Griet is recorded three times in the deacons' account book of Beverwijck (held by the First Church of Albany) as Griet *met den Baert*.

Kint van Weelde

Schapeboute

De ouwe Capiteyn

Swarte Marten

Neeffie

de Scheet

de malle Vries

Cornelis Teunissen alias Schoorsteen

Jan de bock

Broeder

Griet met de billen

People and Their Names: Conclusion

Reading primary sources can provide you with all sorts of information. Sometimes you can even read "between the lines", and find information, hidden in normal lines. For example, just the name Jan Hendricks van Salsbergen Roothaer Timmerman provides us with various kinds of information:

1. The name of Jan's father was....
2. Very likely, he or his family originally came from.....
3. What kind of work would he have done?
4. And what, do you think, you know about his looks

1. List the kinds of information names in a document can sometimes provide you with. Mention at least four kinds.

People and Their Family: a Will

In New Netherland, according to Roman Dutch law, estates were equally divided between children: a girl would receive a same share from the inheritance as a boy. This was different from New England.

Will of Anneke Bogardus

The following is a will of Anneke Jansz, who divides her estate between her children and grandchildren.

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1. In what condition is Anneke, when she made her will?
2. How many children did Anneke have from her marriage with Roelof Jansz? Mention the names, and indicate whether it was a boy or girl.
3. How many children did she have from her marriage with Everhardus Bogardus? Mention name and sex.
4. How does Anneke divide her property? List behind the names what the person will receive.
5. She does have an expressed reservation and condition regarding the children of her first marriage. What is it?
6. Why did some of the children receive a bed and a milk cow? (In the file on "HOUSEHOLD STUFF" you can find out more about prices of beds).
7. What does she bequeath to her grand children.

Will of Anneke Jans Bogardus

[1] In the name of the Lord, Amen. Know all men [by these presents] that this day, the 29th of January 1663, about four o'clock in the afternoon, personally came and appeared before me, Dirck van Schelluyne, notary public, and before the hereinafter named witnesses, the worthy Anneke Jan's daughter, first, widow of Roeloff Jansz van Masterlant,[2] and now lastly of the minister Domine Everhardus Bogardus, dwelling within the village of Beverwyck, well known to us, the notary and witnesses, she, the testatrix, [297] lying sick in bed, but being in full possession of her faculties, reason, memory and understanding, as it outwardly appeared to us, which said testatrix, considering the shortness and frailty of human life, the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the hour thereof, and therefore wishing to anticipate the same by proper disposition of her temporal estate, declared that deliberately, without inducement, persuasion, or deception on the part of anyone, she had made, ordained and concluded this her present last will and testament as follows: First of all, commending her immortal soul to the gracious and merciful hands of God, her Creator and Redeemer, and her body to a Christian burial, and hereby revoking, canceling and rendering null and void all and every testamentary disposition which she may heretofore have made and executed and now disposing anew, she, the testatrix, declared that she appointed and instituted hereby as her sole and universal heirs her children, namely: Sara Roeloffsz, wife of Mr[3] Hans Kierstede, Catrina Roeloffsz, wife of Johannes van Brugh, together with Jannetie and Rachel Hartgers, children of her daughter Sytge Roeloffs, deceased, late wife of Pieter Hartgers (jointly by representation in their mother's place),

[1] The pages which should have contained the translation of the above will were missing from Professor Pearson's manuscript. The present translation is revised from that printed in Munsell's *Collections*, 3:60-61.

[2] Masterlant is the seventeenth century Dutch name for the island of Marstrand, off the coast of Sweden, near Göteborg. See *Van Rensselaer Bowier Mss*, p. 56, note. The island was ceded to Sweden in 1658 at the peace of Roeskilde between Denmark and Sweden.

[3] Meaning *meester*, or *heelmeester*, that is, surgeon. An abstract of the will of Hans Kierstede, dated April 20, 1691, mentioning his second wife Jannette and five children, is in N. Y. Hist. Soc., *Collections*, 1892, 25:127.

[298] and her son Jan Roeloffsz, and moreover Willem, Cornelis, Jonas and Pieter Bogardus; and this as regards all the property, movable and immovable, claims and credits, money, gold and silver coined and uncoined, jewelry, clothing, linen, woolens and household furniture, nothing excepted or reserved, which she shall vacate and leave behind at her death, the same to be equally divided among them after her death and to be disposed of by them as their own property without opposition from anyone. Nevertheless with this express reservation and condition that the aforesaid first four children shall first of all receive out of their paternal estate apportioned to them in a farm lying on Manhatans island on the North river the sum of one thousand guilders and this out of the proceeds or value of the said farm. And whereas three of the said children at the time of their marriage received a bride's outfit corresponding to their station and the said Jan Roeloffsz is yet unmarried, therefore the testatrix by way of compensation bequeaths and leaves to him a bed and a milch cow and to Jonas and Pieter Bogardus a house and lot standing and lying on the [299] west side of the dwelling house of the said testatrix in the aforesaid village of Beverwyck, extending in breadth to the chamber of the same and thence of such width in length to the rear of the bleaching field, together with a bed for both of them and a milch cow for each of them. Also to Cornelis Bogardus a bed and a milch cow, which shall serve the said children as an equivalent of what the married children have received. Finally, the testatrix bequeaths to Roeloff Kierstede (her daughter Sara's child) a silver beaker[4] and to Annetie van Bruch[5] (her daughter Catrina's child) a silver beaker and to Jannetie and Rachel Hartgers (her daughter Sytge's children) also each a silver beaker, and to the child of Willem Bogardus, called Sytge, also a silver beaker; all of which the said children and legatees shall take and receive in advance as above stated out of the first available property and then they shall proceed to the division of the residue of the estate in the manner provided for the above-appointed and instituted heirs. All that is hereinbefore written the testatrix declares to be her last will and testament, willing and desiring that after her decease the same may have full force and effect, whether as testament, codicil, donation, gift in anticipation of death, or otherwise, as may be most effectual, even though certain formalities required by law or usage may not have been fully [300] observed herein, requesting that the utmost benefit

[4] The text read at first: "Roeloff and Annetie Kierstede (her daughter Sara's children) each a silver beaker."

[5] The notary wrote at first "Rodenburch" and then changed the name to "van bruch."

hereof may be enjoyed and that by me, the notary, one or more instruments in the usual form may be made and delivered. Thus done and executed at the house of the testatrix in the village of Beverwyck in N: Netherland, in presence of the Honorable Ruth Jacobsz van Schoonderwoert and Evert Wendel, former magistrates, as witnesses hereto called and invited.

This mark +AB is made by ANNETIE JAN'S daughter with her own hand

Rutger Jacobsz
Evert Jansz Wendel

D. V. SCHELLUYNE, *Not. Pub.*
1663

People and Their Children: the Orphan Masters

In Beverwijck, Evert Wendel and Jan Verbeeck were appointed *orphan masters of the court in 1655.* This was an institution mandated by law in the Dutch Republic.

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1. After reading the following document, what, do you think, is the orphan master's function?
2. Describe the situation the children are in 1657. Why do Wendel and Verbeeck interfere?
3. What is their solution for the problem?
4. What is the importance of an institution as the Orphan masters?

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Appeared before the court Jan Verbeeck and Evert Wendel, orphan masters of the court, who declared that seeing the bad management of Christoffel Davids in administering the estate left undivided between himself and his children, the heirs of Cornelia de Vos, his deceased wife, they had thought fit for the preservation of the said property and the protection of the children to nominate and propose [47] the persons of Andries de Vos, the father of the said Cornelia de Vos, and Arent Anderiessen, uncle on his wife's part of the said children,* as curators thereof, as far as the rights of the minor children are concerned; who, appearing before the court, have voluntarily agreed and promised upon oath to acquit themselves therein to the best of their knowledge and to the best advantage of the estate and the children. Wherefore the court has granted them authority as lawful curators of the said estate and guardians of the aforesaid children, with power to do therein and in all that is connected therewith as they jointly shall see fit for the benefit of the aforesaid estate and children, binding themselves to render an accounting whenever time or necessity shall demand it. Done in court at Fort Orange, the 27th of February Anno 1657.

* Arent Andriessen's wife, Catalijntje de Vos, was a sister of Cornelia de Vos.

People and their Children: the Deacons of the Church

The deacons of the Dutch Reformed church took care of the needy. In the *Deacons' Account Books* we can read how they provided alms for Poulijn and his family from 1667 until June 1686. That they gave advise and talked with the needy, is shown in the following documents, in which the minister and a deacon express their worries about Poulyn's family.

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1. What is their worry?
2. What do Wendel and Domine Dellius say about Poulyn's household?
3. How do they want to solve the problem for the children? What is Poulyn's answer?
4. What do the deacons suggest to the court? Can you think of other ways to solve this problem? Explain.
5. Regarding both documents: How were young children protected?
6. How are children protected today?

8 st. in seawan, less what has been paid on account, *cum expensis*.

[521] The Rev. Dom. Godevridus Dellius, accompanied by Johannes Wendel, deacon, informs their honors that last winter, with some members of the consistory, they called at the house of Paulyn to board the children whom they [Paulyn and his wife] have at home with some good people who can support them and bring them up decently. But, being very unwilling, he would not consent to it and said that the deacons should take them off their book. And whereas the consistory are informed that the children can not get enough to eat at their parents', they request that their honors may be pleased to see to it that the said children do not suffer want or damage through the unreasonable obstinacy of their ignorant parents.

The honorable court delay the matter for further consideration.

Whereas Mr William Parker has died without leaving any will and his son and daughter are not willing to administer the estate of their deceased father; therefore, the constables of this town are authorized and ordered to go with the clerk of this court to the house where the said Parker resided and to inventory the estate left by him, taking furthermore care to seal all papers and books and to make further inquiry in regard to the entire estate and to make a report to the court on the next court day, when their honors will make further provision for the proper administration of the aforsaid estate, in order that the creditors may not be defrauded of their just dues. For the performance of which this will be to you and to every one of you a sufficient warrant. *Actum* in Albany, March 29th, 1684.

[522] Ordinary session held in Albany, April 1, 1684

Present:

Marte Gerritse
Corn. van Dyk
Dirk Wessells
Joh. Provoost
J. Bleeker
Pieter Winne

People and Their Social Behavior: a Quarrel

1. After reading the document about the quarrel between Eldert Gerbertsz Cruyff and Nicholas Meyer, what is your impression of Eldert?
2. Can you briefly describe what Eldert did?
3. What was, according to Eldert, the cause of all this trouble?
4. Why do JosyntjeVerhagen and Angenietje Caspers state that they are willing to confirm their statements by oath?
5. Using the Beverwijck map, whereabouts would you place this incident? Explain your answer.
6. Write this quarrel into a play with six characters.

Deposition by Josyntje Verhagen and Angenietje Caspers respecting a quarrel between Elbert Gerbertsen Cruyf and Nicolaes Meyer

[84][1] We, the undersigned, declare at the request of Nicolaes Meyer[2] that to our certain knowledge it is true that the day before

[1] Between 83 and 84 there is a blank page which was originally numbered 78.

[2] The same as Nicolaes de Meyer, in 1664 alderman and in 1676 mayor of the city of New York. In the register of marriages of the Reformed Dutch Church of New York under date of June 6, 1655, occurs the registration of the bans of his marriage to Lydia, daughter of the ex-fiscal, or prosecutor, Hendrick van Dyck, in which he is described as from Hamburg, then claimed to be under the jurisdiction of the duchy of Holstein, for which reason he is occasionally referred to as from Holstein. He married the second time, after 1687, Sarah, the widow of John Weekstein, and died

yesterday in the afternoon the requirer went with us to the house of Tomas Jansz[1] and being together before the house of Marten Bierkaker,[2] Eldert Gerbertsz Cruyff came by us sitting upon his horse and said to the requirer [Meyer]: "Well, grand Signor, Captain Burgomaster, be you there? You are a grand master." The requirer replied in a good humor: "How do you know what I am?" Thereupon Eldert began to inveigh and scold at him, reminding him that he was indebted to him; then the requirer answered, asking him what the debt was, and Eldert said: "A hay wagon rope worth twelve stuyvers." The resuirer again said: "That is more than I knew," and that he should come to his house and he would pay him. Eldert again continuing his abuse called him a contrary dog, rogue, fool, and other vile names and pressed upon him with his horse that the requirer was forced to retreat; and though the requirer returned none of his abuse, Eldert sprang from his horse and struck the requirer several times in the face; the requirer escaping from him and coming into the house of Marten *Bierkaker*, where were more people, Eldert followed and again beat him; then they were separated. For the third time Eldert fell upon him and holding him down, gripped his throat so tight that he could neither speak nor call out and turned so black and blue that these deponents thought the requirer had been murdered. The requirer having come [85] to and got up, went out of the house with us and when we had proceeded a short distance on the highway, Eldert on his horse came after us calling out to the requirer, "You rogue, are you there? Now I will have you," and tried to ride over him forcibly with his horse. The requirer jumping over the fence, he [Eldert] sprang after him with his horse, but not being able to get across, he dismounted and leaped over the fence and followed the requirer who, to evade him, leaped over another fence and ran as fast he could, all bloody as he was, to the fort and so escaped him. We declare further that when we asked Eldert whence originated this quarrel and trouble, he answered: "I bought goods of him more than two years ago, but he would not let them go without the beavers being paid down," and said also that wherever he first saw or caught the requirer, he would handle him differently; all of which we are

shortly before July 16, 1691. An abstract of his will is in New York Historical Society. *Collections*, 1892, 25:203. See also John H. Innes, *New Amsterdam and Its People*, p. 170-71.

[1] Thomas Jansen Mingael.

[2] Marten Hendricksen; see *Van Rensselaer Bowier Mss*, p. 821.

ready to confirm by oath, if needed and requested to do so. In witness whereof we have subscribed this in Beverwyck, the 9th of June 1661.

Harman Thomansz[1]

This mark X was made by JOSYNTIE V[ER]HAGEN, wife of Cornelis Jansz van Oos[taenen?]

This mark A was made by ANGENIETIE CASPERS, wife of Leendert Phillipsz

This mark + was made by *Catelyntie Sampsons*, wife of Harmen Thomasz, aforesaid

In my presence,

D. V. SCHELLUYNE, *Not. Pub.*

1661

People and Their Social Behavior: Slander

We can learn a large deal about people's social behavior in court cases. The only thing to keep in mind is, that in court only matters that caused trouble appear. The "normal" behavior does not get as much attention. Can you imagine a reason why that is?

A Court Case Between Albert Gybertsen and Maria Goosens

The following three documents are parts of three different court sessions.

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1. What is Albert Gybertsen's complaint?
2. How does the Maria respond?
3. In the second session, more information is brought into court. what is the new information, and what does the court order?
4. Who is the "loser" in the final session about this slander case? Why did the court condemn her to pay the fine? What was the defendant's punishment?
5. Why would slander be considered so important that it needed to be brought to court?
6. How long does it take before the matter is finally solved? Mention the dates of the various sessions.

[158] Ordinary Session Held in Fort Orange
June 8, 1660

Present:

La Montagne
Anderies Herpertsen
Jan Verbeeck
Rutger Jacobsen
Frans Baerentsen
Evert Wendel
Sander Leendersen

Albert Gijsbertsen, plaintiff, against Maria Goosens, defendant.

The plaintiff says that the defendant called him a thief and demands reparation of honor.

The defendant denies that she said it.

The parties are ordered to appear on the next court day.

Jurriaen Theunesen, plaintiff, against Cornelis Woutersen, defendant.

The plaintiff demands payment of sixty guilders.

The defendant admits the debt.

The honorable court condemns the defendant to pay the sum demanded to the plaintiff within the space of 14 days.

[176] Ordinary Session Held in Fort Orange
June 30, 1660

Present:

La Montagne
Anderies Herpert[sen]
Frans Barentsen
Jan Verbeeck
Evert Wendel

Albert Gijsbertsen, plaintiff, against Maria Goosens, defendant.

The plaintiff demands reparation of character because the defendant called the plaintiff a thief.

The defendant denies that she said it, as far as she knows, but on the contrary alleges that the plaintiff called her a whore, a pig, and a church thief.

The plaintiff produces an affidavit of two witnesses.

The honorable court orders the defendant to produce her witnesses on the next court day.

day a specified account of his payment.

Albert Gijsbersen, plaintiff, against Maria Goosens, defendant.

The plaintiff demands reparation of honor for damages, to wit, because the defendant said that he had stolen a chest with goods at the Manhattans.

The defendant denies that she said this and declares that she has nothing to say against the plaintiff's honor or virtue, although the plaintiff called her a whore.

The honorable court, having heard the parties and seeing that the defendant cannot prove her accusations against the plaintiff and declares that she has nothing to say against the plaintiff, condemns the defendant for her abuse to pay a fine of six guilders for the benefit of the poor and the costs of the trial, forbidding her to utter such slander again, on pain of greater fine.

It will be necessary to read the entire packet to get information needed to answer the following items.

1. Prepare a list of foods eaten in New Netherland.
2. What laws did you find that applied to food/drink?
3. Compare the list of wild animals with what we find today.
4. What farm animals were typically raised?
5. List the items grown in the kitchen garden which are not familiar to you.
6. Make a list of various items and categorize them in the following groups:

Kitchen equipment	Furniture and decorations	Clothing

Public sale of personal property of Bastiaen de Winter

[365] Conditions on which Bastiaen de Winter proposes to sell at public sale some furniture, payments to be made in seawan, within 24 hours. This day, the 23d of September A°. 1658. Auction fees will be charged to the buyer.

Volckert Janssen, a candlestick and tongs	fl. 6:—
Tryn Jochimsen, tongs and chain	8:—
Teeuwes Abrahamsen, a pothook and pan	5:—
Claes Bev[er], 18 wooden plates	2:14
ditto, a kettle	1:—
Jan Tomassen, an iron pot	9:—
Jan van Eeckelen, a salt cellar and small pewter bowl	5:11
Jan van Aecken, a pewter cup and pitcher	5:—
ditto, a pewter basin	4:10
Carsten Fredricksen, 4 pewter plates	9: 5
Volckert Janssen, 2 pewter platters	9:—
ditto, 2 chargers	12: 2
Barent, the miller,[19] a small copper pan	8:—
Tomas Pouwel, one ditto and a skimmer	5:10
Abram Vosborgh, a parcel of earthen dinner plates	2:10
The brewer of Willem Bout, for earthen ware	4: 5
Jurriaen Teunissen, a copper kettle	22:12
Daniel V[er]veelen, a tablecloth	5:13
Barent, the smith,[20] two napkins	6:18
Willem Janssen Schutt, two ditto	6:—
Tomas Pouwel, two ditto	6:—
Carsten Fredricksen, two ditto	2: 3
Jan Harmsen Backer, a pillowcase	2: 8
Caspar Jacobsen, 2 handkerchiefs	3: 7
Jurriaen Janssen, 2 ditto	3:—
Poulus Dircksen, 2 unbleached bed sheets	10: 2
Jacob Loockermans, 2 ditto	11: 5
Volckert Janssen, 2 ditto	14:14
Carsten Fredricksen, a piece of woolen cloth	3: 5
Tomas Pouwel, a chimney cloth with a valance	3: 6
	fl. 199: 0:—

[19] Barent Pietersen Coeymans, the miller.
[20] Barent Reyndertsen, the smith.

[366] Carried forward	fl. 199: 0:—
Volckert Janssen, a christening robe	6: 5
ditto, a cloak	46:—
Jan van Aecken, 3 Indian children's coats	16:—
Jan Harmsen Backer, 3 ditto coats	12: 5
Volckert Janssen, 2 fur caps	8: 5
Jan van Aecken, 2 ditto	9:—
Jacob Schermerhorn, 2 curtains and sundries	2:—
Jan van Aecken, 2 fur caps	6: 5
ditto, a pair of cloth stockings	8: 5
Jan Harmensen, a Bible	8: 5
Jan Tomassen, a Bible	10:—
Carsten Fredricksen, a parcel of books	5:—
Barent, the miller, a dark lantern	5:15
Volckert Janssen, an Indian coat	18:10
ditto, one ditto	18:15
Jan van Aecken, one ditto	15:15
Volckert Janssen, one ditto	15:10
ditto, seven ditto @ fl. 13 apiece	91:—
Tomas Pouwel, two small ditto	16:10
Volckert Janssen, a parcel of fur caps, unfinished	8:10
Eldert Gerbertsen, some old silk stockings	11:10
Geertie Bouts, 3 pairs of Faroe (*feerosse*) stockings	9:15
Jan van Aecken, 6 pairs of mittens	5: 5
Tomas Pouwel, 12 pairs of children's stockings	13:15
Barent, the smith, a pillowcase	2: 7
Mattheeus Abrahamsen, 3 cravats	2:11
Henderick Jochimsen, a sanitary girdle and cravat	4:—
Broer Cornelissen, a parcel of mittens	5:—
Mother Schaets, 12 pairs of children's stockings	14:10
Geertie Bouts, 6 pairs ditto	10:14
Poulus Dircksen, an unbleached sheet	2: 6
Jan van Eeckelen, a parcel of laces	5: 1
Geertie Bouts, a child's shirt with two false sleeves	1:16
Jan van Eeckelen, a parcel of mittens	3: 5
La Montagne, 6 pairs of children's stockings	7:—
Jan van Aecken, a lot of miscellany and a leather coat	6:—
Henderick Jochimsen, a parcel of galloons	3: 8
	fl. 635: 7:—

The deer are incredibly numerous in the country. Although the Indians throughout the year and every year (but mostly in the fall) kill many thousands, and the wolves, after the fawns are cast, and while they are young, also destroy many, still the land abounds with them everywhere, and their numbers appear to remain undiminished. We seldom pass through the fields without seeing deer more or less, and we frequently see them in flocks. Their meat digests easily, and is good food. Venison is so easily obtained that a good buck cashes for five guilders, and often for much less.

Of the Land Birds and Fowls

The most important fowl of the country is the wild turkey. They resemble the tame turkeys of the Netherlands. Those birds are common in the woods all over the country, and are found in large flocks, from twenty to forty in a flock. They are large, heavy, fat and fine, weighing from twenty to thirty pounds each, and I have heard of one that weighed thirty-two pounds. When they are well cleaned and roasted on a spit, then they are excellent, and differ little in taste from the tame turkeys; but the epicures prefer the wild kind. They are best in the fall of the year, when the Indians will usually sell a turkey for ten stivers, and with the Christians the common price is a daelder each. Sometimes the turkeys are caught with dogs in the snow; but the greatest number are shot at night from the trees. The turkeys sleep in trees, and frequently in large flocks together. They also usually sleep in the same place every night. When a sleeping place is discovered, then

*Of the Products of Kitchen Gardens**

The garden products in the New Netherlands are very numerous: some of them have been known to the natives from the earliest times, and others introduced from different parts of the world, but chiefly from the Netherlands. We shall speak of them only in a general way; *amateurs* would be able to describe their agreeable qualities in a more scientific manner, but having been necessarily occupied with other subjects, we have had no leisure to devote to them. They consist, then, of various kinds of salads, cabbages, parsnips, carrots, beets, endive, succory, finckel, sorrel, dill, spinage, radishes, Spanish radishes, parsley, chervil (or sweet cicely), cresses, onions, leeks, and besides whatever is commonly found in a kitchen garden. The herb garden is also tolerably well supplied with rosemary, lavender, hyssop, thyme, sage, marjoram, balm, holy onions (*ajuin heylig*), wormwood, belury, chives, and clary; also, pimpernel, dragon's blood, five-finger, tarragon (or dragon's wort), &c., together with laurel, artichokes, and asparagus, and various other things on which I have bestowed no attention.

same manner as apples; and notwithstanding that it is here generally despised as a mean and unsubstantial article of food, it is there of so good a quality that our countrymen hold it in high estimation. I have heard it said, too, that when properly prepared as apples are with us, it is not inferior to them, or there is but little difference, and when the pumpkin is baked in ovens it is considered better than apples. The English, who in general think much of what gratifies the palate, use it also in pastry,* and understand making a beverage from it. I do not mean all sorts of pumpkins and cucurbites that may be found anywhere, and of course in the New Netherlands; the Spanish is considered the best.†

The natives have another species of this vegetable peculiar to themselves, called by our people *quaasiens*, a name derived from the aborigines, as the plant was not known to us before our intercourse with them.‡ It is a delightful fruit, as well to the eye on account of its fine variety of colours, as to the mouth for its agreeable taste. The ease with which it is cooked renders it a favourite too with the young women. It is gathered early in summer, and when it is planted in the middle of April, the fruit is fit for eating by the first of June. They do not wait for it to ripen before making use of the fruit, but only until it has attained a certain size. They gather the squashes and immediately place them on the fire without any farther trouble. When a considerable number have been gathered, they keep them for three or four days; and it is incredible, when one watches the vines, how many will grow on them in the course of a single season. The vines run a little along the ground, some of them only two or three steps; they

*By the *English* the author means the inhabitants of New England, where *pumpkin pies* still hold a prominent place among the luxuries of the land. Ed.

†The Spanish or mammoth pumpkin is still preferred. See *Bridgeman's Gardener*, New York, 1840.

‡Roger Williams, the celebrated founder of the colony of Rhode Island, describes the same plant in the following manner:- "*Askutasquash*, their vine-apples, which the English from them call *squashes*; about the bigness of apples, of several colours, a sweet, light, wholesome refreshing."—*Key into the Languages of the Indians*, London, 1643. Reprinted in Collections of Mass. Hist. Society, 1st series vol. iii. Dr. Webster, in his quarto Dictionary, derives the name of this vegetable from a *Greek* root. Ed.

grow well in newly broken woodland when it is somewhat cleared and the weeds are removed. The natives make great account of this vegetable; some of the Netherlanders too consider it quite good, but others do not esteem it very highly. It grows rapidly, is easily cooked, and digests well in the stomach, and its flavour and nutritive properties are respectable.

Melons, likewise, grow in the New Netherlands very luxuriantly, without requiring the land to be prepared or manured; there is no necessity for lopping the vines, or carefully dressing them under glass, as is done in this country; indeed, scarcely any attention is paid to them, no more than is bestowed here in the raising of cucumbers, and the people in that part of the world have every reason to be well content. They plant no more than they think will come to maturity, but when it unfortunately happens that any are destroyed, they put fresh seeds into the ground. Melons will thrive too in newly cleared woodland, when it is freed from weeds; and in this situation the fruit, which they call *Spanish pork*, grows large and very abundant. I had the curiosity to weigh one of these melons, and found its weight to be seventeen pounds. In consequence of the warm temperature of the climate, the melons are quite sweet and pleasant to the taste, and however many one may eat, they will not prove injurious, provided only that they are fully ripe.

The citrull or water-citron* (*citerullen ofte water-limoenen*), also grows there, a fruit that we have not in the Netherlands, and is only known from its being occasionally brought from Portugal, except to those who have travelled in warm climates. This fruit grows more rapidly and in greater abundance than melons, so much so that some plant them,

*The watermelon, as it is now called. The French give the name of citrull or *citrouille*, to the pumpkin. The fruit mentioned by our author under the name of *melon*, seems to have been the musk-melon, which, being then cultivated in Holland, did not require a particular desceiption. But the watermelon at that period was comparatively little known, as Van der Donck states, and not regarded as a melon. On this account he describes the fruit so minutely that it cannot well be mistaken. It was sometimes termed by English writers the *Citrull cucumber*. Botanists place the watermelon in the same genus as the pumpkin, calling it *Cucurbita citrullus* Ed.

even among those who are experienced, for the purpose of clearing and bringing into subjection the wild undressed land to fit it for cultivation. Their juice is very sweet like that of apricots, and most men there would eat six water-citrons to one melon, although they who wish can have both. They grow ordinarily to the size of a man's head. I have seen them as large as the biggest Leyden cabbages, but in general they are somewhat oblong. Within they are white or red; the red have white, and the white black seeds. When they are to be eaten, the rind is cut off to about the thickness of the finger; all the rest is good, consisting of a spongy pulp, full of liquor, in which the seeds are imbedded, and if the fruit is sound and fully ripe, it melts as soon as it enters the mouth, and nothing is left but the seeds. Women and children are very fond of this fruit. It is also quite refreshing from its coolness, and is used as a beverage in many places. I have heard the English say that they obtain a liquor from it resembling Spanish wine, but not so strong. Then there is no want of sweetness, and the vinegar that is made from it will last long, and is so good that some among them make great use of it.*

Cucumbers are abundant. Calabashes or gourds also grow there; they are half as long as the pumpkin, but have within very little pulp, and are sought chiefly on account of the shell, which is hard and durable, and is used to hold seeds, spices, &c. It is the common water-pail of the natives, and I have seen one so large that it would contain more than a bushel.† Turnips also are as good and firm as any sand-rapes that are raised in the Netherlands. There are likewise peas and various sorts of beans; I shall speak of the former under the

*Prof. Pallas, in the account of his journey to the southern provinces of Russia, in 1793-4, speaking of a colony of Moravians at Sarepta, or Sapa, on the Volga, says, "The ingenious inhabitants of this town brew a kind of beer from their very abundant and cheap water-melons, with the addition of hops; they also prepare a conserve or marmalade from this fruit, which is a good substitute for syrup, or treacle." Other instances of a similar character might be adduced to confirm the general correctness of the author's observations and statements, but it seems to be unnecessary. His remarks betray no want of familiarity with the subject of gardening, notwithstanding the modest disclaimer which he makes at the outset. Ed.

†The Dutch bushel (*schepel*) is about three pecks English.

head of *field products*. Of beans there are several kinds; but the large Windsor bean, which the farmers call *tessen*, or house beans, and also the horse-bean, will not fill out their pods; the leaf grows well enough though delicate, and ten, twelve, or more stalks frequently shoot up, but come to little or nothing.* The Turkish beans which our people have introduced there grow wonderfully; they fill out remarkably well and are much cultivated. Before the arrival of the Netherlanders, the Indians raised beans of various kinds and colours, but generally too coarse to be eaten green, or to be pickled, except the blue sort, which are abundant; they somewhat tend to cause flatulency, like those we raise in Holland, but in other respects they furnish an excellent food, of which the Indians are especially fond. They have a peculiar mode of planting them, which our people have learned to practice: when the Turkish wheat (Indian corn) or, as it is called, *maize*, is half a foot above the ground, they plant the beans around it, and let them grow together. The coarse stalk serves as a bean-prop, and the beans run upon it. They increase together and thrive extremely well, and thus two crops are gathered at the same time.

OF THE MANNERS AND PECULIAR CUSTOMS OF THE NATIVES OF THE NEW NETHERLANDS

First—*Of Their Bodily Form and Appearance and Why We Named Them* (Wilden) *Wild Men*

Having briefly remarked on the situation and advantages of the country, we deem it worth our attention to treat

*Bridgeman makes a similar statement in regard to the "large Windsor bean," and other varieties of the English *Dwarfs*. He says, "the principal cause of these garden beans not succeeding well in this country, is the summer heat overtaking them before they are podded, causing the blossom to drop off prematurely; to obviate this difficulty they should be planted as early in the year as possible." p. 31.

Housing: location

Looking at the Beverwijck map gives you an idea how the town originally was built up. Toward 1650 the director of the patroonship Rensselaerswijck had given away many grants for lots close to Fort Orange. To have lots there, instead of on the other side of the river was a lot more convenient for people's work: all business could be done close to the West India Company's fort. People also felt safer when they were closer to the fort: in case of an Indian attack they could flee within the walls of the fort. In 1652 Peter Stuyvesant had declared the area around the fort to belong to the Company; and in the same year and the following, he gave many grants for lots & houses and lots & gardens. The first streets to be built on are now called Broadway (Handelaerstraet; a *handelaer* is a trader) and State street (on the map Jonckerstraet). Later more houses were built toward the hill at the present-day James and west of Pearl street.

Many things have changed over the years: nowadays you cannot see the kills (creeks) anymore that ran down the hill (the Ruttenkill and the Vossenkill). In the spring they may have been quite large. Across the Ruttenkill and the Vossenkill the inhabitants had built bridges. According to the documents the bridge across the Ruttenkill even had a railing and benches to sit on. Now you ony can see a little bit of them when you are on the Hudson river: they are underground in town and still empty in the river.

In many of the grants it is mentioned that the lots are located *aenden bergh/geberghte*, which means that they were located at the hill. This hill was then much steeper, which you can see in some of the James Eight paintings. Now the hill is graded, and the drop is not abrupt anymore.

Among the patents given by Petrus Stuyvesant and the council in 1652 was a patent to the deaconry for a poor house. It is very likely the first poor house in America. It was probably habitable in 1653. On the map you can see where it was: just south of the Ruttenkill. At that time church services were still held in the patroon's trading house, just north of the fort (number 2 on the map), but in 1656 a new church was built, a blockhouse church, on the place where State street (Jonckerstraet) runs into Broadway (Handelaersstraet). This was the place where on Sundays (and also on weekdays sometimes) all members of the community gathered, to listen to the minister, to sing religious songs, and hear the latest news. Not only people gathered at the church: every day from the end of March until about the end of October the cowherd would herd the cows from the church (where they had gathered) to the pastures near the fort. It is not surprising that the southern part of Broadway (the part that leads to the fort) was also called *Coestraet*, which means Cow street.

In November 1659 was decided that the village of Beverwijck needed a defense against attacks by the Indians, because times were dangerous. The defense was made of posts and planks of eight boards high, with seven bastions to protect the curtains (the straight walls between bastions), and was made to protect the greater part of the village. Later the fort protected an even larger area, which you can see on this map.

Most people had a lot with a house and a garden, so that everybody could provide vegetables and crops for their own family's needs. Sometimes the gardens were not close to the house, but at the riverside. There, because of the danger of flooding, not so many houses were built, but for gardening the soil was good.

This was the setting in which you can place the following documents. While you read the documents you may try to locate the places mentioned in them on the map. Some of the words used in the text will give you indications.

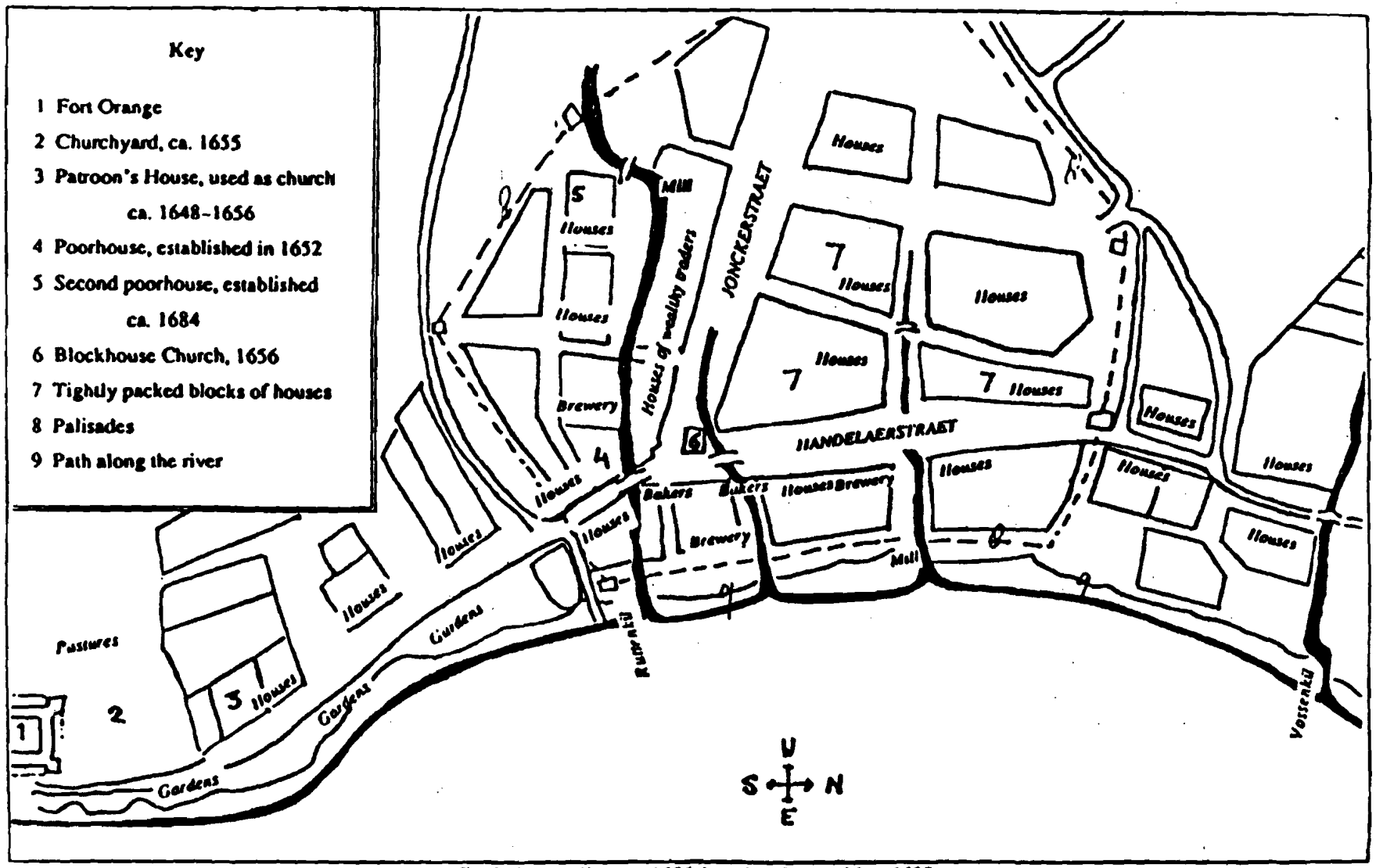


Fig. 3. Beverwijck, ca. 1656, based on Romer Map, 1698 and research of the New Netherland Project.

Lease of a House

1. The North gate was at end of Handelaerstraet (now Broadway). Can you mark whereabouts this house should be located on the map?
2. The gate was an entry way into a palisaded area: why would there have been palisades?
3. What do you get to know about the house itself? (think of sills, foundation, building materials, windows, rooms, roof, walls, etc.)
4. Not everybody living in Albany/Beverwijck owned a house. How do you know that? This can be very confusing when you try to find out the location of houses. How would this house be noted between 1682 and 1691: as Barent Albertsen Bratt's or as Thomas Craven's.

judges and have subscribed this with their own hands in presence of Mr Andries Teller and Louwerens van Alen (called as witnesses hereto), on the date above written.

KORNELIS CORNELISCEN UAN OUUE
This is the mark A H of ANDRIES SCHERP
HENDRICK ABEL:
YURYEN COLYER

As witnesses:

A. Teller
Lourus van Alen

Quod attestor
ADRIAEN VAN ILPENDAM, *Not. Pub.*

Lease of a house and lot outside the north gate of Albany from Barent Albertsen Brat to Thomas Craven

[385-87 blank; 388] On this 2d day of May 1682 appeared before me, Adriaen van Ilpendam, notary public (residing in New Albany), and before the underwritten witnesses, Barent Albertsz Brat of the one part and Thomas Craven of the other part, who hereby acknowledge that in love and friendship they have agreed and contracted in form and manner following, to wit: Said Barent Albertsz Brat acknowledges that he has let to said Thomas Craven a certain house and lot, being the second house outside the north gate of New Albany, standing and lying next the house and lot which said Barent now keeps in his own possession; and the lot which said lessee shall have in use shall be in width to the fourth post from the house, standing on the street on the east side, and extend right through to the west side of the lot, which aforesaid house and lot the lessor lets to the lessee for the term of nine succeeding years, beginning on the first of June of this year 1682 and ending on the first of June 1691.

The lessee promises to make therein a stone cellar of fifteen feet square, with stone underpinning under the sills all around the house; also a double chimney set on a stone foundation; eight window panes, hinges to the doors and windows, hooks and staples to the windows and locks and bolts to the doors; the one room to run up properly with good bricks and to build stairs to go into the cellar; to run a sewer into the lessor's sewer and to finish off the one room in the loft with planed and matched boards on condition that the lessor shall deliver the boards therefor. The lessee shall

also make a proper shingle roof, tear down the bays (*uytluet*) on the west side and make the house tight again with boards, but the lessor promises to deliver the boards; all of which shall be accounted to the lessee in lieu of rent for the aforesaid nine years. All that is hereinbefore written the contracting parties promise mutually to do and to perform, binding thereto their persons and [389] estates, nothing excepted, subjecting the same to all lords, courts, tribunals and judges. In witness whereof the aforesaid contracting parties have subscribed these with their own hands, in presence of Gysbert Marcellisz and Jacob Teunisz, as witnesses hereto called. In New Albany, the date above written.

This is the X mark of BARENT ALBERTZ BRAT, made with his own hand
THOMAS CRAUEN

As witnesses:

Gysbert Marcelis
Jacob Teunissen

Quod attestor
ADRIAEN VAN ILPENDAM, *Not. Pub.*

Bond of Thomas Craven to Robert Sanders

[390 and 391 blank; 392] Appeared before me, Adriaen van Ilpendam, notary public (residing in New Albany), on this 5th day of May 1682, Thomas Craven, who acknowledges that he is honestly and justly indebted and in arrears to Robbert Sandersz in the sum of forty-three good, whole, merchantable beaver skins, growing out of the purchase of smith's tools and iron work and a grindstone, which said sum said Thomas Craven promises to pay to said Robbert Sandersz or to his order in form and manner following, to wit: Seven beavers in September of this year 1682, eighteen beavers in September 1683, and eighteen beavers in September 1684; but in case of lack of beavers he can pay in good winter wheat as the market therefor shall then be, but it must be delivered on the shore here before New Albany. And as securities he hereby offers Jan Heyndricksz van Solsbergen and Cornelis Michielsz, who acknowledge themselves to be sureties herefor, jointly and severally, and have subscribed this with their own hands. Hereto the aforesaid Thomas Craven and likewise said sureties bind their persons and estates, nothing excepted, subject to all lords, courts, tribunals and judges and have subscribed this with their own hands (in presence

Patent for a Poor House

1. The Fuyck kil is the same as the Rutten kil. Sometimes this kil was also called the first kill. The Vossen kil was the third kill, which approximated the northern limit of Beverwijck. The Bevers kil approximated the southern limit of Beverwijck. The second kil came down Maiden Lane.

   Reading the poor house patent, where would you locate it on the map? Marking north, south, east, and west, draw a sketch of the lot.

2. From the following fragments out of the *Deacons' Account Books*, you can tell that the poor house was used. How do you know? Mention the additions to the building and the lot and also the time they were added.

Request of Abraham Pietersz Vosburgh

1. What is Vosburgh's request?
2. Why is it granted?
3. Reading the footnote, where were people allowed to build?
4. Whereabouts would you locate Vosburgh's house on the Beverwijck map?

PATENT granted to the community of Beverwyck for a poor-house near the fort; the lot is bounded on the north by the Fuyck Kil, on the south by the wagon road, on the west by Jacob Janssen, extending to the east side of the wagon road.

23 April 1652 Vault

Translation: MST with original.

[1]* In the name of the Lord, Amen

Proceedings of the Inferior Court of Justice erected and established in Fort Orange by order of the Hon. Petrus Stuyvesant and the Hon. Council of New Netherland, pursuant to the instructions and the oath taken on the 10th of April 1652, and the request of the burghers of the aforesaid fort and Beverwijck, situated within the established limits.

Monday, April 15, 1652

Present:

Joannes Dijckman†
Abraham Staets
Volckert Jansz
Cornelis Theunisz van Westbroeck

Abraham Pietersz Vosburgh, appearing before the court, requests that he may proceed with the erection of his house, as the prohibition and disallowance thereof involve his, Vosburgh's, total ruin.

Whereupon, it being taken into consideration that the house which he is erecting stands behind the dwelling of Commandant Brant Arisz van Slichtenhorst and therefore does not greatly crowd or obstruct the fort, and seeing also the great expense already incurred by him, his request is granted.

Whereas several persons have applied for permission to build on some lots between the two kills,‡ it is after deliberation approved, wherefore Dirrick Jansz and Abraham Pietersz Vosburgh are chosen and appointed to make a proper survey.

* Figures within brackets indicate manuscript page numbers.

† Dijckman arrived in New Netherland in 1651. After filling the post of commissary of accounts on Manhattan, he was appointed commissary of Fort Orange. Dijckman served as the first president of the court of Fort Orange and Beverwijck until July of 1655 when he was incapacitated by insanity and removed from office.

‡ These kills (waterways or streams) were probably the Vossen Kill and the Bevers Kill, which approximated the northern and southern limits of Beverwijck respectively.

Sale of a House

1. Carefully reading the document: where would you locate this house and lot? Is the garden north or south of the house and lot?
2. Whose lots adjoin the house and lot? Make a sketch of the property and the adjoining elements (lots, road, palisades). Mark carefully which is north, south, east and west.
3. With every lot there came a garden. Why was it so important to have a garden? Where would you locate this garden?
4. How much did Van Curler pay for the house, lot and garden?
5. Why would Albert Gisbert have signed with a mark?
6. Checking the translation with the original, a researcher scribbled in the margin: "gans nieu woninge", which means: "completely new dwelling" (this was in the original written in the margin). Which conclusion do you draw from this?

ERA I, 292

Appeared before me J. La Montagne, in the service of, etc, Albert Gisbert Raedemaeker (wheelwright), inhabitant of the Village of Beverwyck, and his honor Mr. Arent Van Curler, councillor of the colony of Rensselaerwyck, who declare that they have respectively contracted with each other in manner following, to wit: that the said Albert Gisbert grants and conveys as by these presents he does grant and convey in real and actual possession to said Heer Arent Van Curler his heirs or assigns, his house, lot and garden lying in the Village of Beverwyck, adjoining on the east side Jan Barentse Wemp, on the south Wouter de Raedemaeker, on the west the highway, on the north the pallisadoes (*deffentie*) of the Village of Beverwyck; the garden lies on the third [Vossen] kil, between Andries De Vos' land, for which house, lot and garden the aforesaid Heer Arent Van Curler has given in payment two horses and a cow of three years, which horses and cow the said Albert Gisbert acknowledges that he has received to his content, and promises the transferred house, lot and garden to free from all claims and demands, and a parchment patent of the same, to deliver into the hands of said Heer Arent Van Curler; all on pledge of his person and estate, real and personal, present and future, submitting the same to all laws and judges.

in the map is gone near Nassau

?

Done in Fort Orange, the first of March, 1661, in presence of Jan Meynardsen and Dirk Andriesse, witnesses thereto invited.

This is the mark + of ALBERT GISBERT, with his own hand set.

A. VAN CURLER.

Jan Meinersen.

This is the mark HS *of Dirk Andriese.*

Acknowledged before me,

LA MONTAGNE, Clerk at Fort Orange.

1. Survey the titles of the records in this packet. Prepare a list of ways that some people earned their living. Which of these apply specifically to Bethlehem?
2. Choose one case. Read it and write an essay in which you discuss
   a. The names of the individuals.
   b. The reason or reasons for making the contract.
   c. The result of the contract's being negotiated (see me for help on this item)
   d. Other information (if any) which helps to describe life in the early colony.

OR

1. Survey the apprentice contracts at the end of this packet. Prepare a list of the kinds of apprenticeships that were available.
2. Choose one contract. Read it and write a summary in which you discuss the names of the people involved, the responsibilities of the master and the duties of the apprentice.

OR

3. Choose a partner and together prepare a dialogue in which you describe the negotiations between the master and the parent.

Jan *de Visscher*

Joost Theunisz *Backer*.

Adriaen *de Schoolmeester*

Pieter *Lamaecker*

Meester Adriaen.

Willem *de Backer*

Evert *Kleermaker*

Albert *de Timmerman*

Joannes Dijckman, commissary and officer

The Reverend Domine Gideon Schaets

Merten *Metselaer*

Hendrick Jochemsz, innkeeper

Mr. Jacob *Barbier*

Henderick *Clootendraeyer*

Pieter *de Maecker*

Thomas Sandertsen *Smit*

Daniel *de Backer*

Jan Machielsz *Kleermaker*

Philip *de Brouwer*

Mr. Jacob *Chirurgijns*

Herman Bastiaensz *Roymeester*

Hendrik Jansz *Koeherder*

Teunis Teunissen *Metselaer*

Jacob *Loper*

Hendrick Jansz *de Koewachter*

Wouter *de Backer*

Tjerck *de Karman*

Tierk *de Carreman*

Jan *de Cuyper*

Willem *Geelgieter*

Albert *de Timmerman*, tavern keeper

Henderick *de Snijder*, alias *Cordiael*

Arent Janssen *Timmerman*

keep watch in this fort as corporal of the burgher guard?

Tenuis Jacobsz *de Bierdraeger*

Claes Jansz *Timmerman*

Albert *de Rademaker*

Henderick *de Brouwer*

Machiel *de Lademaker*

Albert Gijsbertsen *Rademaecker*

Jan Maertens, *alias Wever*

Marten *Bierkaecker*

Jan *de Soldaet*

Barent Pietersen *Molenaer*

Wijnant *de Kistemaecker*

Cobus *de Snijder*

Hendrick *de Suyckerbacker*

Pieter *de Brouwer*

Femmetjen *de Baxter*

Merten *de Brouwer*

Juriaen Teunesen *Glasemaecker*, tapster

Herman Bastiaensz *Timmerman*

Willem Albertsz van Monickendam, bark skipper

Maerten *de Boer*

Gerret *de Kuyper*

Comelis *Schoester*

Willem *Brouwer*

Harmen *de Timmerman*.

Samuel *de Hoedemaecker*

hat maker

Meyndert *de Smit*

Jacob Teunissen, plaintiff, in his capacity of *schout bij nacht*

The honorable *schout* and officer of the colony of Rensselaerswijck

Harmen, *de Brouwer*

Marten *Metselaer*

Henderick *Bierman*

deputy *schout*. *

* A *schout* was a law enforcement officer with the additional powers of a prosecuting attorney.

Appraisal of a sawmill and appurtenances belonging to Wynant Gerritsen van der Poel and the widow of Abraham Pietersen Vosburgh

[393] This day, the 6th of November 1663, pursuant to order of the honorable court of the colony of Rensselaerswyck, at the request of Wynant Gerritsz, Willem Bout and Pieter Meussz have in the presence of Theunis Spitsenberch inspected, viewed and to the best of their knowledge valued the sawmill and dwelling house belonging to said Wynant and the widow of Abraham Vosburch in partnership, as they at present stand, and find that the mill and dwelling house (being much out of repair) are worth the sum of twelve hundred and fifty guilders in seawan.

List of the tools belonging to them jointly

7 upper clamps
9 under clamps
9 wedges
4 bars of the frame
1 small sledge
1 crosscut saw
1 hand saw
1 saw set
1 cant hook
7 old saws and one piece
1 arm of a crank
1 piece of old iron weighing 2 or 3 lbs.

Which they appraise and consider together to be worth the sum of six guilders and ten stivers in beavers. Done in the colony of Rensselaerswyck, dated as above.

This mark X was made by WILLEM BOUT
PIETER MEESZ VROOMAN
Teunis Cornelise van de Pol[1]
In my presence,
D. V. SCHELLUYNE, *Not. Pub.*
1663

Appraisal of three hogsheads of tobacco by Gerrit van Slichtenhorst and Jan Gerritsen van Marcken, arbitrators chosen by Isaack de Haen and Juriaen Teunissen

[394] On this day, the 9th of November 1663, appeared before me, Dirck van Schelluyne, notary public, and before the after-

[1] Teunis Cornelissen van der Poel *alias* Spitsenberch. See *Van Rensselaer Bowier Mss*, p. 846, and Munsell's *Collections*, 4:182.

Lease of a workroom from Hendrick Rooseboom to Elias van Ravesteyn

[593 blank; 594] This day, the 23d of November 1676, appeared before me, Adriaen van Ilpendam, notary public residing in New Albany, and before the underwritten witnesses, Heyndrick Rooseboom, of the first part, and Elias van Ravesteyn, of the second part, who acknowledged that in all love and friendship they hereby agreed and contracted in manner following, to wit: Heyndrick Rooseboom acknowledges that he has let and Elias van Ravesteyn that he has hired said Rooseboom's front room of the house[1] wherein said Rooseboom now dwells, for the term of a whole year, commencing on the 9th of April 1677 and ending on the 9th of April 1678. But on the express condition that said Ravelsteyn shall make therein a workbench for himself, for gunstock making,[2] and for the son of said Rooseboom likewise a workbench for making gunstocks, and when any gunstocks are to be made for the

[1] *Voor-huys;* which Professor Pearson translates as "front room." The term is somewhat indefinite and may refer either to the entire fore part of the house, or merely to the front room, or even to the entrance hall, regardless of whether this is at the front, or on the side of the building. In connection with Dutch houses of the farmhouse type, the term *voorhuis* is often used to distinguish the fore part of the building, which is used for dwelling purposes, from the rear part, which consists of the stables and barn. In a more restricted sense, however, the term is applied to the front room proper, which as a rule is kept scrupulously clean and used only on special occasions. See plan and decription of a Dutch farmhouse in J. Francq van Berkhey, *Natuurlijke Historie van Holland*, vol. 9, pt 1, p. 21–44.

[2] *Laeden te maeckem;* which Professor Pearson translates as "leather dressing," while in other places it has been translated as "cabinet making." *Laeden*, however, does not refer to "drawers" in connection with furniture, but to *geweer-laden*, or gunstocks.

Indians, Ravesteyn and Rooseboom's son shall make the same and pay for the material together and each receive the half of the payment for the same. And Rooseboom expressly stipulates that during the summertime no fire shall be made in said front room and that he, Rooseboom, may trade there with the Indians and do his bartering there both with Christians and Indians and use it at his convenience, without disturbing thereby said Ravesteyn in his work, who may sleep in the garret or in the room and in wintertime burn his own wood in the room and eat and cook there.

For which said lessee promises to pay to the lessor the sum of eight good, whole, merchantable beaver skins. The contracting parties mutually promise to execute and perform the aforesaid conditions binding thereto their respective persons and estates, nothing excepted, subject to all lords, courts, tribunals and judges.

In witness whereof they have subscribed this with their own hands without craft or guile in Albany, dated as above.

HENDRICK ROOSEBOOM
ELIAS VAN RAUESTEYN

As witnesses:
Claes Ripsen van Dam
Henderec Koster

Quod attestor
ADRIAEN VAN ILPENDAM, *Not. Pub.*

Contract of Melgert Wynantsen van der Poel to run a sawmill for Eldert Gerbertsen Cruyff at Bethlehem

[149] Appeared before me, Adriaen van Ilpendam, notary public residing in New Albany, on this 30th day of September 1671, and before the hereinafter named witnesses, Eldert Gerbertsz of the one part and Melchelt Wynantsz of the other part, who acknowledge that in love and friendship they have agreed in manner following, to wit: Eldert Gerbertsz acknowledges that he has hired Melchert Wynantsz and the latter that he has undertaken to saw in the mill of said Eldert Gerbertsz at Bethlehem[1] from now on, to wit, to commence as soon as there is sufficient water therefor and to end the last of next May 1672, provided said Eldert shall bear all the expenses of the mill and keep it in proper running order. During the term of his labor said Melchert shall enjoy free board from said Eldert and in case Melchert in the spring of 1672 engages a helper in order that one may saw by day and the other by night, said Eldert shall be holden to provide the helper with free board during his labor. Eldert promises to let Melchert have for his labor (over and above the said free board)

[1] This mill stood on the Bethlehem's kill, now the Normans kill. It was on June 2, 1675, assigned by Albert Ryckman, as attorney for Eldert Gerbertsen Cruyff, to Stephanus van Cortlant, then director of the colony of Rensselaerwyck, and on December 13, 1677, it was conveyed by Domine Nicolaus van Rensselaer to Pieter Winne. See *Early Records of Albany*, 1:171.

the just fourth part of all the boards, whether thick or thin, long or short, oak or pine, the sawyer to receive also a just [150] fourth part of all the scantling, lath etc. which shall be sawed in said mill during the said time, the same to be divided every week by lot. All that is hereinbefore written the said contracting parties promise (with the help of Almighty God) to execute and perform, for which they bind their respective persons and estates, real and personal, present and future, subjecting the same to the jurisdiction of all lords, courts, tribunals and judges, and in confirmation thereof, they have, with Jacob Tysz vander Heyden and Harmen van Gansevoort, called as witnesses hereto, and me, the notary, subscribed this with their own hands, without any craft or guile, in Albany, dated as above.

ELDERT GERBERTSZ CRUIF
MELGERT WYNANTSEN VAN DEN POELL

As witnesses:
Jacob Theysen vander Heyden
Harmen Harmens Ganseuort
Quod attestor
ADRIAEN VAN ILPENDAM, *Not. Pub.*

Lease of a farm called the Klinckenbergh from Meyndert Fredericksen to Jan Helmesen

[200] On this 11th day of April 1673 appeared before me, Adriaen van Ilpendam, notary public residing in New Albany, and before the hereinafter named witnesses, Meyndert Fredericsz of the one part and Jan Helmesz of the other part, who on this date

in love and friendship have contracted and agreed together in manner following, to wit: Meyndert Fredericsz acknowledges that he has let to Jan Helmesz his farm called Clinckenbergh[1], for the time of six consecutive years, beginning on the first of May of this year 1673 and ending on the first of May 1679; on condition that the lessor promise to deliver therewith four horses, to wit, two mares and a stallion and a gelding; five cows and a bull; four heifers and a bull calf; which the lessee shall have at halves, but shall be holden in the first place to deliver up again the delivered number of said cattle and then to apportion to each party the half of the increase, and for every milch cow to deliver to the lessor six pounds of butter yearly. And the lessor delivers therewith ten skipples of winter wheat in the ground for which the lessee promises to deliver again at the end of the lease in like manner ten skipples sowed in the ground. Furthermore, the lessee promises to deliver up the house and barn at the end of the lease wall and roof tight; and in case of fire (which may God prevent) the half of the loss shall be borne by each, but in case of general war the damage shall be at the charge of the lessor. Furthermore, whatever implements the lessor shall deliver to the lessee whether wagon, plow, harrow or other farm implements, the lessee shall be holden to deliver up at the end of the lease in good and usable condition, for which, in place of rent, the lessee promises next spring to inclose on the great flat as much land as possible. The aforenamed contracting parties promise (with the help of God) to execute and perform what is hereinbefore written, binding thereto their persons and estates, real and personal, present and [201] future, subject to all lords, courts, tribunals and judges. In confirmation hereof the contracting parties have, with Hans Dreeper and Helmerich Otten, called as witnesses hereto, subscribed this with their own hands on the date above written.

This is the mark X of MEYNDERT FREDERICSZ, made by himself
This is the mark X of JAN HELMESZ, made by himself

As witnesses:
Hans Dreper
Helmerich Otten

Quod attestor
ADRIAEN VAN ILPENDAM, *Not. Pub.*

[1] Klinkenberg, a little north of Four Mile point, in the town of Coxsackie, Greene county, N. Y.

Yearbook XIII, 14-15

INDENTURE OF APPRENTICESHIP OF HUMPHREY PETOX, STEP-SON OF THOMAS WEECKVILT, TO JAN VAN LOON TO LEARN THE BLACKSMITH'S TRADE

On this day, the 14th of December anno 1688, at New Albany in America, Tammis Weeckvilt and his wife, Marya Luycasz, of the one part, and Mr. Jan van Loon, of the other part, declared that in love and friendship they had deliberately contracted and agreed with each other about the hiring out and hiring of a certain boy, at present about ten years of age, called Omfree Petox, on the conditions and in the manner following:

The aforesaid Tammis Weeckvilt and his aforesaid wife (the own mother of the aforesaid boy, Omfree Petois), acknowledge and declare that they have hired him out to the aforesaid Mr. Jan van Loon for the period of thirteen consecutive years, which period commences on the date hereof, during which time he is to have board and clothing with whatever appertains thereto and to go to school for three years to learn to read and write, either during the daytime or in the evening, as shall be most convenient, at the expense of the said van Loon, who is also to teach him the smith's trade and further to do in every way as a good Christian ought to do, which they fully entrust to the aforesaid Mr. J. van Loon and which he also promises and agrees faithfully to perform. He further promises at the expiration of the aforesaid time to fit out the said Omfree Peto honestly with a serviceable every-day suit and a new Sunday suit and shirts and linen and underwear in proportion. Therefore, the aforesaid parents promise to exhort their aforesaid son in every way to be virtuous, so as to serve his aforesaid master in all faithfulness, which the aforesaid son, Omfree Peto, also promises, agreeing to be diligent in all proper work which his aforesaid master shall give and order him to do during the aforesaid time.

With all that is hereinbefore written the parties declare that they are fully satisfied and for the true performance thereof the said parties, each as far as he is concerned, bind their persons and properties, present and future, submitting the same according to law. In witness of the truth they have signed and sealed this with their own hands on the aforesaid 14th day of December, at New Albany in America, being in the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign King of Great Britain, James, the Second of that name, Defender of the Faith, etc.

This is the X mark of TAMMIS WEECKVILT (Seal)
This is the X mark of MARYA LUYCASSE (Seal)
This is the X mark of OMFRE PETO
JAN VAN LOON

Signed, sealed and
delivered in our presence,
HARMEN GANSEUORT
ANDRIES AB ALBERTSZ BRAT
In my presence,
J. BECKER, Notary Public

Thomas Weeckvilt, whose name, in the Dutch church records, is also spelled Weekfilt and Wigfielt, was apparently an Englishman, whose real name was Wakefield. He probably came from Maryland and may be the same person as Thomas Wakefield who in Homer Wakefield, *Wakefield Memorial*, p. 18-19, is mentioned as being in 1689 in Charles Co., Md., where, with his brother Richard, he carried on a coast trade with John Wakefield of Boston. Thomas Weekfilt had a daughter Anna, who was baptized at Albany on Aug. 25, 1689. She married on May 4, 1711, in New York, Jacob van Bremen, who died before 1726, when, according to James Riker, *Revised History of Harlem*, p. 410, she married at Harlem David Devoor.

Jan van Loon apparently came to New York in the year 1675, his name being given under date of Nov. 24, 1675, in a list of persons who took the oath of allegiance to the King of Great Britain, as "John Van Loney" (*Minutes of the Common Council of New York*, 1:12). In the record of his marriage in the Dutch church of New York, under date of Jan. 16, 1676, he is given as a young man from "Luyck," which is the Dutch name of the city and the province of Liége, Belgium. He is generally referred to, however, as a Frenchman, as in the minutes of the Convention held at Albany on Aug. 5,

Indenture of apprenticeship of Hendrick Rooseboom to Pieter Stevensen to learn the cooper's trade

[377 blank; 378] On this 20th day of April 1682 appeared before me, Adriaen van Ilpendam, notary public (residing in New Albany) and before the hereinafter named witnesses, Heyndrick Rooseboom of the one part and Pieter Stevensz of the other part, who hereby acknowledge that in love and friendship they have contracted and agreed in manner following, to wit: Said Heyndrick Rooseboom acknowledges that he has hired to said Pieter Stevensz his son named Heyndrick Rooseboom for the term of five consecutive years commencing on the first of May of this year 1682 and ending on the first of May 1687, to learn the cooper's trade from said master. The said master promises to teach said boy the cooper's trade as well as he can and in addition to provide him with proper food and clothing, burgher fashion, and every year after Christmas to send him to an evening school and to pay his tuition; and at the end of said term said master promises to fit out said boy (besides his common clothes) with a new suit, from top to toe, including a new hat as well as new stockings and shoes. And said Heyndrick Rooseboom promises that (with God's help) said boy shall serve the aforesaid master with all diligence and obedience during the aforesaid term. Hereto the aforesaid contracting parties bind their persons and estates, nothing excepted, subject to all lords, courts, tribunals and judges, having subscribed this with their own hands (in presence of Claes Ripsz and Jacob Coenraetsz, called as witnesses hereto) in New Albany, dated as above.

HENDRICK ROOSEBOOM
PIETER STEVENS
HENDRICK ROOSEBOOM

As witnesses:
Claes Ripsen van Dam
Jacob Ten Eyck

Quod attestor
ADRIAEN VAN ILPENDAM, *Not. Pub.*

Indenture of apprenticeship of Gerrit van der Zee to Johannes Vinhaeghen to learn the tailor's trade

[457–59 blank; 460] On this 30th day of July 1683 appeared before me, Adriaen van Ilpendam, notary public (residing in New Albany), and before the hereinafter named witnesses, the worthy Willem Ketelhuyn of the one part and the worthy Johannes Fynaghen of the other part, who hereby acknowledge that in all love and friendship they have contracted and agreed in manner following, to wit: Said Willem Ketelhuyn acknowledges that he has bound to said Johannes Fynagen his son[1] (called Gerrit vander Zee, now about twelve years old) for the term of four successive years, which term shall begin on the first of August 1683 and end on the first of August 1687; and the aforesaid master promises to teach the aforesaid youngster the tailor's trade as well as he can; and the aforesaid father promises that his aforesaid son shall serve him with all diligence and faithfulness; the first three years the father shall give his son board and have his washing done for him, but the fourth year the master promises to give said youngster proper board, and the first three years to let him go to the evening school for two months after Christmas, provided the father pay for his tuition; and at the end of the four years said master promises to deliver to said youngster a cloth suit, to wit, a coat, breeches, a pair of new stockings, a pair of new shoes and two good, whole pieces of eight; and the clothing which the said youngster shall need within the aforesaid four years, said master shall make for him at his own expense, on condition the father provide the material therefor. Hereto the aforesaid contracting parties bind their persons and estates, nothing excepted, subject to all lords, courts, tribunals and judges, and have subscribed this with their own hands in presence of Heyndrick Rooseboom and Gerrit Lansingh; in Albany in America, dated as aforesaid.

WILLEM KETELHUYN
JAN VINHAEGHEN

As witnesses:
Hendrick Rooseboom
Gerrit Lansinck

Quod attestor
ADRIAEN VAN ILPENDAM, *Not. Pub.*

CONCLUSION

In this lesson packet about the use of primary sources in the class we have analyzed various kinds of documents: court minutes, deeds, patents, letters, maps, journals, etc. In almost every separate unit we were confronted with the fact that we had to make do with translations of the primary sources; not the originals themselves. Because the early settlers of New Netherland came from a country were Dutch was spoken, they brought this language along. [Most likely there were several people who besides Dutch were able to speak other languages: German, French, English - to mention a few].

In order for Americans to understand these documents about their earliest written history, these documents need to be translated. When a historian or a genealogist tries to find information about this particular time period, he/she always has to keep in mind the fact that these documents have already been translated for him/her, and that, in this respect, they have already been interpreted by someone before. The translation is already an interpretation by the translator.

By analyzing the documents we have already seen some of the problems that a translator sometimes faces. *Can you still remember some of these problems? Write them down.*

Some of the problems a translator has to deal with are the following:

1. **The hand writing can be very hard to read.** From 1652–1655, for example, the records were kept by a man who eventually went insane. Even in his own time people complained that they had trouble reading his handwriting! The following text illustrates this. The translator had a very hard job to do, and on top of that there was a Dutch expression used in the manuscript, that, apparently, he was not familiar with. In order to translate, **one also has to be very familiar with the original language.** When these two circumstances come together, a manuscript could sometimes be translated incorrectly, creating a different understanding about a certain matter. The transcription of the text is:

Dito quamen alhier ontrent de 300 Maquasen des voornemens (ut aiunt) om te gaan vechten tegen de Franse wilden, midlertijd hebben een ooch int zeyl ende de wacht verdubbelt.

It was translated as follows (ERA I:236):

There came here about 300 Mohawks proposing to go to fight against the French Indians, in the meantime a ship has set sail and the watch is doubled.

It should be translated:

There came about 300 Mohawks who intended to fight against the French Indians; in the meantime we are paying extra attention and the guard has been doubled.

Question: What is the difference in meaning of the two translations? (The phrase "een ooch int zeyl houden" translated literally means to "keep an eye in the sail," but as an expression it means "to pay extra attention")

2. **The document can be badly damaged.** Many of the Dutch documents in the New York State Library were damaged in 1911, when a fire destroyed many documents. The Dutch documents were mostly saved, thanks to the "protection" of other materials falling on top of them. Many manuscripts only partially survived, with tops or bottoms burned, or being hard to read due to water damage. Because of this, information is lost, and sometimes the meaning of a context can be interpreted differently.

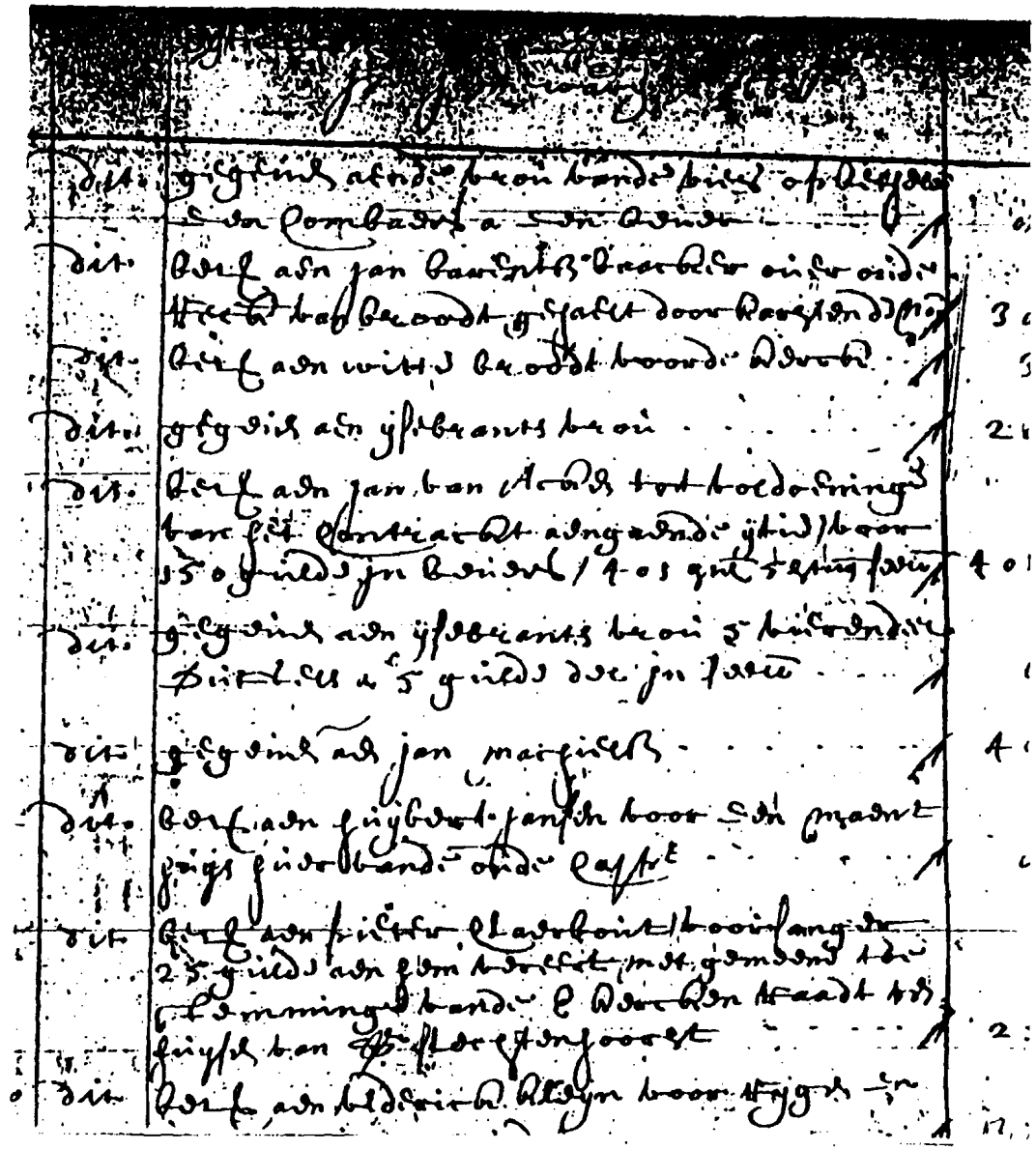
3. **The language is seventeenth–century language**; identical looking words can have a different meaning than they do in the twentieth century. The Dutch word *roer*, for instance, is now mostly used in the meaning of a "rudder." In the 1650s mostly it meant "gun." Even knowing modern Dutch, one has to be extra cautious.

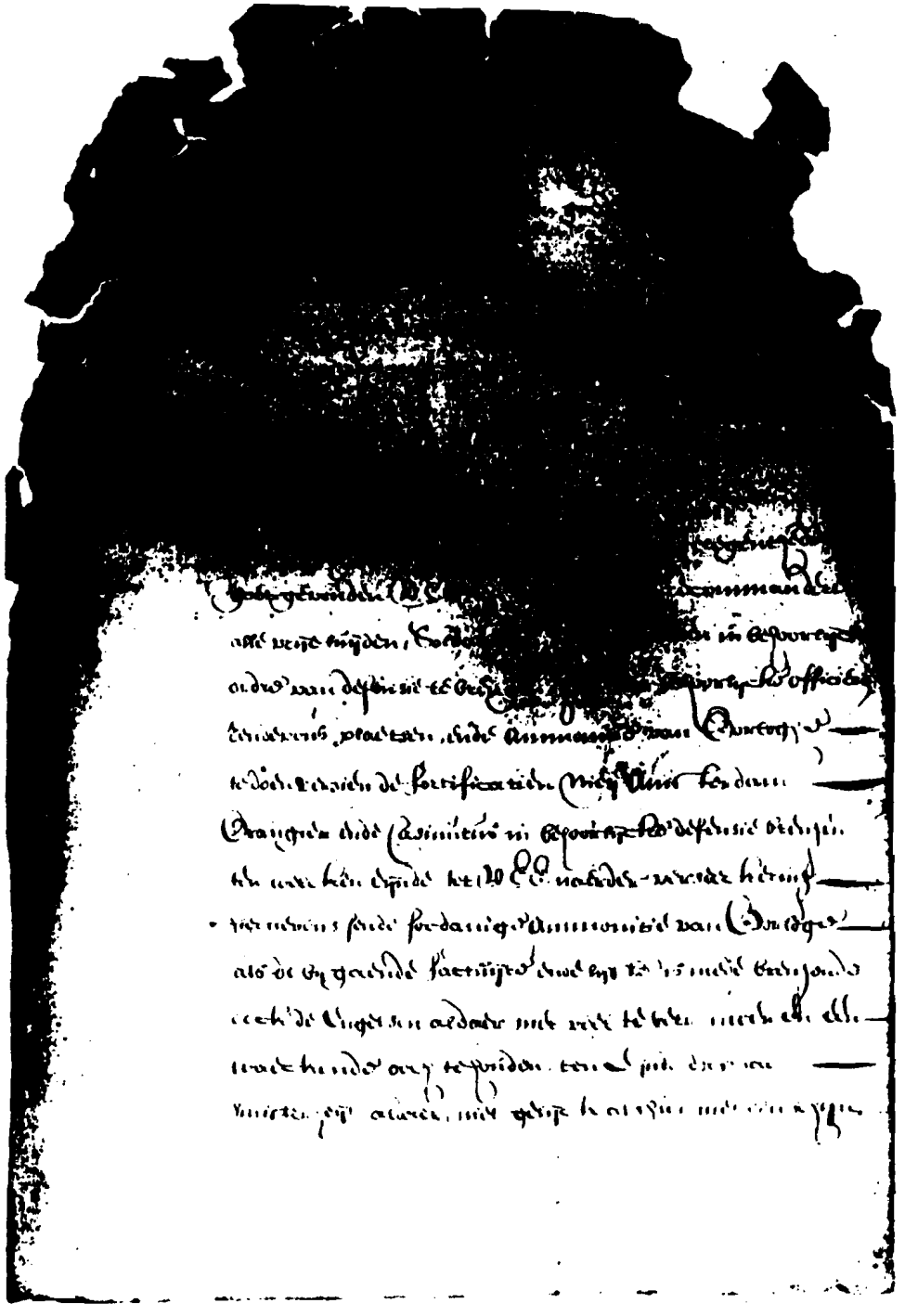
Sometimes the 17th-century words do not exist in modern Dutch anymore, or not as regularly. They can therefore have a vague meaning. The verb *belendenen* is an example of a word with a complicated meaning, depending on the context. In deeds and patents, where specialized legal language is used, this can cause problems.

4. **One sometimes has to be familiar with the subject.** The document on the opposite side of this page, for instance, could cause a real problem for a translator who is not aware of the fact that there is a place called Bethlehem near Albany/Beverwijck. In the first place, the name Bethlehem does not start with a capital. There is another problem in the interpretation of the last word of the first line in the manuscript; can you tell what that problem is? Sometimes other pages can lead to the solution of the problem.

5. **Sometimes we even have to be aware of the time period the translation we deal with was made.** Around 1900 for instance, vulgar language would not be translated, but simply omitted. Sometimes the translator would write: "untranslatable matter". The information lost may not always be the most important, but it does take away from the knowledge about these early settlers.

The above matters can make a translator's work into a puzzle, long before the historians, doing specific research, deal with the manuscripts. Sometimes historians are not aware or willing to realize this, which can lead to mistakes in their historical work. A good historian, dealing with foreign sources, should make a point of studying the original language, so he/she can read the original manuscripts.





New Netherland Resource List

(compiled by the New Netherland Project, New York State Library)

* = Of particular interest for teachers

Materials

*From the New Netherland Project (NY State Library, CEC 8th Floor, Albany, NY 12230) teachers can order a color facsimile of a 1667 mariner's map of New Netherland ($5.00). Each September the New Netherland Project holds a seminar (Rensselaerwijck Seminar) open to the general public. NNP also sells sets of notecards (10 for $10) with a 17th century map of New Netherland on the front.

*Order a free booklet "Teaching with Historical Records" by Kathleen Roe from the New York State Archives (Cultural Education Center 11th Floor, Albany 12230). It's a great introduction to the use of records in local history.

*A charming and beautifully illustrated book, which gives a true picture of rural life in the Netherlands from the 17th through 20th centuries, through the eyes of children, is *In My Grandfather's House* by Rien Poortvliet (the illustrator of *Gnomes*) published in 1988 by Harry N. Abrams, New York. By the same author is *Daily Life in Holland in the Year 1566 and the Story of my Ancestor's Treasure Chest* (Abrams 1992) a wonderful source for images of clothing, food, occupations, tools, etc.

*Several picture books are suitable for use in class:

Eva D. Costabel, *The Jews of New Amsterdam* (New York: Macmillan, 1988) $13.95

Heather Forest, *The Baker's Dozen* (San Diego: Gulliver Books/Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1988) $13.95

Arnold Lobel, *On the Day Peter Stuyvesant Sailed into Town* (New York: Harper & Row, 1971, in paperback as Harper Trophy, 1987) $4.95 pb.

Ruben Quackenbush, *Old Silver Leg Takes Over: A Story of Peter Stuyvesant* (Prentice-Hall, 1986) $10.95

Peter Spier, *The Legend of New Amsterdam* (Garden City: Doubleday, 1979) $7.95 (now out of print)

*A short novel suitable for use with older children is Ruth Chew's *Summer Magic* (Scholastic Books) $2.95 about children who fall through the skylight of the Brooklyn Museum into the 17th century Schenck House and find themselves transported back in time to Dutch Brooklyn. (out-of-print Fall 1991, but Brooklyn Museum might send a photocopy) For more on the Schenck Houses see Kevin Stayton's *Dutch by Design*.

*Signer, Billie, *Beaver City* (novel about children in 1685 Albany preparing for the city's charter- available from Everett Companies, P.O. Box 5376, Bossier City, LA 71171-5376 for $9.95 each postage prepaid, 20% discount to schools) The novel has some elements which cannot be called "historically correct," for example the names of the children, Katy & Karl, are very unypical Dutch names.

*Detailed information about life in early 18th century Upstate New York can be found in various travel journals. One of the best is Anne Grant's *Memoirs of an American Lady with sketches of manners and scenery in America as they existed previous to the Revolution*. Other journals and travel accounts can be found in the Barnes & Noble series *Original Narratives of Early American History*, which contains for example the log of Henry Hudson's voyage of discovery and Rev. Megapolensis' account of the Mohawks, among others. Another is the *Van den Bogaert Journal* listed below. When using narratives, however, don't forget they are considered "anecdotal" history and often are one-sided, personal or even biased views.

Dutch on America (*Orange Pages*) lists hundreds of Dutch organizations (dance groups, food stores, cultural groups, etc.) To order this useful book, write Miriam Jacobs, Dutch Networking Services, P.O. Box 68, Stockbridge, MA 01262, (413) 298-3235.

*To develop a unit on astronomy & navigation, try to get a copy of *Exploring Navigation* (a reprint of *Exploratorium Quarterly* Vol. 15, No. 1 Spring 1991). You can order it for $5.00 from the Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94123-9835.

Museums

*Albany Institute has a lot of information on life in early Albany as well as St. Nicholas customs. A good introduction is *Mos Cauer and Wooden Shoes* (Albany, 1986) (*Consumable* workbook for 4th grade social studies. $5.00 ea. or 10 for $38.00 from Albany Institute for History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany 12210 - out of print 7/91).

*Deborah Hobson, curator at Crailo State Historic Site (9½ Riverside Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144) might be prevailed upon to do a cooking demonstration for your class or at least provide you with recipes.

*Michael Clark and Sonnet Takahiro of the Brooklyn Museum will help teachers enrich their colonial units. Call them at (718) 638-5000, Ext. 229.

*Bronck House Museum, Route 9W, Coxsackie, NY 12051 is open for tours from mid-May to the beginning of November each year. To arrange special educational emphasis (weaving, farming, cooking, Dutch barn) call Shelby Kneie at 731-6490 or 731-8862. They charge fifty cents per child.

*Wyckoff House Museum, P.O. Box 100-376, Brooklyn, NY 11210 does a series of colonial crafts workshops. Contact director Alan Lipsky at (718) 629-5400.

*Leffens Homestead in Prospect Park also does a colonial crafts series. Contact them at (718) 788-0055 or 965-6505 or write Prospect Park Alliance, 95 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn NY 11215.

*The Long Island Studies Institute based at Hofstra University in Hempstead, NY 11550 is very interested in helping teachers enrich their local history units. They also host meetings of the Long Island Studies Council. Contact LISI at (516) 463-5092.

*The Half Moon Visitor Center/New Netherland Museum is located at Liberty State Park, Jersey City, NJ 07305. The ferry for Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty also leaves from Liberty State Park. You could combine a field trip to visit the replica of Henry Hudson's ship with Ellis Island and Statue of Liberty. Call Nikolai Burlakoff, managing director, at (201) 433-5900 to make arrangements.

Individuals

*Pat Barbanell, whom you can contact at the Schenectady Public School System (518-370-8235) where she is the coordinator for Art in Education, has a complete teaching unit available to introduce the history of New Netherland in 4th grade social studies using the brickmakers of Albany as an example. She also has a unit on Sinterklaas developed for the city of Albany in 1989.

Paul Huey of the Bureau of Historic Sites (518-237-8643) has done archeological digs in the Albany area and can provide information on the artifacts from the Dutch period found in these digs.

*Bob Mulligan, whom you can call at 518-474-5353, is a member of the Fort Orange Garrison, he or one of his fellow Garrison members could appear in full period costume and explain the militia to your classes.

*Anneke Hull of Schenectady (518-393-0676) has a Dutch dance group, the Harlepap Dancers.

Peter Rose, Indian Lane, South Salem, NY 10590, (914) 763-8898 is a fond historian and resource on Dutch/American foodways.

PRINTED PRIMARY SOURCES
(Original Documents & Translations of Original Documents)
Most research libraries will have these; many are now out of print.

Christoph, Peter R., ed. *Administrative Papers of Governors Richard Nicolls and Francis Lovelace, 1664-1673*. New York Historical Manuscripts series. Baltimore, 1980.

Christoph, Peter R., and Florence A. Christoph, eds. *The Andros Papers, Vol. I: 1674-1676, Vol. II: 1677-1678, Vol. III: 1679-1680*. New York Historical Manuscripts series. Syracuse, 1989-1991.

_____. *Book of General Entries for the Colony of New York, 1664-1673*. New York Historical Manuscripts series. Baltimore, 1980.

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Dahlgren, Stellan, and Hans Norman, *The Rise and Fall of New Sweden: Governor Johan Risingh's Journal 1654-55 in its Historical Context*. Uppsala, 1988.

Fernow, Berthold, trans. and ed. *Documents Relating to the Colonial History of New York*. Vols. 12-14. Albany, 1877-1883.

*_____. *Minutes of the Orphanmasters of New Amsterdam, 1655-1663*. 2 vols. New York, 1910. (Vol. 2 includes "Minutes of the Executive Boards of the Burgomasters of New Amsterdam," 1661-1664, and "The Records of Walewyn van der Veen, Notary Public, 1662-1664.")

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University Press, 1990.
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*Gehring, Charles, and J. A. Schiltkamp, trans. and eds. *Curaçao Papers, 1640-1665*. New Netherland Documents. Interlaken, NY, 1987. (contains much about the Dutch slave trade & trade in general)
*Gehring, Charles, & William A. Starna, trans. & eds. *A Journey into Mohawk and Oneida Country, 1634-35: The Journal of Harmen Meyndertsz van den Bogaert*. Syracuse, 1988. (available Fall 1991 in paperback)
Hannay, William V., compiler. "Burial Records, First Dutch Reformed Church of Albany, 1654-1862." Dutch Settlers Society of Albany *Yearbook*, 8 and 9, pp. 1-130.
*James, Bartlett B., and J. F. Jameson, editors. *Journal of Jasper Danckaerts, 1679-1689*. New York, 1913.
*Jameson, J. F., editor. *Narratives of New Netherland 1609-1664*. New York, 1909.
Melyn Papers, 1640-1699. New York Historical Society *Collections* (1913), pp. 97-138. New York, 1914.
*Munsell, Joel, editor. *Annals of Albany*, 10 vols. Albany, 1850-1859.
*_____. *Collections on the History of Albany from its Discovery to the Present Time*. 4 vols. Albany, 1865-1871.
O'Callaghan, Edmund B., trans. & ed. *Documentary History of the State of New York*. 4 vols., Albany, 1849-51.
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_____. *Laws and Ordinances of New Netherland 1638-1674*. Albany, 1868.
_____. *The Register of Solomon Larkhare, Notary Public of New Amsterdam, 1661-1662*. New York Historical Manuscript Series. Baltimore 1978.
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Scott, Kenneth, editor. *Minutes of the Mayors Court of New York, 1674-1675*. New York Historical Manuscripts Series. Baltimore, 1983.
Van der Linde, A. P. C. Jos, trans. and ed. *Old First Dutch Reformed Church of Brooklyn, New York, 1660-1752*. New York Historical Manuscripts Series. Baltimore, 1983.
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_____. "Documents Relating to Arent Van Curler's Death." Dutch Settlers Society of Albany *Yearbook*, III, pp. 30-34.
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_____. "Protocol of Dirck van Schelluyne, Secretary of the Colony of Rensselaerswyck, 1660-1663." Dutch Settlers Society of Albany *Yearbook*, Vol. XV, pp. 2-18.
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_____. *Register of the Provincial Secretary*. 3 vols. New York Historical Manuscript series. Baltimore, 1974.
*_____. *Van Rensselaer Bowier Manuscripts*. Albany, 1908.
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(Interpretations of original documents)

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Bachman, van Cleaf. *Peltries or Plantations: The Economic Policies of the Dutch West India Company in New Netherland, 1623-1639*. Baltimore, 1969.
**A Beautiful and Fruitful Place. Selected Rensselaerswijck Seminar Papers*. Edited and indexed by Nancy Anne McClure Zeller with introduction by Charles T. Gehring. New Netherland Publishing, 1991. (contains 31 articles from the first ten Rensselaerswijck Seminars of the New Netherland Project addressing such subjects as merchants and traders, slaves, law, agriculture, education, archeology, religion, Dutch-Indian relations, the family, women, etc. and a 25-page index) for sale for $20.00 postpaid from Friends of the New Netherland Project, Box 2536 Empire State Plaza Station, Albany, NY 12220-0536.
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Kilpatrick, William H. *The Dutch Schools of New Netherland and Colonial New York*. Philadelphia, 1912.
Kim, Sung Bok. *Landlord and Tenant in Colonial New York: Manorial Society 1664-1775*. Chapel Hill, NC, 1978.
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*Narrett, David E. *Inheritance and Family Life in Colonial New York City*. Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press, 1992

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*Nooter, Eric, and Patricia U. Bonomi, eds. *Colonial Dutch Studies: An Interdisciplinary Approach.* New York, 1988.

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Parker, Geoffrey. *The Dutch Revolt.* Ithaca, 1977.

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*Schama, Simon. *The Embarrassment of Riches: An Interpretation of Dutch Culture in the Golden Age.* New York, 1987.

*Signer, Billie. *Beaver City.* [novel about children in 1685 Albany preparing for the city's charter; available from Albany Institute, 125 Washington Ave., Albany 12210 for $9.95 each, possibly out of print.]

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*Stayton, Kevin J. *Dutch by Design: Tradition and Change in Two Historic Brooklyn Houses. The Schenck Houses at the Brooklyn Museum.* New York: Brooklyn Museum in assoc. with Rhodon Universe, 1990.

*Stokes, I. N. Phelps. *The Iconography of Manhattan Island, 1498-1909.* 6 vols. New York, 1915-1928. [a collection of every drawing, map, illustration available dealing with property on Manhattan]

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*Watkins, Jane H., ed. *Masters of Seventeenth Century Dutch Genre Painting.* Philadelphia, 1984. [Catalogue of Spring 1984 exhibit at Philadelphia Museum of Art.]

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. *The Swedes and Dutch at New Castle.* New York, 1987.

*Wilcoxen, Charlotte. *Dutch Trade and Ceramics in America in the Seventeenth Century.* Albany, 1987.

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Wilson, Charles. *Profit and Power: A Study of England and the Dutch Wars.* London, 1957.

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