

THE BROWER FAMILY CIRCLE

Published quarterly January, April, July and October. This is VOL IX
Number 2 dtd July 84.

This newsletter is published with the hope that with enough interest, someone will send in the necessary information to fill out all the blank spaces in Brower-Brewer-Brouwer lines, clear back to the countries in Europe where we all originated from. At the present time, there are a lot of unanswered questions.

Anyone having Brower lineage may have their lines published here as long as they send in a release authorizing such publication. All queries are welcomed as well. The cost is being born by the undersigned in order to generate interest in the Brower line. Donations welcome.

Jay H. Brower
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520 71-112

From Verne D. Littlefield of 530 West Palmaire Ave Phoenix, AR 85021
the following BREWER Line:

Frederick Hanford Brewer, the fourth son and tenth child of a family of 12 children was born in Niagara County, New York on 9 Nov 1812. His father, Abraham Brewer was a native of New York, and his mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Ripley, was a native of Connecticut. His great grandfather, BROWER, as it was then spelled, came from Holland to this country about 1672. Mr Brewer was of French extraction. His father died in 1844 at the advanced age of 81. His mother died in 1862 at the ripe old age of 105. She was a personal acquaintance of General Washington and had danced with him many times. Two children were born to her after she passed her 50th birthday.

In 1813 the BREWERS (parents) moved from New York and lived for one year in Canada West. From there they went to Sandusky Bay, Ohio where they lived until 1815. They next moved to Erie County, PA where lived 5 years. They then went to Crawford County, PA where his mother died. In 1835 Mr Brewer returned to his birthplace in New York. While there he was apprenticed to a carpenter, and learned the trade in the next 2 years. In 1837 he went to Cass County, Michigan and in 1839 returned to Crawford County, PA. In the same year he came to this state of Iowa and located in Augusta which is located in Des Moines County, where he worked at his trade.

In the spring of 1840 he purchased a piece of land in Pleasant Ridge Township near where he now lives. In 1847 he moved to section 23 where he now resides. On 31 December 1841 he married Rebecca Edison. She was born in Preble County, Ohio on 28 Dec 1819. They have 8 children, three sons and 5 daughters. All of the children are now living, 4 of them at home. Like most of the prominent men at the present time, Mr Brewer was educated in the common school. He learned his ABC's in the Sabbath School under Lorenzo Dow. Taken altogether, he spent about two years in the common schools. In this short time he received an education that fitted him well for the active duties of future life. Mr Brewer's father was a Whig, but through his sons' influence he became a Democrat. Mr Brewer early learned to appreciate the principles of that party, and, during his political career of about 40 years he has always supported them. His first vote for President was for Andrew Jackson. He has served his township several years as trustee. Generally speaking, Mr Brewer's father's circumstances were not very good. At one time he was worth \$15,000 but lost it all by acting as security. Under these circumstances Mr Brewer was thrown on his own resources for the future. In all his dealings, he has always made it a part of his work to make friends as well as dollars. This is one of the great secrets of success. Being a good carpenter, he obtained a great deal of work to do. He also engaged in making rails often obtaining twenty cents per hundred which was considered good wages. He has cut wood at twenty cents a cord. He now has a good farm which is ornamented with all the improvements of comfort. Mr Brewer was one of three men that chose the present name of their township "Pleasant Ridge." He is bitterly opposed to the gigantic appropriations made by the Congress and also to the frauds that are occurring almost annually. Mr Brewer has acquired a sufficiency to enable him to pass the remainder of his life in comparative ease.

Taken from 1874 Historical Atlas of Lee County, Iowa

NOW: Who were the parents of Abraham Brewer above and Sarah Ripley?

The children of Frederick Hanford Brewer and his wife Rebecca are listed below:

Sallie (Sarah)	b.	1843	In Lee County, Iowa
Mary Ann	b.	1844	Pleasant Ridge Twp
	d.	1924	Lee County, Iowa
Abraham	m.	Thomas Corwin Chambers	in Lee County, Iowa
	b.	1846	Lee County, Iowa
William	b.	23 DEC 1847	Lee County, Iowa
	d.	6 DEC 1950	Lee County, Iowa
	m.	Weltha Spicer	in Lee County, Iowa
Jeremiah (Jerry)	b.	1849	
Francis R.	b.	24 SEP 1852	
	d.	1936	
	m.	27 FEB 187?	Lee County, Iowa
Catherine M.	b.	16 OCT 1855	Lee County, Iowa
	d.	17 NOV 1925	Farmington, Iowa in Van Buren Country
	m.	14 JUL 1875	Michael Neu in Lee County, Iowa
Luella	b.	1858	Lee County, Iowa

Sources: Various Newspaper Articles: Historical Atlas (1874) Lee County, Iowa. Obits: US Census of 1850 for Lee County, Fort Madison, Iowa details family of F. H. Brewer on page 346, dwelling #881, family #881. Abraham Brewer (3rd child) appears in the 1880 Soundex Film Index as a white male, age 34, as b. Denmark Township. Abraham later went to Cutbank, Montana (before 1900) (newspaper article for 25th Wedding Anniv., of Michael Neu and Catherine M. Brewer, and was still alive in 1925 in Cutbank (obit of Catherine M.)

In the Hawk-Eye Gazette Burlington, Iowa 24 DEC 1946 appeared the following article:

Denmark Township, Lee County. William Brewer, known by all Denmark as its oldest male resident, celebrated his 99th birthday here on 23 DEC 1946 with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr & Mrs William Miner. Mr Brewer was born 23 DEC 1847 on what is now the Herman Menke farm, 4 miles SW of Denmark in Pleasant Ridge Township, operated at the present time by the Menke brothers. His father, Frederick H. Brewer was born in Niagara County, NY and his mother, Rebecca Edison, in Preble County, Ohio. His father's mother, Sarah Ripley of Connecticut lived to be 105 years of age having been born in 1757 and dying in 1862. She was a personal acquaintance of George Washington, and had danced with him many times. A great-grandmother was a sister to Roger Sherman, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. A second cousin was Chauncy Depew, president of the New York Central Railroad and a U. S. Senator.

The father came to Augusta, Iowa in 1839. In 1840 he purchased a piece of land in Pleasant Ridge Township, going there in 1847 to live the rest of his long life.

William Brewer, as a boy, attended the Newton School on Highway #16, which was also used as a Methodist Church on Sundays. The Brewers belonged to this Church. Brewer assisted his father in surveying their farm, doing the last 40 alone.

He owes his ability to survive these 99 years to the fact that he never worried. Ninety years ago he picked up a pipe and smoked it, lost consciousness - never smoked again. He chewed some liquorice twist tobacco - never wanted anymore. He dislikes beer. His habit for years was to drink a cup of fresh water from the well the first thing in the morning. He still drinks a great deal of water.

Hard work on the farm from 4:00 AM to 8:00 PM and then early to bed was another steady habit. Only one night did he stay out all night. That was around four-score years ago when he was sparking Sally Shaunce, the Amish Minister's daughter. They made up a foursome and went over into Des Moines County to a dance. It rained so hard that the roads were almost impassible, so the two couples stayed in a grove of trees all night in the farm wagon, and when daylight came, made their way homeward. Even though it was Sunday morning the Amish Minister understood the situation and offered no complaint.

Brewer went with Sally for 3 years, calling on her every Saturday night. He soon discovered that there was a rival calling on her every Friday night so he resigned in favor of the other suitor, though she made him a visit and told him he had the inside track, but as much as he admired Sally he wasn't enough interested for the affair to go any further, so she married the other fellow.

He was interested in other young women of that day but he didn't get really interested until he met and wed Wealthy Spicer, who lived on a nearby farm. He pointed to a beautiful bureau. "That," he said, "is a bureau that the Spicers brought to Iowa over 100 years ago. Isn't it pretty? Cherry on the sides and mahogany in front". She died over 20 years ago. "Our married life was a very happy one. Mrs Minor was our only child," said Brewer.

As a young man he attained quite a reputation as a wrestler. "No one ever threw me in a wrestling bout. I remember after the Civil War, three men came through our country on a threshing crew who had been champion wrestlers in the Army. I threw each of them." "There was a fellow in our neighborhood of whom I was a little afraid. But after I had wrestled a while, I succeeded in tearing his pants all to pieces. It was necessary that he go home and change them. He didn't seem to care to try again and though he didn't know it, I was glad that he didn't."

For several years Brewer worked with his father on the home farm. Then he and Mrs Brewer lived successfully on what are now the Alex Foggy and the Francis Hasenclever farms. Later he purchased the farm now owned by James Brady, one and a half miles East of Denmark on Highway #16. He and his son-in-law Will Miner, did a large livestock business there and on the parental Miner farm North of West Point. He made a specialty of raising fine horses, the Morgan breed being his favorite. "No," he said, "I never saw a horse that I couldn't manage."

The Civil War ended before he was 18 years of age. He wanted to enlist but he was so short of stature in that day that he would not have been accepted.

Originally a Methodist, Brewer became a member of the Denmark Congregational Church with the disappearance of the Methodist Churches from the Northern and Eastern Lee County. He is the oldest member of that Church.

Formerly, he voted a straight Democratic ticket but in recent years he has voted on occasion for one or two Republicans whom he felt were better suited for the office they sought.

Copied on following pages is a reprint from Register Early Settlers of Kings County, Long Island, New York from the First Settlement by Europeans to 1700 by Tennis A. Bergen. (pages 51 through 55).

From a letter of Mr Verne D. Littlefield will copy some of it as follows: Letter dtd 20 March 1985.

In searching for Abraham, father of Frederick H., I found a reference from the New York Weekly Post Boy, Gen Data 1743 to 1770, page 52: "Abraham Brower L. I. Late of Gowannus died. House in Broad Street NYC for sale by Execs. Jeremiah and Abraham Brower and Jeremiah Blau 3/1/1756" (Jeremiah or Jury or Jeury): The Executor Abraham could of been the one baptized 14 DEC 1706 (Dutch Church, Brooklyn, NY.) died 1756. The Will proved 26 Feb 1756 - my Brother Jury Brewer and Jury Blau and Abraham Brewer, the eldest son of my Brother Brother Jury. In regard to the Will, there was a letter written to a Mrs J. H. McColloch of Chula Vista, CA in 1934 by Walter M. Masserole (Holland Society of NY., Family Genealogy BRA to BRYON as viewed on Microfilm No 1016516 at the Salt Lake City Genealogical Library, LDS on 9 Jan 1985. Copy of this letter is enclosed. Other references in the above mentioned microfilm of the Holland Society show birth of an Abraham, the eldest son of Jury born in 1724. Abraham baptized in 1706 had a son Abraham who was baptized on 18 Feb 1739 at the New Utrecht, NY Dutch Church and a son Jury born in 1743 with no baptism found. Beyond this is pure speculation at the moment but I believe that my ancestor Abraham, born in 1761 or 1762, was from the above lineage and may have been the son of either the last named Abraham or Jury since these two given names seem to have followed even to the Children of Frederick H. Brewer. Also, it is possible that Abraham met Sarah Ripley as a result both their involvement with or in the Revolutionary War.

BROUWER or BROWER, ADAM, sometimes written Adam Brouwer Berckhoven or Kerckhoven, emigrated in 1643 from Ceulon or Cologne; m. May 19, 1645, in N. A., *Madalena Jacobs Verdon*; d. about 1698. Resided in Br^a and occupied the old mill late of John C. Frecke. Feb. 7, 1647, he obtained a patent for a lot in N. A., where he probably resided prior to his removal to Br^a. Mem. of Br^a R. D. ch. in 1677, on ass. rolls of said town of 1675 and '83, and cen. of 1698. Aug. 20, 1667, Jan Cornelise Buys and Derick Jansen (Hoogland), on inquiry, declared under oath that Jan Evertse Bout, in the house of Jan Damen, tavern-keeper, stated to them that he had not given unto Adam Brouwer the "place and meadow whereon the mill is grounded," but that he had given "the place whereon the mill is grounded, and the corne and the meadow," unto the children of Adam Brouwer, as per p. 179 of Lib. 2 of Con. Made a will Jan. 22, 1691-2. Issue:—Peter Adams; Jacobus Adams; Aelje Adams of Gowanus, m. Apl. 30, 1682, Josias Jansz Drats; Mathys Adams, b. 1649; William Adams, b. 1651; Mary, Maria, or Marretje Adams, b. 1653; Helena or Magdalena Adams, bp. Oct. 30, 1660, m. Aug. 5, 1693, Willem Hendricksen of England, a resident of Mispat Kil; Adam Adams, b. 1662; Abraham Adams; Eytie or Sophia Adams, m. 1st Evert Hendricksen, m. 2^d, Feb. 20, 1692, Matys Cornelisen; Ann Adams, (sup.) m. William Hilton; Sarah Adams, m. 1st, July 13, 1684, Teunis Janse of Flushing, m. 2^d, Sept. 23, 1692, Tomas Knight of Br^a; Nicholas Adams, b. 1672; (sup.) Daniel Adams, b. 1678; and Rachel

Adams, m. June 5, 1698, in N. Y., Pieter Hendricksen of Vrieslandt. Made his mark "A" to documents.

Abraham (Adams, sometimes written Abraham Adams Bercho or Berckhoven), m. Feb. 6, 1692, Cornelia Halsyn of Bu^a. Took the oath of allegiance in Br^a in 1687, resided in Bu^a in 1693, and in Br^a in 1714. Issue:—Elizabeth, bp. June 11, 1695, in N. Y., m. Jacob Bennet of S. I.; Magdalena, bp. Mar. 21, 1697; Marytje, bp. Mar. 12, 1699, (sup.) m. Aug. 4, 1718, Henry Lyon; Abraham of Br^a Mills, bp. Dec. 15, 1706, m. Sarah Kimber; and Jeury. Made his mark "A" to documents.

Adam (Adams), bp. May 18, 1662, in Br^a; m. 1st, May 18, 1690, Marritje Hendricksen; m. 2^d Angenietje —. Took the oath of allegiance in Br^a in 1687. Styled Adam Adams Kerckhoven on the records. Issue:—Madaleentje, bp. Apl. 2, 1692, in Br^a; Marytje, bp. May 4, 1695, in Br^a; and Hendrick, bp. Jan. 15, 1699. Made his mark "A" to documents.

Adolphus (s. of Willem Adans and Elizabeth Simpson) of Br^a, bp. Aug. 10, 1684; m. (sup.) Jannetje Verdon. Issue:—Yannetje, bp. June 18, 1719, in Br^a; (sup.) Jeremiah, whose will is da. Sept. 18, 1754, in which he devises his Br^a property among his 3 sons, Abraham, William (now dec.), and Adolphus. It is probable he also had sons Abraham, Jeremiah, and Garret.

Daniel, bp. May 7, 1678, in N. Y. The ch. rec. state that he is a s. of Adam Brouwer and Aeltje Vanderbeek. No other account of Adam Brouwer the emigrant of 1642 marrying this woman. It may be some other Adam.

Derck (not a s. of Adam), m. Oct. 6, 1694, in Fld^a, Hannah Deas. Of G^a in 1694, at which date he bought land on Gisbert's I., as per town rec.

Everardus (Jacobse), bp. Dec. 8, 1689; (sup.) m. Nov. 30, 1738, Cornelia De La Noy. Appears to have removed to N. Y., the R. D. ch. of which place he joined May 22, 1739, on certificate. Issue:—Paternella, bp. Dec. 21, 1740, in N. U., and d. an infant; Paternella, bp. July 10, 1743, in N. Y.; Jannetje, bp. May 8, 1746, in N. Y.; Maria, bp. Mar. 4, 1747, in N. Y.; Jacob, bp. Apl. 24, 1751, in N. Y.; Abraham, bp. Nov. 9, 1752, in N. Y.; and Abraham, bp. June 31, 1755, in N. Y.

Jacob or Jacobus (Adams) of Gowanus, m. June 29, 1682, at Br^a, Annetje da. of. W^m Bogardus and Wyntje Sybrants, and grandda. of the Rev. Everardus Bogardus and Annetje Jans of Trinity Ch. memory. Took the oath of allegiance in Br^a in 1687; on ass. roll of said town of 1676 and cen. of 1698. Issue:—Jacob of Br^a, bp. Nov. 30, 1684; William, bp. May 8, 1687, in Br^a, (sup.) m. May 29, 1719, Maria Hennian—no ac-

count of his descendants; Sybrant, m. Antie —, d. previous to May 1737; Everardus, bp. Dec. 8, 1689; Elizabeth, bp. Nov. 15, 1694, (sup.) m. May 16, 1715, John Parcel; Adam, bp. Mar. 29, 1696; Hillegont, bp. Dec. 27, 1697; (sup.) Wyntje, bp. Mar. 8, 1701, m. Richard Pettit; (sup.) Magdalena, bp. Mar. 8, 1704; and (sup.) Nicholas. Made his mark to documents.

Jacob (s. of Jacob and Annetje) of Br^a, bp. May 30, 1684; m. Oct. 1, 1709, Petronella da. of Jan De La Montague. Issue:—Jacob, bp. Sept. 24, 1710, in Br^a, (sup.) m. Maria Delanoy; Johannis, bp. Mar. 19, 1712, in N. Y., m. Oct. 9, 1734, Susan da. of Paulus Druljet; Abraham, bp. Feb. 6, 1717, in N. Y., m. June 10, 1743, Aafje Van Gelder; Antie, bp. Mar. 13, 1720, in N. Y.; Adam, bp. Feb. 14, 1722, in N. Y.; Antje, bp. Mar. 30, 1726, in N. Y.; and Cornelis of Dutchess Co., bp. Nov. 9, 1730, in N. Y., m. Mary Asker.

Johannes or *John* of Fld^a, blacksmith (not a s. of Adam), emigrated in 1657; m. Jannetje —. Resided at first in N. A. He and w. mem. of the R. D. ch. of Fld^a in 1677, where he took the oath of allegiance in 1687; on ass. roll of Fld^a of 1683 and cen. of 1698. June 10, 1688, he paid for a grave for his wife in said town. July 26, 1693, Johannes Brouwer of G^a (sup. to be the Johannes of Fld^a) sold Stoffel Langestraat his house and garden-spot in G^a which he bought of John Gulick, and also lot No. 27 on Gisbert's I., which he bought of Hendrick Van Pelt of N. U. Issue:—Jannetje Jans of Fld^a, m. 1^a, June 11, 1677, Teunis Jans of Denmark, m. 2^a, (sup.) Oct. 24, 1713, Jan Gerretsz of J^a; Johannes Janse of Fld^a; Lucretia Jansz of Fld^a, m. Mar. 17, 1716, Johannes Luyster of Newtown; and Aris Jansz of Fld^a in 1704. There was a Jan Jansen Brouwer a member of Director Minit's Council in N. A. as early as 1630, as per p. 43 of Vol. 1 of Doc. of Col. His. of N. Y. The following children of a Jan Brouwer and Jannetje Jansz, who possibly may be children of this Jan, were bp. in N. A., viz.:—Jan, bp. May 26, 1658; Pieter, bp. Oct. 20, 1660; Hendricus, bp. Nov. 14, 1663; and Hendrick, bp. Jan. 14, 1665. Signed his name "*Johannes Brouwers*" in 1693.

Johannes Janse (s. of Johannes of Fld^a), of Fld^a in 1683, '87, '88, and 1707, m. Sept. 2, 1683, at Fld^a, Sarah Willems of Fld^a. Issue:—Matthys, bp. Oct. 20, 1711; and Elizabeth, bp. Oct. 25, 1713.

Johannes (s. of Pieter Adamse) of Fld^a, bp. Mar. 21, 1685, in N. Y.; m. Apl 1708 Antie or Anatie da. of Hendrick Mandaville. Resided at one period at New Harlem. Removed to Hackensack, N. J. Issue:—Maratie, bp. 1714, m. Apl 1743 Cornelis Talman; Petrus, bp. 1717; Hendrick, bp. 1719; Lea, bp. 1724; and Lea, bp. 1727.

Matthys (Adams), bp. May 30, 1649, in N. Y.; m. Jan. 26, 1673, Marretje Pieters Wyckoff of New Amersfoort (Fld^o). Both of Br^a ferry and mem. of the R. D. ch. of Br^a in 1677 and '85. On ass. roll of Br^a of 1675. Issue:—Peter, bp. Apl. 22, 1676, (sup.) m. Nov. 18, 1721, Elizabeth Quackenbosch; Hendrick of the Raritan, bp. Dec. 6, 1679, m. Elizabeth —; William, bp. Feb. 26, 1682; Aaltje, bp. Sept. 28, 1684; Marretje, bp. Nov. 21, 1686; Annetje, bp. Oct. 20, 1689; (all in N. Y.) Magdalen; and Willemtje, bp. Mar. 14, 1693. Made his mark to documents.

Nicholas (Adams Berckhoven), bp. Apl. 16, 1672; m. Sept. 15, 1692, Jannetje Calsier or Coljer of Bu^a. On ass. roll of Br^a of 1683 and cen. of Bu^a of 1698, to which place he appears to have removed. In May 1719 he and his w. joined the R. D. ch. of N. Y., and are entered as of Fordham. Issue:—Adam, bp. Oct. 15, 1693; Lysbet, bp. June 18, 1699; Jurje, bp. Mar. 30, 1701, (sup.) m. Sept. 15, 1720, Elizabeth Homes; Cornelis, bp. Apl. 18, 1705, m. Aug. 21, 1736, Hester Bodin, and had 6 children bp. in N. Y.; and Nicholas of Dutchess Co., bp. Mar. 16, 1707.

Peter (Adams), bp. Sept. 23, 1646, in N. A.; m. 1st Peter-nella Uldricks or Claine; m. 2^d Geertruyd Jans; m. 3^d, Feb. 15, 1687, Annetje Jansen of Fld^o. Resided in Fld^o, and in 1677 mem. of the R. D. ch. of that place. In 1679 he was bound over to answer at the G^d sessions for an assault on Gerret Croesen, as per p. 80 of Cal. of Eng. Man. In 1687 he took the oath of allegiance as a native and resident of Br^a. Issue:—Abraham Pieterse of Hackensack, N. J., m. 1st, Mar. 1700, Lea Jansen De Merce; m. 2^d Elizabeth Ackerman; Johannes Pieterse of Fld^o and Hackensack; (sup.) Adolphus Pieterse, m. Jannetje Verden or Ferden; Magdalen, m. Oct. 1697 W^m Stegge of Barbadoes Neck, N. J.; (sup.) Huldrick of Schenectady, m. 1st, Nov. 1698, Hester de Vouw of New Haerlem, m. 2^d, Jan. 10, 1711, Ariaentje Pieters; (sup.) Adriaentje, m. Apl. 1708 Hendrick Claesen; VROUTJE, bp. May 16, 1682, m. Aug. 1701 Jan Janse Jeraleman; Cornelia, bp. Mar. 13, 1692; Jacob Pieterse, bp. Nov. 13, 1694, (sup.) m. Marikee — and settled on the Raritan; Hans Pieterse, bp. Oct. 30, 1695, m. 1st (sup.) Madeline —, m. 2^d Nelke Golden, and settled in E. N. J.; (sup.) Antie, m. Nov. 1726 W^m Ennis or Annis; (sup.) Maritien, m. Mar. 1738 Peter Herdenay; and (sup.) Petrus Pieterse, m. Diana de Groot. Made his mark "P B" to documents.

Peter (s. of Johannes and Jannetje of Fld^o), bought Apl. 22, —, of his father his lands in Fld^o and the tools of his blacksmith-shop, as per p. 243 of Lib. 2 of Con. Made his mark "P B" to documents in 1698.

Willem (Adams), bp. Mar. 5, 1651, in N. A.; m. 1st Aeltje or Elsje —; m. 2^d Elizabeth or Lysbeth Simpson; m. 3^d Marte —. Of Gowanus in 1677, and mem. of Br^o R. D. ch.; on ass. roll of Br^o of 1676 and cen. of 1698. There was a William Brouwer (not a s. of Adam) who in 1655 owned property in N. A., was in Beverwyck in 1657, and was buried Aug. 3, 1663, as per p. 27 of Pearson's Early Settlers of Albany. Issue:—Magdalena (by 1st w.), bp. Sept. 14 1679; Lysbeth (by 2^d w.), bp. Oct. 12, 1681; Adolphus, bp. Aug. 10, 1684; Johannes, bp. Sept. 18, 1687; Catharine, bp. Oct. 5, 1690, in N. Y.; Jannetje (by 3^d w.), bp. Jan. 18, 1702; Samuel, bp. Aug. 25, 1706; (sup.) Margarite; Maria, bp. (sup.) May 1, 1709; Annetje, bp. (sup.) July 30, 1710; and Lucretia, bp. (sup.) Aug. 31, 1712.

Holland Society of NY
90 West Street, NY NY

1 March 1934

Mrs J. H. McCulloch
345 Fifth Ave
Chula Vista, CA

Dear Mrs McCulloch:

Your letter to Mr William Leverich Brower was handed by him to me for reply, and I would say that the Jeremiah Brower who married Elizabeth Van de Water? for his second wife on 24 Sep 1757 in the Dutch Church of NYC was previously married on 15 FEB 1750 to James Elsworth and in the list of his nine children that you mention the first three, Jeremiah, Theophilus and Jannske (not _____) were children of the first marriage and Abraham, your ancestor, was as you state the eighth child and was baptized in the New York Dutch Church 26 Oct 1771.

In the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record for April 1933, in a foot-note on pages 128-129 you will find a statement by Captain Totten of the Society setting forth his position in regard to the ancestry of a Jeury Brouwer of Gowannus who made a Will dtd 18 Sep 1754 which was not proved until 4 Feb 1784?, in which he leaves to his son Jeury 200 pounds. I take the latter to be the Jeremiah about whom you are inquiring, and from the Will you will see that his parents' names were Jeury and G____? From the foot-note you will see that there is a difference of opinion between the author of the article, Captain John R. Totten and Tennis G. Bergen, the compiler of the Early Settlers of Kings County, as to the parentage of the elder Jeury.

It is quite likely that Captain Tottens' conclusion is the correct one and that being so the elder Jeury is the son of Abraham Adamse Brouwer and Cornelia _____? who were married 6 Feb 1692 and was the grandson of Adam Brouwer (who sometimes used the surname Berckhoven) who emigrated in 1642 from Cologne and married in New Amsterdam 19 May 1646 Madalena Jacobs Verdon.

If, on the other hand, Mr Bergen's theory is correct then you find as shown in his book quoted above on page _____? that Jeremiah, whose WILL is dtd 18 Sep 1754, is the son of Adolphus Brouwer and Jannetje Verdon, Adolph having been baptized in Brooklyn 10 Aug 1684. On page 55 of the same book you will find the facts in regard to Willem Adamse Brouwer baptized in New Amsterdam 5 Mar 1651, he being the son of Adam the emigrant above referred to.

The connection between the Brower family and Anneke Jans came by the marriage of Jacob, the son of the emigrant Adam to Annetje who was the daughter of William Bogardus and Wyntje Sybrants and was the granddaughter of the Rev. Everardus Bogardus and Anneke Jans; so not matter whether your ancestor Jeury was the son of Adam's son Abraham or the grandson of Adam's son Willem you are not descended from Anneke Jans.

The best information regarding the early generations of the Brower family is to be found in some recent articles by Captain Totten in the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, and in the article ref., to above, you will find references to other items in regard to the family in that connection. The family has always been enormously prolific and BROWER descendants are to be found almost everywhere, and while there has been a great deal of research in regard to them and considerable has been printed it is only to be found in scattered items referring to particular branches of the family, and no well continued _____? of articles covering any large portion of the great subject can be found.

It you are interested to know the facts about Anneke Jans Bogardus and the legal aspects of the claim of her descendants to the property now belonging to the Trinity Church in New York City I suggest that you read an article by James W. Gerard published in Harper's Monthly in June 1885. Mr Gerard, who later became a prominent member of the Supreme Court Bench of New York City and was Minister to Germany in the early years of the World War, wrote this article when he was a young lawyer and it is evident that he had access to all the papers bearing on the legal aspects of the controversy, and the article I speak of is probably as nearly a correct statement of the controversy as can be made by anyone and at the same time is written in a literary style that makes it very readable and enjoyable.

I am very glad to be able to give you the foregoing information and hope that it will help you and your kin to make up a complete story of your illustrious ancestry.

Very truly yours,

Walter M. Masserole
Secretary

NOTE: When a question mark appears or a line it indicates that the letter could not be read in its present condition by the Editor.