

De Nieuw Nederlanse Marcurius

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"De Nieuw Nederlanse Marcurius"

December 2004

Upcoming Events

March 25 – 26, 2005. "Going Dutch: Holland in America, 1609–2009." This interdisciplinary conference will explore the place of Dutch history and the influence of Dutch culture in the United States. Dutch history, art, architecture, design, customs, trade, religion, and philosophy: all have had significant and varying roles in American society of the last four centuries. The model of the Netherlands inspired the Founding Fathers, the history of the Netherlands preoccupied the great nineteenth century belletrists, and the aesthetic vocabularies of the Netherlands helped shape American taste. From Henry Hudson to Piet Mondriaan and beyond, this conference seeks to understand how and why Dutchism (cf. Hispanism) has fared the way it has in America. The conference will be held in Denver, CO. For further information contact either Joyce Goodfriend at: jgoodfri@du.edu or Benjamin Schmidt at: schmidt@u.washington.edu.

Through January 9, 2005.

"Seventeenth-Century Dutch Tiles from the Museum's Collection." This intriguing exhibition explores aspects of Dutch culture during the Golden Age using the rarely



Ceramic Tile Depicting Cupid Guiding a Shell Boat

exhibited and relatively unknown medium of domestic tiles. The San Diego Museum of Art's extensive collection of tiles numbers nearly 400 examples and represents a wide diversity of subject matter, including biblical themes, mythology, flowers, birds, as well as pastoral, military, genre, and maritime scenes. More than simple wall

covering and decoration, these blue-on-white tiles functioned as instructive or emblematic programs in Dutch homes. Like paintings and drawings, tiles also conveyed messages of national pride, taste, and sophistication. The installation of approximately 300 tiles will look at the history of tile making, their use, and pictorial sources, such as prints. A selection of etchings and engravings from the Museum's collection will illustrate the interrelationship between the two art forms during this period. For further information go to: www.sdmart.org

Publications

Brill Academic Publishers is accepting pre-publication orders for Jaap Jacob's *New Netherland, A Dutch Colony in Seventeenth-Century America*, a translation of his doctoral dissertation *Een zegenrijk gewest, Nieuw-Nederland in de zeventiende eeuw*. This important volume covers the history of the Dutch colony on the North American continent. Based on extensive research of archival

material on both sides of the Atlantic, much of which has not been previously used, this work provides the most complete overview yet of a colony that has been generally neglected by historians. The chapters deal with themes such as patterns of immigration, government and justice, economy, religion, social structure, material culture, and mentality of the colonists. This book will be very useful not just for students of Dutch colonial history, but also for scholars in early American history. ISBN 90 04 12906 5 Hardback (xx, 588pp., 24 illus.) A pre-publication price of €99/\$145 will be valid until 31 Dec. 04. Thereafter the list price will be €150/\$195. Go to www.brill.nl for an order form and additional information about Brill's exciting new series "The Atlantic World."

Looking for a unique gift at a reasonable price? Consider *A Catch of Grandmothers* by Firth Haring Fabend, "This little book is for every mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother—and the rest of the family, too. In lyrically beautiful verse, the author and Rockland County native tells us about nine generations of her 'grandmothers,' back to the first to come to Rockland—a wolf-ridden forest—in the 1600s." The book can be ordered directly from the Historical Society of Rockland County, 20 Zukor Rd., New City, NY 10956. Enclose a

check for \$12 (price includes postage and handling) made out to HSRC with memo for: *A Catch*.

William A. Starna and José António Brandão, "From the Mohawk–Mahican War to the Beaver Wars: Questioning the Pattern," *Ethnohistory*, vol. 51 (2004): 725–750.

Begin december 2004 verschijnt bij Uitgeverij Kopwit te Leiden *Een pant van ware vrintschap, veertien gedichten van Johan Fret en Petrus Stuyvesant*. De uitgave, bezorgd door Jaap Jacobs, bestaat uit twee boekjes in 88n omslag, waarvan het eerste *de gedichten* bevat en het tweede *de inleiding en annotatie*. *Een bepant van ware vrintschap* is fraai vormgegeven, zoals van Kopwit verwacht mag worden. De oplage is beperkt tot tweehonderd exemplaren. Het boekje, een bijzonder verzamelobject, is niet via de boekhandel verkrijgbaar, maar is telefonisch te bestellen (071-5176953) of via Kopwits website www.kopwit.org (zie bestelformulier). ISBN 90-809161-1-0, 24 en 16 pagina's, € 17,25, inclusief verzendkosten.

Orders are now being taken for *Schenectady Genesis: How a Dutch Colonial Village became an American City*, Vol. 1: *The Colonial Crucible, 1661–1774* by Susan J. Staffa. This 440-page quarto paperback can be ordered by send-

ing \$29.00 a copy plus \$3.50 per order for shipping and handling to The Colonial Schenectady Project, LTD. c/o Laura Linder, 2115 Route 67, Charlton, NY 12019. ISBN 1-930098-27-8.

Ready to take on another novel set in New Netherland? *Hell Gate* by Dorothy Hayden Truscott has been pronounced "Not bad!" by our president of the FNN, John van Schaick, and "A page turner," by Harry Macy of New York G&B. Subtitled *The Story of the Family that Settled Harlem as Part of the Dutch colony that became New York*, the paperback can be purchased directly from Morgan Hall Publications, Harvard, MA 01451 for \$15.95. ISBN 0-971-97561-2

FNN News

The holidays ... a time for giving!

As the holidays approach, many of you will be asked what you'd like. In lieu of a gift, why not ask friends and family to make a donation to FNN in your name. One of our members recently retired and rather than receive a gift, she asked that colleagues and friends make a donation to the Friends of New Netherland in her name. The Friends received almost \$700 which, with the NEH match, amounted to \$1400 to support the work of the New Netherland Institute. Giving a donation, renewing your

membership, or becoming a member can be done online at: www.nnp.org/fnn/index.html

Suggestions for your Holiday cards ...

You can purchase these cards at www.nnp.org/store

***Colfer Note Card** – black on ivory 5" x 7" note card with matching envelope is suitable for all occasions, but will be a genuine stand-out for your Christmas mailing. \$10.00 (10 cards/envelopes). A colf player with a leaden club on the ice, circa 1700. A pen and ink drawing made by J. Brown after an engraving of Romeyn de Hooghe (1645–1708) in the collection of the National Cabinet of Prints, Amsterdam.

***Visscher Map Note Card** – multi-colored 5" x 7" note card depicts New Netherland and its surroundings. The map's inset gives a view of New Amsterdam on lower Manhattan. \$12.00 (10 cards/envelopes)

Remember, if you're buying **anything** via AMAZON, first go to: www.nnp.org/fnn/fnnstore/books.html, then

AMAZON.COM. All purchases made this way – whether books or other items – earn FNN a small royalty.

Error of omission: In the August/September edition of the newsletter we always list the names and categories of our FNN donors for the previous twelve months. This year we omitted the name and category of our own vice president, Dr. Charles Wendell in the magistrate category. Sorry, Charles, we will be more careful next year.

News

Congratulations to Dr. Janny Venema! On November 4th the Board of Regents and the New York State Archives honored Dr. Venema with the 2004 annual archives award for excellence in research using the holdings of the Archives. The award recognizes Dr. Venema's intensive use of the Dutch records in the State Archives in researching New York's Dutch colonial heritage. This research resulted in the publication of her doctoral

dissertation, *Beverwijck: A Dutch Village on the American Frontier, 1642–1664*. (Verloren, Hilversum/SUNY Press, Albany, 2003)

Websites

New Englanders traveling to Albany frequently made note of the "odd" Dutch houses with gable ends facing the street. Just as notable would have been rural architecture, featuring the distinctive shape of the so-called New World Dutch barns and *hooibergen*. The former continue to draw the attention of architectural historians, but the latter, also called hay barracks, hay ricks or just barks, are not as well known. The simple reason being that many of the barns survive while the hay barracks have disappeared without a trace. Some years ago I was shown some "odd" beams with a series of holes in one edge in the kitchen of an old house in Albany County. I explained to the puzzled homeowner that they were the uprights of a hay barrack. If you are still puzzled, go to: www.hooiberg.info.

Totidem Verbis

This issue continues the story of Admiral de Ruyter and New Netherland, which was begun in vol. 20, no.3.

De Ruyter and New Netherland

On the 26th of August Nicolls arrived off Sandy Point aboard the 32-gun warship *Guinea*. When three more English ships appeared two days later, Stuyvesant wrote to

his commanders at Fort Orange and the Esopus region [Kingston] for assistance. He also ordered Fort Orange not to ship any furs down river until the intentions of the English were clear. By Sunday the

31st of August Stuyvesant had received a reply to his request that the English explain their presence in Dutch waters. Nicolls wrote that he had come to claim what belonged to his sovereign, and de-

manded the surrender of New Amsterdam. He indicated that the property, life, and liberty of everyone who submits to his majesty would be respected, but those who oppose his majesty “must expect all the miseries of a Warr, which they bring upon themselves.”

At about this same time reports were coming in that the English had landed troops at New Utrecht [near the southwestern point of Long Island]. The local farmers were ordered to assist in moving supplies and ordnance to the ferry in preparation for an assault on Manhattan. If they complied, they were promised that not even a chicken would be disturbed. The city was full of rumors generated by the exchange of letters. Stuyvesant refused to allow the burgomasters of New Amsterdam to see the letter from Nicolls, stating, in so many words, that it was none of their business. Rather than show the burgomasters a letter from Governor Winthrop of Connecticut, which urged Stuyvesant to comply with Nicolls’s terms to avoid bloodshed, Stuyvesant tore it up.

When Stuyvesant polled his troops in the fort, they responded unanimously that they were prepared to fight; the officer in charge of the fort’s ordnance was ordered to prepare to fire. Although Stuyvesant assumed a determined posture of resistance, the situation on Long Island was deteriorating. As news spread of the situation, New Englanders began to swell the ranks of the English force at the ferry. The possibility of plundering the riches of Manhattan also at-

tracted hundreds of French privateers and Indians who enlisted in support of the English invasion. On the 4th of September the English ships began to maneuver toward the fort; a sign that Nicolls was about to spill blood. Stuyvesant wrote to Nicolls that he had little choice but to discuss surrender terms. His decision was reinforced in a letter signed by 93 inhabitants, imploring him to accept Nicolls’s terms. A day later Stuyvesant agreed to the surrender terms at his farm outside the city. On the 8th of September New Amsterdam became New York.

Shortly after the fall of New Netherland, Samuel Pepys, secretary of the Admiralty, recorded in his diary: “Fresh newes came of our beating the Dutch at Guiny quite out of all their castles almost, which will make them quite mad here at home, sure. And Sir G. Carteret did tell me that the King doth joy mightily at it; but asked him, laughing, <But, says he, how shall I do to answer this to the Ambassador when he comes?> Nay, they say that we have beat them out of the New Netherlands too—so that we have been doing them mischief a great while in several poarts of the world, without public knowledge or reason.”

Much had changed since the First Anglo-Dutch War. Cromwell was dead; and Charles II had been restored as king of England in 1660. However, commercial competition between the Dutch Republic and England had not changed. It had only intensified. When Charles II formed the Royal Africa Company in 1660, it was clear that its

main competition was the Dutch trade along the Guinea coast of Africa (also called from west to east: the Silver, Gold, and Slave coasts respectively).

In 1664 Robert Holmes of the Royal Africa Company, supposedly without royal approval, captured Dutch posts in the Cape Verde islands and along the Guinea coast. The only stronghold left in Dutch hands was Elmina Castle (in present-day Ghana). In the same year Charles granted his brother James, duke of York and Albany, extensive territories in North America, which included the Dutch colony of New Netherland. James was also granted £8000 to take possession of his overseas’ holdings. In September a naval force under the command of Richard Nicolls captured New Netherland, which was renamed New York. The Dutch were understandably upset since both hostile actions had taken place without a declaration of war.

The Dutch government openly protested these warlike acts in a time of peace, but secretly sent instructions to Admiral Michiel Adriaansz de Ruyter to reclaim what had been lost. De Ruyter left Cádiz on October 5, 1664 with thirteen ships. After retaking Dutch possessions in the Cape Verde Islands and capturing eight English merchant ships, he headed for the Guinea coast where he retook all the former Dutch posts but one, and captured the English stronghold at Cormantine, including the Royal Africa Company’s store of merchandise and five of their ships.

To be continued