

De Nieuw Nederlandse Mercurius



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Events of Interest

November 19-20, 2015. The University at Albany will hold its annual “Researching New York” conference on the theme “Communities of New York.” For information, program, and registration go to: www.nystatehistory.org.

January 13, 2016. The Early Modern Global History Seminar at Georgetown University presents a workshop on “The Dutch Atlantic in the Seventeenth Century.” Beginning at 1:00pm in ICC450, there will be two sessions with two presenters each, including the NNI’s Fulbright student, Joris van den Tol, who will speak on his research “Permeability of power: the duality of structure and colonial lobbying in the Dutch Atlantic.” At 4:30pm Harvard Professor Tamar Herzog will give a lecture on “Did European Law Turn American? Territory, Property, and Rights in an Atlantic World.” Please register via Suze Zijlstra at sz394@georgetown.edu. Participants in the workshop are expected to read the papers that will be circulated in advance.

Until January 18, 2016. “Class Distinctions: Dutch Painting in the Age of Rembrandt and Vermeer.” From nobles to merchants to milkmaids, Dutch artists in the 17th century portrayed all levels of society in masterful detail. Organized by the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, this groundbreaking exhibition proposes a new approach to understanding 17th-century Dutch painting. Through 75 carefully selected, beautifully preserved portraits, genre scenes, landscapes and seascapes borrowed from European and American public and private collections—including masterpieces never before seen in the United States—the show reflects, for the first time, the ways in which paintings represent the various socioeconomic groups of the new Dutch Republic, from the Princes of Orange to the most indigent. For more information go to: www.mfa.org/exhibitions.

Until October 31, 2016. “A Dishonorable Trade: Human Trafficking in the Dutch Atlantic World” at Crailo State Historic Site. The exhibit is the result of a two year collaboration between Crailo, the Gilder Lehrman Center, and the Yale Public History Institute.

Divided into two parts, the exhibit examines the role that slavery played in the creation and maintenance of the Dutch trading empire and then delves into the lives and stories of the people affected by the trade. Crailo is open until mid-May for special events and by appointment only. From mid-May through October 31 the site is open Wednesday through Sunday 11:00am-5:00pm.

Once the Van Rensselaer family’s fortified home, Crailo State Historic Site is the museum of the colonial Dutch in the Hudson River Valley. For information on this season’s special events, programs, exhibits and this year’s Saratoga-Capital District Regional Geocache Challenge please find Crailo on the New York State Parks website at www.nysparks.com or by calling 518-463-8738.

Publications

The Saltwater Frontier by Andrew Lipman. Lipman’s first book is the previously untold story of how the ocean became a “frontier” between colonists and Indians. When the English and Dutch empires both tried to claim the same patch of coast between the Hudson River

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and Cape Cod, the sea itself became the arena of contact and conflict. During the violent European invasions, the region's Algonquian-speaking Natives were navigators, boatbuilders, fishermen, pirates, and merchants who became active players in the emergence of the Atlantic World. Drawing from a wide range of English, Dutch, and archeological sources, Lipman uncovers a new geography of Native America that incorporates seawater as well as soil. Looking past Europeans' arbitrary land boundaries, he reveals unseen links between local episodes and global events on distant shores. 360pp. Yale University Press, 11/3/2015. ISBN: 9780300207668.

News et al.

For a well-deserved 100th birthday tribute to the publication of the first volume of Stokes' *Iconography of Manhattan Island*, go to: <http://nyti.ms/1PdouRQ>.

Jeroen Zoetmulder, an antique dealer and appraiser in Beverwijk, Netherlands has in his possession a seal stamp of a certain Andries de Vos. He believes it may be the same person who settled in our Beverwijk. As soon as we are able to confirm the connection we will put a notice in the newsletter, including a photo of the seal.

If you have puzzled over the name Van Alsteyn/Alstein, search no more for a place name in the Low Countries. It comes from the

German regional name Holstein. For example: Michael Tadens van Alsteyn who also appears as Van Holsteyn.

Dutch Courses

Dutch language course in June 2016 at Columbia University for graduate students (tuition-free). Applications are invited for a three-week summer course, consisting of a 2-week class in modern Dutch for reading knowledge, and a 1-week workshop in early modern Dutch/paleography, each section of which can be taken separately. The course is free-of-charge. Funding has been provided through the Queen Wilhelmina Professorship at Columbia University and by the University of Amsterdam. The course has two distinct sections, and students may apply to either or both. A single letter of application will suffice for any section(s) of the course, but applicants should be sure to include the appropriate supporting materials for the particular section(s) of the course to which application is being made. Applications for all sessions are due Monday, March 14, 2016.

Weeks I & II (June 7–10 & June 14–17) “Modern Dutch for Reading Knowledge”;

Week III (June 21–24)

“17th-century Dutch/paleography.”

Descriptions and requirements:

Week I & II: “Modern Dutch for Reading Knowledge.” This section will cover reading skills, grammar, and vocabulary in modern Dutch. Open to all students with the equivalent of 2 semesters or more of Dutch or 4 semesters of German

at the university level. Students must submit transcripts showing their successful completion of required coursework or other evidence of competence in the language. Preference will be given to students enrolled in a PhD program. Students who have participated in this summer course in the past are invited to apply again, but preference will be given to new students. Students who are unsure whether their level of Dutch is satisfactory, should contact Ms. de Groot at: wed23@columbia.edu to arrange an evaluation.

Week III: “17th-century Dutch Texts/paleography Workshop.” The workshop will cover reading strategies of 17th-century printed and handwritten texts. Open to all students with the equivalent of 3 semesters or more of Dutch or 2 full years of German at the university level. Students must submit transcripts showing their successful completion of required coursework or other evidence of competence in the language. Students should also submit a letter stating reasons for applying. Send application to Ms. de Groot at wed23@columbia.edu.

NNI News

Study of Petrus Stuyvesant wins the NNI's 2015 Hendricks Award.

A recently released book that takes a new look at an often misunderstood and reviled figure in colonial American history has won the annual Hendricks Award for 2015 from the New Netherland Institute. *Stuyvesant Bound: An Essay on Loss Across Time* by Donna

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Merrick is an innovative and compelling evaluation of the last director general of New Netherland (see March 2014 Marcurius).

The Hendricks Award is presented by the New Netherland Institute (NNI) at its annual seminar to the best book or book-length manuscript relating to any aspect of New Netherland and its legacy. The Award carries a prize of \$5,000 as well as a framed print of a painting by historical artist L. F. Tantillo.

Previous recipients of the award include *The Pinkster King and the King of Kongo* by Jeroen Dewulf in 2014 and Kiliaen van Rensselaer (1586-1643): *Designing a New World* by Janny Venema in 2011.

Stuyvesant Bound: An Essay on Loss Across Time can be purchased through the NNI online shop. Go to <http://www.newnetherlandinstitute.org/> and click on "NNI Shop."

Book-length manuscript submissions for the 2016 Hendricks Award are due February 1, 2016. For more information on the award as well as a listing of other Award winners, go to: www.newnetherlandinstitute.org/programs/awards/hendricks-award.

On Thursday, October 1, ten teachers met at the Greater Capital Region Teacher Center for a follow-up to NNI's August teacher workshop, "Teaching Dutch Colonial History with the New York State Social Studies Framework." The teachers were led by Jessica Maul, a certified teacher and consultant specializing in the use of historical documents in the

classroom, in a two-and-a-half hour workshop. With content expertise provided by Janny Venema, the teachers worked with the records of New Netherland to create and modify lessons for their classrooms to be implemented in the coming months. It was a fantastic group of teachers who are very excited to use primary sources to teach the history of the Dutch colonies in their fourth-grade, seventh-grade, and undergraduate classrooms. The teachers will meet again in December to debrief after implementing their lessons and to discuss strategies for incorporating Dutch colonial history into their curricula in the future.

The fourth episode of our "New Netherland *Praatjes*" podcast with Susanah Romney is now available. Future episodes will feature multifaceted scholar Jeroen Dewulf and New Netherland Research Center Associate Director Janny Venema. Also available is the audio of the fifteen presentations at our September 2015 conference, "The Dutch in American Across the Centuries: Connections and Comparisons."

Totidem Verbis

When the Dutch Invaded England
by Peter A. Douglas
(concluded)

Parliament took the opportunity to impose certain conditions on the new sovereigns, who agreed to accept the principles of the newly passed Bill of Rights, which laid down limits to the powers of the

sovereign, set out the rights of Parliament, and other stipulations. It remains a fundamental instrument of constitutional law and one of the great historical charters of British liberties. The Bill of Rights also determined the line of succession and barred Roman Catholics from the throne, a ban that still stands.

Thus a Dutch Stadtholder from The Hague became King William III of England and William II of Scotland ("Dutch Billy"), an event that shaped much of the history of his adopted country, and the country of his birth. William and Mary ruled together until Mary's death in 1694, after which William ruled alone until his own death in 1702, age 51. He is still referred to familiarly in certain areas of Northern Ireland and Scotland as "King Billy."

In Brixham today there remains a faint lingering Dutch flavor. Some of the Dutch soldiers who came over with William settled in Brixham and married local women, and Dutch surnames are still common in the town. There's a steep road leading from the harbor to where the Dutch made their camp that's still called Overgang, signifying a passage or crossing. Unveiled in 1889, a statue of William, cutting a somewhat pompous pose, stands on the Brixham waterfront to commemorate the invasion. The inscription states that William landed near this spot and issued his famous declaration: "The Liberty of England and the Protestant Religion I Will Maintain." "Je Maintiendrai" remains the motto on the coat of arms of the Kingdom of the

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Netherlands. The monument also bears a Dutch inscription: “Engelands Vrijheid Door Oranje Hersteld” — “England’s freedom restored by [the House of] Orange.” This seems like a surprising accomplishment really, only fourteen years after the end of the Third Anglo-Dutch War, and following all the years of rivalry and enmity that had divided the two countries for much of the century. There were also, however, many similarities between the two countries, and much cultural and intellectual cross-pollination.

But we need to get a clearer and more accurate picture of all this. To do so we must dig a bit deeper beneath the Brixham monument’s glorious and generous chiseled claims and focus on William’s actual motive for bringing his army to Torbay. The changes that this so-called “Glorious Revolution” brought to England are only part of the story; for the rest we must lay bare and examine William’s true intentions, and the benefits that he shrewdly hoped to accrue from this bold take-over. Put plainly, the Dutch conquest of England had a crucial and calculated underlying purpose—to remove all possibility of an Anglo-French alliance in the greater European struggle. Only as King could William make that happen. On the face of it, merely to preserve English Protestantism does seem a rather limp reason for such blatant (and extremely costly) aggression from a foreign prince towards a sovereign nation. This is, however, how history has come to remember what happened in 1688.

We’ve already had a glimpse of William’s proficiency in public relations, and his smoothly expressed concern for “the Liberty of England” and its religious partiality was all part of the spin control that he employed to camouflage the real reason for the invasion. The fact is that the closer we look at William the more he looks like a schemer, and his seemingly earnest *Declaration* becomes a hollow legitimization of his sheer opportunism. Soon after arriving in England he gave up pretending to behave altruistically. King of England he now was, but William’s nationalistic concern was still for the United Provinces, and his priority was simply to use his position to see to it that English resources, ships, and troops would oppose his long-time enemy, the French. England’s foreign policy came before England’s “freedom.”

William had much cause for apprehension. Following the *rampjaar* (disaster year) of 1672, when the French had almost overrun the United Provinces, the threat of a French invasion was unremitting, given the ongoing expansionist policies of Louis XIV. Charles II of England remained disappointingly neutral, and this isolationist attitude caused great anxiety for the States General. As we have seen, the situation worsened when James II came to the throne in 1685, removing hope of an Anglo-Dutch alliance. On the contrary, the nervous Dutch feared that Catholic James would enter into a compact with Catholic Louis, reinforcing the French ability to

take control of the Netherlands along with the rest of Europe. Something had to be done.

William was able to profit from the political instability created by James’ accession, as well as from the hopes of English Protestants who looked to him as the Protestant husband of James’ rightful heir. The growing alarm over England’s suspected intentions both provided the opportunity and strengthened his resolve to invade England and assert his and his wife’s claims to the throne. Since his marriage to his cousin Mary in 1677 William had anticipated his wife’s accession to England’s throne, and William himself was third in line after James’ daughters. (He actually thought he had a better claim.) His dynastic and politico-military aspirations were interlaced, and he was now where he needed to be.

By becoming King, William was able to propel England into an anti-French coalition and turn its resources against Louis, saving his homeland and the rest of Europe from French hegemony. Notwithstanding what’s carved on the Brixham monument, it can be truthfully said that it was the freedom of *the Netherlands* that was restored and by the House of Orange—and guaranteed by William’s audacity, and his new power base. In many ways it was a “Glorious Revolution” for the Dutch too.