

The
Vanguard



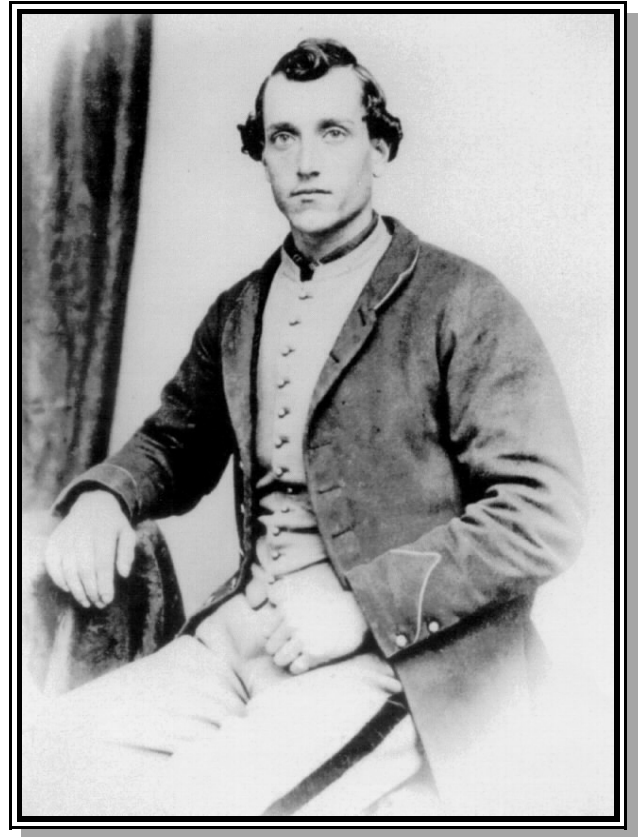
The Newsletter of the van Aersdalen Family Association

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS 2
 SURNAME NOW EVEN OLDER! 2
 THE VAN MYTHOS 3
 DELTA PROJECT - FOURTH GENERATION
 --- DIRCK CORNELISZ (Generation 3) 9
 --- AEREYS DIRCKSZ 11
 --- CORNELIUS DIRCKSZ 13
 --- MARRETJE DIRCKSE 17
 --- HILLETJE DIRCKSE 17
 --- DIRCK DIRCKSZ 18
 --- JOHANNES DIRCKSZ 20
 --- JANNETJE DIRCKSE 20
 NEW JERSEY IN 1793
 Submitted by Mark Alan Thomas 21
 QUERIES 22
 THEY CALLED HIM BOGEY 23
 DAILY LIFE OF A 17TH CENTURY DUTCH
 POTTER Submitted by Cor Snabel 24
 REVOLUTIONARY WAR PATRIOT
 Submitted by Charles F. Voorhees 25
 UPDATE ON SAMUEL ARSDALE 26
 NEWS 27



HE SPELLED VAN ARSDALE
S-I-M-O-N-S-O-N

George W. Simonson was born in Oakland Co., MI on December 17, 1841. He served in the 16th Michigan Infantry, Company B in the Civil War and was wounded in action on May 8, 1864 at Laurel Hill, VA. His lineage: GEORGE 7, Silas Simonson 6, John B. Simonson 5, Garret Simonson 4, Jan Jansz van Aersdalen 3, Jan Simonsz van Aersdalen 2, Sijmon Jansz van Aersdalen. Submitted by **Don Swords**, 924 Pecos Lane, Mt Prospect, IL 60056.

THE NEWSLETTER

We welcome submissions, especially in digital format, but cannot polish or edit very much. We try to be as accurate as possible but cannot guarantee the reliability of *interpreted* records, nor do we rigorously verify submitted information. Our mailing address:

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SUBMISSIONS POLICY

Articles submitted for publication can be either a narrative, such as the historical account of an ancestor's migration, or transcriptive, such as the record of baptisms at a particular church. We especially want transcriptions of primary records - - marriage records and "banns", wills, baptismal data, important land deeds and court records, and so on. Narrative work must cite all documentary data referenced, including primary records.

Please submit your articles either in hardcopy form (typed, preferably) or file format (e-mail or diskette via snail-mail). If you send a file, please try to use a popular word processing program such as WordPerfect or MS Word for Windows. Spreadsheets will be accepted if they are in EXCEL or Lotus 1-2-3 formats. When in doubt, send a hardcopy! We also are looking for old or historical **photos** too. Scanned images (.bmp or .tif) may be submitted as well. Don't forget that we want to know about your **birthdays, anniversaries, births, deaths**, and those all-important **family reunions** for our *News* section, too!

Please submit to **Charles R. Vanorsdale** at the address shown above. ◇

ADDITIONS & CORRECTIONS

In the last issue, we mentioned that a new Dorland genealogy was being prepared by **Barbara Barth**. Barbara pointed out two typos in our write-up; first, that the original Dorland genealogy by Cremer was published in 1898, not 1896, and second that the "R" in the NYGBR stood for *Record*, not *Review*. (We've made that mistake before!)

Also in that issue, there was an error in the Six Mile Run Church Baptisms. We showed a child, Christoffel, baptized to Aris and Sara Van Arsdalen on June 14, 1752. Actually, no father is listed in the SCHQ transcription. Study suggests that Sara's husband was *Cornelius*, not Aereys. Aereys and his wife Sara did baptize a child there in 1748 (although the transcription says 1743; see the article on Aereys in this issue). ◇

SURNAME NOW EVEN OLDER!

In a recent letter from some French cousins, CRV has received the following marriage record from the archives at Renaix (Ronse), Belgium:

Laurent vander Hagen X **Kateline van Aretsdale** 16.1.1366 n.s. (new style)

Kateline's marriage predates the Arent van Arisdale citizenry record *by thirty years*. More details to follow! ◇

THE VAN

Mythos

Several years ago, when my research of the “Van Arsdale” family spread beyond my own line, I was provided with a copy of some of the research work of the late J. Edward Van Arsdale of West Hempstead, Long Island, NY. An ardent researcher, Ed appears to have been the first to document a surprising twist to the family genealogy. In the fourth generation, i. e. the great-grandchildren of immigrant Sijmon Jansz van Aersdalen (c. 1628-c.1710), I found Ed’s cryptic note under one line of the Van Arsdals stating that this line “took the name Simonson”. Unfortunately, I did not have any further documentation on the purported Simonson branch per Ed’s research. I put this cryptic comment on the mental back-burner. Over the course of the next few years, particularly with the advent of the internet and email, I ran across other researchers who had heard of this nebulous connection. Armed with the resources of a 21st century genealogist and an understanding of 18th century Dutch child-naming practices, I undertook a study of this connection to continue Ed’s work on

THE VAN ARSDALEN - SIMONSON CONNECTION

The Simonson name appears early in colonial New York and New Jersey. Much of what is known has been summarized in Elmer Van Name’s booklet The Simonson Families of Staten Island, New York (1950, reprinted 1981, Gloucester County Historical Society, Woodbury, NJ) with respect to that branch. These Simonsons can trace their roots in this country to Barent Symonson ⁽¹⁾, immigrant, and his wife Tryntje Claese. They had a son, Symon Barentszen ⁽²⁾ (Holland Society Yearbook, 1900, p. 153), who married Wyntje Arents on November 18, 1661 at

New Amsterdam. The couple later moved to Brooklyn and had about ten children: four sons named Jeremias ⁽³⁾, Barent ⁽³⁾, Isaac ⁽³⁾, and Aert ⁽³⁾; and six daughters. (The basic lineage data can be found in “Van der Beek Family Notes” by John Reynolds Totten, NYGBR, vol. 64, p. 240.)

Of this third generation in America, Jeremias ⁽³⁾ Simonson was baptized on January 19, 1673 at the New York Dutch Reformed Church. Brother Barent ⁽³⁾ was baptized there on September 29, 1675, and brother Aert ⁽³⁾ was baptized there on May 19, 1679. It is speculated that brother Isaac ⁽³⁾ was born about 1677. It was in this timeframe that the SIMONSON surname took hold.

(It should be pointed out that Simonson is a patronymic name, i.e. a name referencing the father’s name. It is derived from the Dutch *Sijmon’s zoon* which means Simon’s son. As such, this patronymic could have been used by anyone whose father was named Simon. This presents serious genealogical problems.)

Of the four brothers, Aert ⁽³⁾ moved to Staten Island, NY and Barent ⁽³⁾ moved to the Hunterdon and Somerset Counties area of New Jersey. It appears that brother Isaac ⁽³⁾ may have moved to Somerset County, also, but this will require further research. The fate of Jeremias ⁽³⁾ and his children is unknown. Some of the offspring of these Simonson brothers (i. e. the fourth generation) appear in the same general areas where several branches of the van Aersdalen family also resided contemporaneously.

Aert’s ⁽³⁾ will (written May 6, 1747, proved March 5, 1753; recorded in Liber 18, p. 242; WNYHS IV:424) listed eight sons (Simon, Hans or Johannes, Arthur, Christophel, Daniel, Barent, Cornelius, and Isaac) and three daughters (Catharine, Wyntje Huisman and Anna Crocheron). During the timeframe in question, Aert’s children appear to have stayed on Staten Island.

Aert’s ⁽³⁾ brother Barent ⁽³⁾ died before October 14, 1752, the proving date of his March 20, 1752 will (NJW 323J). Barent ⁽³⁾ listed himself as being of Reading Township, Hunterdon County, NJ and his wife was Appolonia (Messeker). Barent lists five children, Aaron, Simon, Catharine (Vroom), Nelly/Neltje (Johnson), and Vankey/Weintje (Wimmer). Van Name also identifies children

THE VAN ARSDALEN - SIMONSON CONNECTION (continued)

Deborah, Johannes, and Maria, who were not named in the will. The latter two may have died young, but Deborah did have a daughter who was named in Barent's will.

There is a will on file for an Isaac Simonson of Somerset County, written February 14, 1752 and proved April 15, 1752 (NJW 159R). It would appear that Isaac might be the son of Aert's ⁽³⁾ brother, Isaac ⁽³⁾. This will also lists eight children, "all under age", specifically Isaac, Peter, Symon, William, Antje, Jaques, Arius, and Deborah. These last two children were baptized at the Six Mile Run Reformed Dutch Church. Van Name says that, if the Isaac whose will was proved in 1752 was a son of Aert's ⁽³⁾ brother Isaac ⁽³⁾, then his siblings were: Simon (born ca. 1703); Johannes (born ca. 1707); Rem; Frederick; Jeremias (bp. 1720); and Maria (bp. 1722).

Consequently, for the two known Simonson brothers who apparently moved from New York to New Jersey, there were about eight sons to carry on the name, viz. Isaac's sons Isaac, Simon, Johannes, Rem, Frederick, and Jeremias, and Barent's sons Aaron and Simon.

Many of the Dutch families of New York were migrating to the farmlands of New Jersey in the 1720s. Baptismal data provide a wealth of insight regarding this tremendous mobilization, but the coalescing of families using similar patronymic names created abundant confusion. Such is the case with the Simonson surname, and from the baptismal data of two churches in particular, suspicion is aroused in the following instances:

1. Gerrit Van Aersdalen and wife Ariaentje baptized children at Six Mile Run in 1757, 1761, and 1763. Gerret Simonson and wife Areyantie baptized children at Readington in 1771, 1773, and 1776.

2. In "The Van Voorhees Family in America" (Florence A. Christoph, Gateway Press Inc., Baltimore, MD, 2000) henceforward VVFA, p. 272, Lammetje Simonson is identified as the wife of Jacob A. Voorhees. Her birth date is given as

October 27, 1759 and she is said to be a daughter of John Simonson and Magdalena (--?--). Jan Van Aersdalen and wife Lena baptized daughter Lammetje at Six Mile Run on November 25, 1759. Jacob and Lammetje Voorhees baptized their children at Six Mile Run between 1787 and 1798, including children John and Lenah.

3. In the VVFA, p. 273, Abraham Simonson is listed as the husband of Ida Voorhees, sister of Jacob A. Voorhees. Abraham is said to have been born on February 12, 1750 but his parents are not identified. Jan Van Aersdalen and wife Lena baptized son Abraham at Six Mile Run on March 18, 1750. Abraham and Ida Simonson baptized their children at Six Mile Run between 1788 and 1801, including children John and Lenah.

4. Concurrent with the baptisms of the children of Abraham Simonson, we have the baptisms of the children of a Cornelius Simonson. A Cornelius was baptized at the Harlingen DRC on December 16, 1746 to Ian Symmesen and wife Lena. Cornelius also named two of his children John and Lana.

5. A John Simonson also appears in this time-frame, baptizing children at Readington, including children named John and Lena. His story is a little more complicated due to multiple marriages.

Mention is made when couples name their children "John" and "Lena" due to the prevailing Dutch practice of naming children after their grandparents. From this it is strongly suggested that Abraham, Cornelius, John, and Lammetje were siblings and children of a Jan and Lena. Garret also may be a son of Jan and Lena, but no baptism of a son John has been located. Although we do not find a "Jan and Lena" among the known Simonson families in this area, we do among the van Aersdalen families. Further, the forenames Abraham, Cornelius, John, Lammetje, and Garret are recurring names within the van Aersdalen family, but not in the known Simonson families of the area. To separate the Simonsons descended from Barent, Isaac, and Aert from the van Aersdalens, we must now look at what we know about the children of Jan van Aersdalen and his wife Lena.

Jan is believed to have been born about 1705, a son of Jan Simonsz van Aersdalen (1676-1756) and wife Lammetje Probasco. It has long been speculated that Lena was Magdalena Gerretse Dorland, daughter of Gerret Lambertsz Dorland and his wife Marytie (--?--). Lena was baptized

December 11, 1714 at the Jamaica Dutch Reformed Church, Long Island, NY (NYGBR, vol. 105, p. 204). Their children, in chronological order, are as follows, with pertinent notations:

1. **Jan**, baptized December 26, 1731, at Jamaica, LI, NY to “Jan van Aersdalen and Leena van Aersdaalen”, witnessed by “Jan van Aersdaalen and Laemmetie van Aersdale” (NYGBR, vol. 107, no. 1, p. 39). This child may have died young; see child 6.
2. **Lammetje**, baptized May 13, 1733, at Jamaica, LI, NY to “Jan and Leena van Aersdale”, witnessed by “Jan and Lammetie van Aersdale” (NYGBR, vol. 107, no. 2, p. 105).
3. (sup.) **Garret**, born ca. 1735; named for the maternal grandfather?
4. (sup.) **Marytie**, born ca. 1738; named for the maternal grandmother?
5. (sup.) unknown child, born ca. 1741.
6. (sup.) **Jan II**, born ca. 1743; named in honor of deceased brother.
7. **Cornelius**, baptized December 16, 1746 at Sourland (Harlingen) DRC to “Jan Symmesen and Lena” (GMNJ, vol. 17, no. 4, p. 85).
8. **Abraham**, baptized March 18, 1750 at Six Mile Run DRC to “Jan and Lena Van Aersd[alen]” (SCHQ, vol. 8, no. 2, p. 125).
9. **Helena**, baptized October 21, 1753 at Six Mile Run DRC to “Jan Aersdalen and Helena” (ibid., p. 128).
10. **Lammetje II**, baptized November 25, 1759 at Six Mile Run DRC to “Jan and Lenah Van Aersdalen” (SCHQ, vol. 8, no. 3, p. 213).

As can be seen, this family was living in New Jersey as early as 1746 and probably earlier. Three of Jan’s five brothers had moved to the New Brunswick area by 1720, while another brother and at least two of his five sisters moved to New Jersey between 1730 and 1740. (Only one brother and two sisters are known to have stayed on Long Island, while the whereabouts of another sister, Ida, are presently unknown.) These baptisms cover a 28 year range which, on the surface, appears a questionable length of time for one woman to bear children. However, if Lena Dorland was the mother of these children, and she was born in 1714, she would have been about 45 when the last child was born. This is not unreasonable but certainly this last birth represents a high-risk pregnancy.

JAN (1) was named for both his paternal

grandfather and father. Jan probably died young, as will be explained shortly. Further, if his mother was born in 1714, she would have been about 17 at the time of Jan’s birth. It is conceivable that there were complications associated with his birth.

LAMMETJE (2) was named for her paternal grandmother, and married Cornelius Metselaer/Messler around 1752. In Remsen Varick Messler’s “A History or Genealogical Record of the Messler (Metselaer) Family” (The Lakeside Press, Chicago, 1903), Cornelius’ wife was identified as “Lena Simonson”. The booklet goes on to list the children of this marriage, and a review of the published baptismal data correctly identifies Cornelius’ wife as “Lammetie”, not Lena. The first child was “Johannes”, baptized on September 30, 1753 at the New Brunswick DRC (PNJHS, vol. 11, p. 552) who corresponds to the booklet’s “John” born on September 8, 1753. “John” only lived for six years, however. He was named for both grandfathers, apparently. His parents are listed in the baptism transcription as “Cornelius Meslar and Lammetie”. The couple’s next child is “Lena”, born on January 7, 1756 according to the booklet. The baptismal record shows her baptism at the Raritans DRC on February 4, 1756 (SCHQ, vol. 3, no. 2, p. 141), but the mother is listed as “Eva”. This is clearly a mistake as the couple’s next child, “Corneles”, is shown as a son of “Cornelius Messelaer and Laemmete” at his March 25, 1759 baptism at the Raritans DRC (ibid., p. 142). Daughter Lena was named for her maternal grandmother, while Cornelius was named for his father. Unfortunately, none of the published baptismal records shows a surname for Lammetje. Lammetje Simonson/van Aersdalen died on August 17, 1759 and was buried in the cemetery of the church in Griggstown (likely the Six Mile Run Dutch Reformed Church). As further proof that Cornelius Metselaer’s first wife was “Lammetje”, the first daughter born to him and his second wife (Maria Dorland) was named in honor of his deceased first wife according to tradition. The baptism of “Laemmeta” is found on June 14, 1761 at the Raritans DRC (SCHQ, vol. 3, no. 3, p. 229).

GARRET (3) as Garret Simonson married Adriana Hoogland, daughter of Christopher Hoogland and Catalyntje (--?--) according to p. 67 of “History and Genealogy of the Hoagland Family in America” by Daniel Hoogland Carpenter (John Polhemus Printing Co., NYC,

THE VAN ARSDALEN - SIMONSON CONNECTION (continued)

1891). Adriana or Ariantje was born December 14, 1735 and her family also lived near Griggstown. As Ariantje and Garret VAN ARSDALEN, their first child was Lena, baptized at Six Mile Run DRC on October 1, 1757 (SCHQ, vol. 8, no. 2, p. 132) and named for her paternal grandmother. Their next two children, Christoffel and Catelyna, were also baptized at Six Mile Run and were named for their maternal grandparents. Garret and Ariantje van Aersdalen then disappear. Eight years later, a Garret Simonson and wife Ariantje show up in the records of the Readington DRC. Three more sons are baptized there, but none are named "John" in honor of Jan van Aersdalen. Insofar as there is an eight year gap in the baptismal history, it is entirely feasible that two or three more children were born to this couple in the interim. Garret's date and place of death are currently unknown.

MARYTIE (4) is a "supposed" child, as a daughter named for her maternal grandmother should have been born in this timeframe. If Lena Dorland was indeed the mother, then this child should have been named Marytie. At present, no suitable Marytie Simonson or van Aersdalen has come to the attention of this researcher.

UNKNOWN CHILD (5) is another "supposed" child, as there is sufficient time for a child to be born between Marytie and Jan II. This is entirely speculative.

JAN II (6) was born about 1743 and will be treated separately later in this article due to his importance in the Simonson/Van Aersdalen link.

CORNELIUS (7) was baptized at Harlingen to Ian Symmesen and Lena in 1746. His wife was Mary or Marya, tentatively identified as Mary Bogart (SCHQ, vol. 4, no. 1, p. 75). Mary Bogart was born in February 1754. Cornelius and Mary lived in Griggstown and Mary died April 1, 1831 (ibid.). This couple had seven children baptized at Six Mile Run between 1781 and 1799, the first being Lana. However, Mary, if she was Mary Bogart,

would have been 27 at the time and Cornelius would have been about 35, so there may have been other children before this. If so, they may have been baptized at a church nearer their maternal grandparents and, likely, named for them.

ABRAHAM (8) was baptized as Van Aersdalen but, as Ida Voorhees' husband, used the name Simonson. They were married on December 11, 1785 (VVFA, p. 273) and had seven children, four of whom were baptized at Six Mile Run between 1788 and 1801. The VVFA gives Abraham's baptismal date which unequivocally identifies Abraham Simonson and Abraham Van Aersdalen as one in the same person. Abraham died on September 3, 1818.

HELENA (9) has not yet been identified. There is a record of "Helena Simonson" marrying a "Mortines Swaim" on September 26, 1768 in New York, recorded in Marriage Bonds Book XIII, p. 195 (*New York Marriages Previous to 1784*, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 1968; p. 352). If this is the same Helena, she would have been about 16 at the time. However, as this marriage took place in New York, the chances of this being the correct Helena are slim.

LAMMETJE II (10) was baptized to Jan Van Aersdalen and Lena at Six Mile Run on November 25, 1759 (SCHQ, vol. 8, no. 3, p. 213). The VVFA says Lammetje Simonson was born October 27, 1759. This is only two months after Lammetje (Simonson/van Aersdalen) Metselaer died. It can be concluded that the child was named in honor of her deceased sister, and was the last child of Jan and Lena van Aersdalen. Lammetje and husband Jacob Voorhees baptized five children at Six Mile Run between 1787 and 1798 plus another, according to the VVFA, named James Cannon Voorhees. Lammetje died on August 21, 1842.

It should be noted that the VVFA shows no association between these Simonsons and the Van Arsdale family. Thus, we have briefly looked at the biographies of the children of Jan van Aersdalen and wife Lena (Dorland?). There is strong evidence to tie these Simonsons to the van Aersdalens.

Further, the will of Rev. Simeon Van Artsdalen of Hunterdon Co., NJ (NJW 1363J), written March 3, 1786, lists among his executors "cousin JOHN

SIMONSON of Somerset County". Simeon (1753-1786), whose first wife was Maria Hogeland, was one of the sons of Jan Van Artsdalen (1718-1776) and Elizabeth Kroesen of Bucks County, PA and one of the grandsons of Simon Jansz Van Artsdalen (1697-1770) and Jannetje Romeyn of Bucks County, PA. Simon Van Artsdalen's brother, Jan Jansz van Aersdalen (c.1705-?), appears to be the one whose children all adopted the Simonson surname.

The signature of John Simonson on that will is very similar to the one on the will of John

JOHN SIMONSON'S SIGNATURE IN 1786

Simonson of Bridgewater Township, Somerset County, NJ, written January 12, 1804 and proved July 19, 1804 (NJW 1257R). That will mentions his wife, Elizabeth, youngest sons Simon and Dennis, daughter "Linety" Williamson, another son Adam, and other unnamed children. His inventory includes a note due from John Simonson Jr. A review of the Readington baptismal record identifies the author of this will as the John Simonson whose wife was Elizabeth Stryker. William Norman Stryker ("The Stryker Family in America", Vol. I, The Canterbury Press, Rome, NY, 1979; p. 57) states that this was John Simonson's third marriage. In fact, John appears to have been married four times.

John and Elizabeth baptized nine children at Readington between 1778 and 1796. Before that, "Jan Simonse" and wife "Ledeya" baptize son Jan at the Readington DRC on August 29, 1773 (SCHQ, vol. 6, no. 1, p. 65). "Ledeya" apparently died within a few years of this date, as no further record of this couple is found. Prior to his marriage to "Ledeya", John "Symonsen" was married to Catlyna Stevens. He and Catlyna baptized daughter Lena at Readington on September 4, 1768 (SCHQ, vol. 5, no. 4, p. 302) but appear earlier at Six Mile Run for the baptism of daughter Catlyna on November 30, 1766 (SCHQ, vol. 8, no. 3, p. 220). These three marriages seemingly corroborate Stryker's statement. Nowhere in these records do we find a son

Adam. As the baptismal record for John and Elizabeth is fairly continuous between 1778 and 1796, we can conclude that Adam was not born to this couple. It is possible that Adam was born to John and Lydia, but no record has been found. If Adam were born to John and Catlyna, he would likely have been mentioned in Catlyna's father's will, but Henry Stevens lists only the two daughters found in the baptismal records (NJW 5:496, File 442R, written June 26, 1773, proved December 24, 1773, recorded Liber L, p. 67). Another possibility is that John was married before these three marriages.

This may be the case, as on February 10, 1765 at

JOHN SIMONSON'S SIGNATURE IN 1804

the Raritans DRC, son "Eddem Smit[h]" was baptized to Jan Van Arsdalen and wife "Reses" (SCHQ, vol. 3, no. 3, p. 230). It is possible that "Reses" may have been of English extraction, and this child was named for her father, purportedly Adam Smith. This could be an attempt to write a diminutive for "Lucretia"; the name Lucretia appears often in the Jonathan Smith "Rock" family of Hempstead, LI, (*Genealogies of Long Island Families*, vol. 2, Henry Hoff, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 1987; p. 64). Jonathan's son Adam had a son Adam who appears to be the likely father of Lucretia/Reses. An Adam Smit and wife Hanna baptized daughter Rachel at Raritans on June 28, 1741 (SCHQ, vol. 2, no. 4, p. 302). Again, this is the only record of this couple, and we might assume that "Reses" died shortly after childbirth. A year and nine months later, John Symonsen and Catlyna baptized their first child.

Is this the link between Jan Van Arsdalen and Jan Simonson? That this man was, indeed, the one who served as an executor for Rev. Simeon Van Artsdalen can be proved by recognizing that, on December 26, 1786 at Readington, John Simonson and Elizabeth Stryker baptized a child "Simeon Van Arsdalen" Simonson only months after the Reverend's death (SCHQ, vol. 6, no. 3, p. 230).

John Simonson is buried next to his last wife,

THE VAN ARSDALEN - SIMONSON CONNECTION

(continued)

Elizabeth Stryker, in the Van Camp cemetery in South Branch Park, Branchburg, Somerset County, NJ ("Stryker Family", p. 57). His tombstone states that he was 61 years old when he died in 1804. (This data comes from a social worker, Allan P. Duncan, who cleans up "old forgotten cemeteries with my kids and then research them". This is in disagreement with Stryker's book which claims John died in 1809 and was born in 1738.) This places his birth at about 1743. The date coincides with the baptismal gap for the children of Jan and Lena van Aersdalen, and I identify him as child number 6 to this couple.

There is one final comment on the Van Arsdale-Simonson connection. The supposed third child of Jan and Lena was named Garret. Garret *Van Arsdalen* and wife Ariantje baptized son Christoffel (Christopher) at the Six Mile Run DRC on August 16, 1761 (SCHQ, vol. 8, no. 3, p. 215), undoubtedly in honor of Ariantje's father, Christopher Hoogland. If this household became the Simonson family, they later were located near the Readington DRC. The Revolutionary War pension application of Christopher SIMONSON (S28883) states that Christopher was born in 1760 at Cranbury in Middlesex County, NJ but he *was living at Readington* at the time of his enlistment. According to the GMNJ, vol. 27, nos. 3/4, p. 49, there was a Presbyterian Church at Cranbury but it was without a minister between 1758 and 1762. The closest Dutch Reformed Church was probably Six Mile Run. The pension application further states that for five months, before he became 16, Christopher served as a substitute for *his father, Garret*. Further, Christopher's *brother, John Simonson* of Schoharie County, NY, signed an affidavit to the application in 1832. No baptismal record of this John Simonson has been located to date, but the Dutch child-naming practices clearly point to this child as having been named for his paternal grandfather, i.e. Jan van Aersdalen.

As an added "benefit" of this research, the identification of a Garret Van Arsdalen as a son

of Jan and Lena van Aersdalen strengthens the argument for Lena's parentage as being Garret Dorland and wife Marytie (--?--).

Oddly, the Simonsons descended from Symon Barentzsen disappeared from the baptismal records of these two churches as the van Aersdalen Simonsons flourished.

In conclusion, given the numerous coincidences, baptismal rigidity and apparent links in the absence of the definitive primary source or "smoking gun", we should employ the wisdom of the 14th century philosopher William of Occam. William is credited with developing "Occam's Razor", which states that "plurality should not be assumed without necessity", i.e. "if two or more theories explain the facts equally well, then the simplest is preferred". The descendants of Jan and Lena van Aersdalen, for whatever reason, changed their name to *Simonson*. ◇

**YOUR HELP
NEEDED!!**

As we progress in **The Delta Project**, we will have to depend on many more data sources than a handful of wills and baptismal records. *We need your documented lineages and census data!* Generations four and five start to drop out of published histories, and patronymic practice weakens around the early 1800s. In order to build on the momentum we've established, we ask that you send us what you can to help firm up the descendency charts. It doesn't need to be in final, polished form (I can "fill in the blanks" on census forms if you give me the data!). Please see the *SUBMISSIONS POLICY* article found elsewhere in this issue and please send in what you can to help us *all* out. ◇

THE DELTA PROJECT - GENERATION FOUR

In this issue, we begin our study of the fourth generation - the great-grandchildren of Sijmon Jansz van Aersdalen. We start by looking at the children of the eldest son of the eldest son of Sijmon, in other words, the children of **Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen**. Dirck was discussed in *The Vanguard* vol. II, no. 1, pp. 8ff. However, due to the research which was necessitated for his children, several additional observations were made regarding Dirck and his wives. In fact, before we discuss his children, we need to revisit Dirck. ***Much of what you will read here has never been published before concerning Dirck and his children as a result of recent research by CRV.*** Many thanks to contributors **Barbara Barth** (172 Canaan Valley Crossroad, Southfield, MA 01259), **Judy Cassidy** (117 Evergreen Ct., Blue Bell, PA 19422), **Kay Mackey** (883 Van Wagner Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601), **Jo Ann Smith** (47057 Goodpasture Road, Vida, OR 97488) and **Mark Alan Thomas** (3618 Vinton Ave. #2, Los Angeles, CA 90034).

DIRCK CORNELISZ
VAN AERSDALEN

Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen was born around 1693, probably at Flatlands (Nieuw Amersfoort), Long Island. (His birthdate, although uncertain, must assuredly be shortly after his father, Cornelis Simonsz van Aersdalen, married Marretje Dirckse Ammerman in 1691. The prevailing patronymic practice suggests that their first boy would be named for Marretje's father, Dirck.) He appears to have acquired a strong wanderlust early in life, as he was living in the Six Mile Run area of Somerset County, then East Jersey, by 1720. His early life is poorly documented, partly because of the area in which he lived. Although he appears in records of the New Brunswick

Reformed Dutch Church intermittently from 1720 to 1738, his actual residence was in the Six Mile Run area, as demonstrated by the will of John Vliet. Vliet wrote his will on December 1, 1722 and stated that he was Aof Six Mile Run@ (NJW 189R, proved May 30, 1754, recorded Lib. F, p. 178). One of the witnesses was Dirck van Aersdalen. It was typical for wills to be written in the presence of neighbors in those days, and so we can assume that Dirck was a neighbor. This would also explain the lack of baptismal data for his children by wife Catlyntje (Vanderbilt), as the records of the Six Mile Run church prior to 1743 do not exist.

Further, Dirck was a deacon at the Six Mile Run Church in 1723. On March 23rd, 1723, a citation was written by the councils (or consistories) of the four churches on the Raritan to three men who opposed the ministry of Rev. Theodorus Frelinghuysen. Signing that citation as representa-

DIRCK CORNELISZ

(continued)

tives of the Consistory of Six Mile Run were Barent De Wit, elder, and ADirck van Aarsdaalen@, deacon (AThe Rebellion at Raritan in 1723" by James J. Bergen, SCHQ, vol. 3, p. 175).

There is only one known baptism for the children of Dirck and Catlyntje, that of Johannes at New Brunswick on November 18, 1733 (PNJHS, vol. 11, p. 401). Catlyntje appears to have died about 1735, for Dirck reappears in the baptismal register of this church with wife Gysbertje DeGrauw on December 5, 1736 (ibid., p. 404). The child baptized was Catlina, probably named for Dirck=s first wife. Another daughter is baptized there in March, 1738 (ibid., p. 405); but in September, Dirck signs a receipt at Nieuw Amersfoort. Then in May, 1739, he is mentioned in the will of his father-in-law, Gerret DeGrauw, of New Brunswick (NJW 1133L, proved June 12, 1739, recorded Lib. C, p. 283). In October, Dirck again writes a receipt at Nieuw Amersfoort. Dirck appears to have commuted between New Brunswick and Flatlands on several occasions to take care of business, possibly that of his elderly father Cornelis Simonsz, who died in 1745 at the age of 80.

Then a ten-year hiatus exists in Dirck=s recorded life. Apparently, after the settling of his father's estate, Dirck - as eldest son - no longer had obligations on Long Island, New York. He and

Gysbertje next appear in Albany, where - on February 5, 1749 - they baptize son Gerrit in honor of Gysbertje=s father (HSY 1906, p. 124). Gerrit died in infancy, and on June 21, 1752, Dirck and Gysbertje baptize another Gerrit in Albany (HSY 1907, p. 29). Dirck would have been about 60 at this time, and Gysbertje was 42. This is likely their last child. No other records have been found for Dirck=s residence in Albany so far.

If son Johannes, born in 1733, was alive, it stands to reason that he moved to Albany with his parents as a teenager. Had he died between 1733 and 1749, it is likely that his parents would have named their next son Johannes according to Dutch custom.

If Johannes had died young, it is possible that a son was born between 1739 and 1748 and named John. No baptismal record has been found to support this notion. Certainly, if a son had been born in this period and was named Gerret, he did not live.

The last known record of Dirck may be in 1755. In New Brunswick, the inventory of John Guest=s estate was taken by Derick Van Arsdale on March 19th (NJW 2763L, proved March 3, 1755, recorded Lib. F, p. 251). This could be Dirck=s son, Dirck, but since there are no signatures on the inventory, we cannot be certain which Dirck it was. It is more likely his son, however.

Dirck=s Children by his First Wife

CRV has speculated that Dirck=s first wife was Catlyntje Vanderbilt, a daughter of Aris Jansz Vanderbilt and Hilletje Remsen Vander Beek, who was baptized April 3, 1698 at the Flatbush

Reformed Dutch Church (Records of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Flatbush, Kings County, New York: Volume 1, 1677-1720, translated and edited by David W. Voorhees; The Holland Society of New York, NYC, 1998, p. 452). If this is so, the children born to Dirck and Catlyntje should be named, in this order: Aris, Cornelius, and Dirck for the first three boys; and Marretje, Hilleetje, and Catlyntje for the first three girls. Unfortunately, as has been mentioned, the baptismal records for Six Mile Run for the 1720s-1730s no longer exist. We must then employ patronymic study.



Aereys Van Aersdalen was the eldest son of Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen and his first wife, Catlyntje Vanderbilt. His birth date is uncertain, but can be estimated from a list of the congregation at the New Brunswick Reformed Dutch Church. In 1735, due to the demand for enlargement of the church edifice at New Brunswick, funds were raised by selling pews to the heads of families within the congregation and affixing plaques bearing their names to the pews. In 1867, the Rev. Richard H. Steele, D.D.

delivered an historical discourse on the first 150 years of the church. In the appendix to Dr. Steele's discourse was found a "List of Families in the Congregation, 1732-35," containing 110 names. "Dirck Van Arsalen" was no. 45 on the list, and his future father-in-law "Gerrit De Grow" was listed at no. 47. "Aris Van Arsdalen" was found on the list at no. 91 next to Jeremiah and Hendrick "Van Derbilt" (numbers 89 & 90), and his maternal grandfather "Aris Van Derbilt" was no. 97 on the list ("History of Union and Middlesex Counties, New Jersey" by W. Woodford Clayton, Everts & Peck, Philadelphia, 1882: pp. 694-695). All these men were adults and heads of families by 1735. Dirck and Aereys were the only two men named Van Arsdalen on the list, and we can assume that Aereys was the eldest son of Dirck. In order for Aereys Van Arsdalen to have been an adult in 1735, he had to have been born about 1715 or before.

He also is listed (as "Aric Van Arsdalen") as a head of family at Six Mile Run during the Theodorus Frelinghuysen years (1720-1748) in James P. Snell's "History of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties, New Jersey" (Everts & Peck, Philadelphia, 1881: p. 820). Baptismal records for his children are scant. An "Aerys Vanarsdalen" married Sarah Garretson on March 22, 1747 according to New Jersey Archives records, footnoted "Aaron, in the body of the bond, but signed Aereys, intended for Aerie, the Dutch for Aaron" ("New Jersey Marriage Records 1665-1800", by William Nelson, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 1967: p. 410), but Aereys and Sarah are shown baptizing daughter Antie at Six Mile Run on July 13, 1743 (SCHQ, vol. 8, no. 2, p. 124). This is probably a

AEREYS

(continued)

mis-transcription of 1748. "Antie" may have been either Sarah's mother's name or the name of Aereys' first (presumably deceased) wife. (It can be assumed that Sarah was his second wife because he was listed as a head of family by 1735 at New Brunswick, and also because he would have been about 32 years of age or older at the time of his marriage to Sarah.)

On September 29, 1747, "Aerys Vanaesdaelen" served as a witness to the will of John Van Nuys of New Brunswick, Middlesex County, NJ (NJW 1911L, Lib. E, p. 192). Aereys' father, Dirck, probably still was living in the New Brunswick area at the time; Dirck's brother, Abraham, was married to Maria Van Nuys, who was the daughter of John Van Nuys' brother, Isaac. It is also possible that John Van Nuys' daughter, Margareta, was married to Aereys' brother, Cornelius, at that time.

According to the records of the Harlingen Reformed Dutch Church, originally called "the church on the Milstone" river, "Aris Van Aarsdalen" was received as a member based on a confession of faith on 03 April 1752 (GMNJ, Vol. 15, No. 1, January 1940; p. 5). About 1752, "Aris van Arsdaalen" contributed £2 03s 4d to the Subscription List for construction of the new church (GMNJ, Vol. 17, No. 1, January 1942; p. 4). On p. 6 in the same issue, "Aris v: Arsdaalen" was listed as a pewholder. Finally, "Ares Vanaersdn" was listed again as a pewholder in the following issue (GMNJ, Vol. 17, No. 2, April

1942; p. 32). These pewholder records are undated, but probably begin about 1752. No further records are found at either Six-Mile Run or Harlingen churches for Aris and Sarah.

"Ares Van Arsdalen" also appears as #86 on the 1753 Somerset County Western Precinct Freeholders List, surrounded by neighbors Nicholas Ammerman, John and Isaac Van Nuys, Jacob Probasco, Rynear Van Hengelen, and Rem Vanderbeek, all associated with the van Aersdalen family (GMNJ, vol. 18, no. 1, p. 15). The Western Precinct comprised the modern Hillsborough and Montgomery Townships, Boroughs of Manville, Millstone and Rocky Hill, and (in present Mercer County) the parts of the Township and Borough of Princeton lying north of State Highway 27.

A curious piece of information which has served to place individuals in pre-Revolutionary New Jersey was a list of persons who either found or claimed stray cattle or horses (Snell, p. 781). "Aris Van Arsdalen" is on the list of those individuals for 1758 in Hillsborough Township, Somerset County.

Four years later, when he was in his late forties, "Ares" and Elizabeth _____ baptize Johannes at the North Branch (Readington) RDC on March 21, 1762 (SCHQ, vol. 5, no. 2; p. 145). Given that Aereys witnessed John Van Nuys' will in 1747, that Van Nuys listed an Elizabeth among his daughters, that Aereys' brother Cornelius apparently married Elizabeth's sister Maria Margareta, and the Van Nuys and Van Aersdalen families lived close to each other, it is strongly suspected that Aereys' third wife was Elizabeth Van Nuys. "Johannes" could have been named for Elizabeth's

father, purportedly John Van Nuys. Elizabeth Van Nuys would have been 32 years old at this time. No further baptisms have been found, especially a crucial ADirck@. This also appears to be the last known record of Aereys.

In conclusion, although we have pieced together much information on Dirck's eldest son, much is still unknown. We do not know the name of his first wife, or the duration of their marriage (although it must be c.1735-c.1745), or the names of any of their children. More than likely, all this information is in the lost pre-1743/8 records of the Six-Mile Run Church. We know of only one child born to his second wife, Sarah, during their marriage (1747-c.1760). We know of only one child born to his third wife, Elizabeth (Van Nuys?) during their marriage (c.1760-?). With the Revolutionary War looming, one can only wonder if Aris and his family were caught in some skirmish or fled before the advance of British troops. Only more in-depth research will tell. ◇

**CORNELIUS
VAN ARSDALEN
of
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NJ ?**

Cornelius Van Arsdalen was born around 1717, probably the second child of Dirck and Catlyntje (Vanderbilt) van Aersdalen. It can be assumed that he was born near the Six-Mile Run Church area of Somerset County, NJ, where his father was known to be living as early as 1720.

Around 1742, Cornelius married a woman named Maria, but her surname is uncertain at present. Circumstantial evidence in the naming of children indicates that Maria's parents were named John and Ariantje. Research suggests that Maria's surname was *Van Nuys* because of the association of the Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen family with that of John Van Nuys and his wife Ariantje Wyckoff. Dirck's son Aereys was a witness to the will of John Van Nuys (NJW File 1911L, written September 29, 1747, proved November 23, 1747, recorded Lib. E, p. 192) and may have married one of John Van Nuys' daughters. John Van Nuys' will lists his wife, Ariantje, four daughters and only son (Margreta, Lena, Elizabeth, Anna, and Jacobus). Jacobus would later Anglicize his name to James. James and his first wife had at least seven children, two of whom were named after his parents, John and Ariantje. Daughter Catlina married Jacob DeRiemer, according to James' will; Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen inventoried Isaac DeRiemer's estate in 1743 (NJW File 1507L, recorded Book D, p. 93; *estate administered by John Van Nuys*). Isaac appears to be Jacob DeRiemer's grandfather. Returning to John Van Nuys, we can assume that his children would name their own children after him and wife Ariantje. Could Maria, wife of Cornelius van Aersdalen, be a daughter of John Van Nuys and Ariantje Wyckoff? It is entirely likely that Maria was actually Maria Margareta (Mary Margaret), a common combination in the 1700s as it is today. John and Ariantje Van Nuys baptized Margreta at the New Utrecht Dutch Reformed Church on April 25, 1725 (NYGBR, vol. 112, no. 4, p. 206) but the family was living in the vicinity of New Brunswick by 1730, when they baptized daughter

CORNELIUS (continued)

Elizabeth on March 31st (PNJHS, vol. 11, p. 400). Maria Margareta would, therefore, be some 7-8 years younger than Cornelius, which was not uncommon.

In the Six Mile Run baptismal records (SCHQ, vol. 8, no. 2, p. 124), Cornelius and Maria baptized an unnamed child on July 13, 1743 (perhaps 1748; if so, it was on the *same day that Aris and Sarah (Garretson) Van Arsdalen baptized daughter Antie*). The fact that it was unnamed may signify that the child was not expected to live. The next record of a baptism for this couple was that of son Dirck on August 4, 1745 at the First Reformed Dutch Church of New Brunswick in Middlesex County, NJ (PNJHS, vol. 11, p. 412). Maria, if she were Margareta Van Nuys, would have been twenty years old. This child also appears to have died in infancy. On March 25, 1750 at that same church, Cornelius and Maria baptize two children, Dirck and Jan (ibid., p. 415).

We can also assume that Cornelius and Maria had other children named after their grandmothers - Catlyntje for Cornelius' mother and Ariantje for Maria's mother. The case for Ariantje is presented shortly.

Dirck (born 1750), named for his paternal grandfather, appears on the North Ward, New Brunswick Township, Middlesex County tax rateables as "Derik V Arsdalen" for April 1779. He is listed as a "single man who keeps a horse",

but on the list for June 1780 he is taxed but no details given (GMNJ, vol. 51, no. 1, p. 25). He would later marry Anna/Nancy Hans/Hance around 1781 and baptize several children at New Brunswick. He died (intestate) before the last one was born in 1800. The later baptisms recorded his name as Richard, the English version of Dirck. He appears as "Richard Vannosdal", age 43, in New Brunswick Township on the 1793 NJ militia "census". This was "an enrolment of all & every free & able bodied white male citizen between the ages of eighteen and forty-five within the County of Middlesex taken agreeable to a Law for organizing the Militia of the State of New Jersey passed at Trenton, November the 30th 1793" ("New Jersey in 1793", James S. Norton, privately published?, Salt Lake City, UT, 1973). The administrators of Richard Van Arsdallen's estate were his wife, Ann, and John Van Nuys, son of Jacobus/James mentioned previously (NJW File 9819L, recorded Book 39, p. 174).

Brother Jan/John, probably named for his maternal grandfather, is listed on the rateables for April 1779 as a "single man who keeps a horse" living close to his brother, but he is not listed in June 1780 (GMNJ, vol. 51, no. 1, p. 25). John also appears on the 1793 militia "census" in the same township as Dirck, but listed as age 42. A survey of his "New Brunswick residence on Queen and Richmond Streets" performed in 1795 Aat the request of Derick van Arsdalen@ represents his estate, for which no heirs were listed (Middlesex Surrogate File #23081, reported in "Middlesex County, New Jersey Heirs to Estates 1780-1870", Virginia A. Brown, Genealogical Researchers, Washington, NJ, 1988: p. 64). The administration of the estate was granted to Rynear Smock on

September 22, 1795. John's estate filings were recorded in Book 35, p. 198 as NJW File 8757L. It appears that a daughter, Mary, "being out of her Guardian in Soccage, makes choice of Reyneer Smock, Guardian" which is recorded as File 8747L, Book 35, p. 202. (The two brothers had short lives (45 and 50 years) and we must wonder if there was any hereditary health problem.) Mary appears to be the only underage child in 1795, and as John didn't marry until around 1780, we can assume that Mary was the only child. Further, as a guardian was appointed, Mary's mother (whose name is unknown) must have been deceased. We can further assume that Mary was named for one of her grandmothers, which ties in with John's mother, Maria. {Mary's mother could have been "Liza Reed". The first child born to Mary and her husband was baptized with that name on February 11, 1798 at the Hillsborough Dutch Reformed Church (SCHQ, vol. 7, no. 3, p. 209).}

Both Dirck and Jan appear to have served in the Revolutionary War. According to William S. Stryker's "Official Register of the Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary War" (originally published 1872, reprinted 1967 by Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore: p. 793), Richard and John Van Arsdalen are listed as privates in Middlesex County among the State Troops.

Some further notes on Ryneer Smock: Dirck and Nancy named one of their children ARynere Smock@ at the New Brunswick RDC on November 19, 1797 (PNJHS, vol. 13, p. 81). It seems that brothers Dirck and John were very close to Ryneer, and a little research turns up that Ryneer's wife was Arrietta/Ariantje Van Arsdalen.

His tombstone in the Hillsborough Dutch Reformed Churchyard listed his "consort" Arrietta as having died on May 15, 1815 in her 69th year, i.e. she was born about 1746 (GMNJ, vol. 41, no. 1, p. 15). This suggests that Ariantje was a daughter of Cornelius Dircksz van Aersdalen and wife Maria, hence a sister of Dirck and John. Dirck and his wife also named one of their daughters Ariantje, probably in honor of Dirck's sister/Ryneer's wife. The final proof comes from the will of Arrietta herself. The will of "Arreeta Smock" was written on October 19, 1813 (NJW File 10507L, probated May 24, 1814) and mentions "the heirs of ... brother Richard Van Arsdalen" and her "sister-in-law Nancy Van Arsdalen". One of the men who inventoried Arrietta's estate was Thomas Hance, probably Nancy Hance's brother, and one of the witnesses to the will was John Van Nuys.

Ryneer's will (NJW File 1437R, written August 21, 1804, proved June 22, 1810, recorded Book A, p. 260) also mentions Ryneer Smock Merrill, "son of my wife's niece, Polly, the wife of William Merrill". William Merrill and wife Mary/Maria (or Polly, a nickname for Maria) Van Arsdalen baptized several children at the Hillsborough DRC. For Mary to have carried the surname Van Arsdalen, she must have been the daughter of one of Ariantje's brothers, and specifically John Van Arsdalen. Mary and William Merrill/Merrell were married on March 15, 1797 (SCHQ, vol. 7, no. 2, p. 192) and so we can assume she was born around 1780. Baptisms of five of their children can be found at the Hillsborough DRC between 1798 and 1809 with a six-year gap between 1799 and 1805. William "Merrell" appears to have died intestate in 1815 (NJW File 1641R); a Mary Merrell died

CORNELIUS (continued)

intestate in 1852 (NJW File 3336R). William and Mary baptized a “Harriet Van Arsdalen” Merrill at Hillsborough on April 14, 1805 (SCHQ, vol. 7, no. 4, p. 308), apparently named for Mary’s aunt, Ariantje/Arrietta/Harriet Van Arsdalen Smock, who may have acted as a mother to Mary had her own mother died shortly after Mary’s birth. The child named for Mary’s uncle, Rynear Smock, was baptized on August 11, 1799 (SCHQ, vol. 7, no. 3, p. 210). In the New Jersey will records, we also find “John V. A. Merrell” who died intestate in Somerset County in 1864 (NJW File 4018R); we can assume that the “V. A.” stands for “Van Arsdalen”, as in the case of Harriet Van Arsdalen Merrell. This would clearly point to Mary being the daughter of John Van Arsdalen (born 1750). The baptism of John V. A. Merrell has not yet been located, but he must have been born either between 1800-1804 or between 1810-1815.

Rynear also was a witness to the will of Rev. Simeon Van Artsdalen of Reading Township, Hunterdon County, NJ on March 3, 1786 and assisted in appraising his inventory on June 13, 1786 (NJW File 1363J, recorded Book 28, p. 210). Simeon (1753-1786) was a third cousin of John Van Arsdalen, descending from Jan Simonsz van Aersdalen (1676-1756) while John descended from Jan Simonsz’ older brother Cornelis (1665-1745).

A final comment on Rynear’s will: it does not list his own children, only his siblings and the children

of his siblings and in-laws. From this we might assume that Rynear and Ariantje had no children; a cursory review of the published New Jersey Dutch Reformed Church baptisms supports this assumption. If they were childless, this may explain why Ariantje’s brother and niece named some of their own children after her and Rynear.

Since Ariantje was born around 1746, probably within four or five years of her parents’ marriage, she was likely named after one of her grandmothers. This supports the contention that the mother of Cornelis’ wife Maria was named Ariantje.

As mentioned previously, there should also be a daughter Catlina. She has yet to be identified, if she was even born and further lived to adulthood.

As to father Cornelius, nothing more is known at present; it is possible that he, too, died in his forties or fifties, hence between 1760-1770. No Cornelius appears on the New Brunswick Township, Middlesex County tax rateables of 1779 and 1780. (There is a Cornelius and Cornelius Jr. on the South Ward, Perth Amboy Township, Middlesex County rateables, but these men are descended from Jan Simonsz van Aersdalen, not his older brother, Cornelis Simonsz.) For his sons Dirck and Jan/John and daughter Ariantje to have stayed in the New Brunswick area, we can assume that Cornelius did also. Perhaps they tended to their father’s business in much the same way as Cornelius’ father Dirck tended to his own father’s business. ◇

*Marretje
Van Arsdalen
of
Somerset County, NJ ?*

Marretje van Aersdalen is suspected to have been the first daughter of Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen and Catlyntje Vanderbilt. She would have been named after her paternal grandmother, Marretje Dirckse Ammerman. Marretje was probably born around 1719 in the Six Mile Run area of Somerset County, NJ.

Nothing more is known about her. There is a suspicion that she was the Maria Van Arsdalen who reportedly married Jost Cusjouw/Casshow but this has not been supported by research to date.



**HILLETJE
VAN ARSDALEN
OF
SOMERSET COUNTY, NJ**

Hilletje van Arsdalen would have been the second daughter born to Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen and Catlyntje Vanderbilt. She, too, probably was born in the Six Mile Run area of Somerset County, New Jersey around 1720. Hilletje would have been named after her maternal grandmother.

“Hilletje Van Aarsdalen, wife of Th. Aten”, appears on a list of persons admitted to the congregation of the DRC at Raritans upon Confession of Faith on April 20, 1751 (LDS microfilm #0016584, p. 344). She, therefore, had membership in another church prior to this, possibly Six Mile Run or New Brunswick. Thomas Aten/Auter and Hilletje had six children together at Raritans, five boys and one girl. This was Thomas= second marriage; from the previous marriage, his first son, Pouwel, died in infancy, and so the first son in his marriage to Hilletje was named Pouwel (baptized November 12, 1738; SCHQ, vol. 2, no. 4, p. 300). The baptismal data suggests that Hilletje was probably born around 1720. Their second child was named Dirck, baptized June 6, 1742 at Raritans (ibid., p. 303). *The baptism of a son Dirck to a Hilletje van Arsdalen who was born around 1720 establishes Hilletje’s mother as Catlyntje Vanderbilt, daughter of Aris and Hilletje (Vander Beeck) Vanderbilt.* The only girl born to Hilletje and Thomas was named Feyte, the Dutch equivalent of Sophia, probably named in honor of Thomas= deceased first wife whose name was recorded as Aseyte@. Thomas Aten died in 1777, and it is assumed that Hilletje moved to Sussex County, NJ to live with her son Dirck. According to the entries in Dirck Aten=s Bible, both he and his mother Hilletje died on July 20, 1784. This could have been the result of an outbreak of some contagious disease. ◇



DIRCK DIRCKSZ VAN ARSDALEN

of
?????

Dirck Van Arsdalen was born between 1720 and 1733. Dirck would have been the third son of Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen and Catlyntje Vanderbilt. Very little is known about him.

A Dirck Van Arsdalen married Marytie Vermilyea at the Hopewell Dutch Reformed Church in Dutchess County on January 29, 1767 (*First Reformed Church Records, Fishkill/Hopewell, Dutchess Co., NY* by Jean Worden, privately published, 1981; p. 214); the record states that he is Aof Raritans@. Dutchess and Albany were neighboring counties at that time; Albany was the last known residence of Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen. Dirck Cornelisz' daughter, Jannetje, also moved from the Raritans area to the Fishkill/Hopewell area around 1761 or 1762 with her husband, Peter Sweed. There are at least three hypotheses as to whom Dirck, husband of Marytie Vermilyea, could be.

Hypothesis 1. This Dirck could be a son of Dirck Cornelisz and Catlyntje van Aersdalen. It is possible that he was the Dirck baptized by Dirck Cornelisz' younger brother, Simon Cornelisz (c. 1698-c. 1788), at New Brunswick on August 18, 1728 (PNJHS, vol. 11, p. 211). (This Dirck is a "fluke" in the Simon Cornelisz family; he is not acknowledged in Simon's will and does not appear

to have been connected in any way with Simon's own family, unless he died young.) In his mid-twenties, Dirck married Wyntje _____ (this would be about 1750). By the early 1760s, Wyntje dies and Dirck decides to move to Dutchess County, following his sister Jannetje and her husband, Peter Sweed. It is also possible that Dirck's parents were living in Dutchess County, and he chose to move there to help take care of them. There he marries Marytie Vermilyea when he is about 40 years old, and they name their first daughter, Wyntje, after Dirck's deceased wife. This couple's last child is baptized in 1788, when Dirck is about 60 years old. Dirck appears on the 1800 Federal Census for Fishkill as being over 45 but is not present on the 1810 census, having died in the interim in his seventies or early eighties.

Hypothesis 2. This Dirck is the *grandson* of Dirck Cornelisz and Catlyntje van Aersdalen, and a son of Dirck Dircksz born ca. 1722. In about 1744 at age 22, Dirck Dircksz marries Wyntje _____. Together they have the speculated son Dirck (Dirck III) about 1745 who, in his early twenties, decides to follow his aunt Jannetje (and possibly his father) to Dutchess County, NY. There he marries Marytie when *he* is about 22 years old and they name their first daughter, Wyntje, after Dirck III's *mother*. The couple's last child is born in 1788, when Dirck III is about 43. Dirck III appears on the 1800 Federal Census for Fishkill as being over 45 but is not present on the 1810 census, possibly having died in the interim in his late fifties/early sixties.

Hypothesis 3. This Dirck is a son of another of Dirck Cornelisz's sons. However, this is highly unlikely as Dirck and Marytie name their second

son Derrick, a clear indication that this child's paternal grandfather was named Dirck.

In order to try to resolve this dilemma, we must look at the known data. Although the documentation has yet to be found, it has been concluded using tombstone records that Dirck and Marytie's second son was named Derrick; the first son was named Johannes in honor of Marytie's father (November 10, 1771; Hopewell baptisms, p. 174). Their first daughter was named Levintye or Wynche, and she married John Beadle. The couple's second daughter was named Jannetje, in honor of her maternal grandmother (Hopewell baptisms, p. 172). Beadle's Revolutionary War pension application (W20699) and the published Middlebush Churchyard (Dutchess County) cemetery listing tie together Wynche's siblings (*Old Gravestones of Dutchess Co., NY*, J. W. Poucher & H. W. Reynolds, Collections of the Dutchess County Historical Society, Vol. II, Richwood Publ. Co., Merrick, NY, 1924). Beadle's application states that he was living 10 miles above Albany at the time of his enlistment. It further states that he married "Winche Van Nosdall" on September 18 or 19, 1785 at Fishkill Plains, NY in the presence of her grandparents, John and Fanny "Vermilian".

The complete list of children born to Dirck and Marytie Van Arsdalen consists of (in apparent order): Wyntje, Jannetje, Johannes, Jemima, Sarah, Derrick, James, Benjamin, and Aaron. Aaron was born about July 6, 1788, according to his tombstone. There was ample opportunity for this couple to name a child Catlyntje, after Catlyntje Vanderbilt, but no daughter was so named. This strongly suggests that the Dirck who

married Marytie Vermilyea was a son of Dirck and Wyntje Van Arsdalen. Consequently, **Hypothesis 2** is favored.

If this hypothesis is correct, it suggests that Dirck III and Marytie were about the same age, given that Dirck III was only about 43 at the time their last child was born. Although Marytie's age has yet to be determined, this is probably reasonable, especially since Dirck III was only about 22 when he married; Marytie was likely a few years younger. Further, although his age at the time of marriage seems young, we must remember that his grandfather Dirck Cornelisz van Aersdalen had his first-born son, Aereys, at about the age of 22 or 23. The same situation must be true for Aereys, as he was listed as a head of family when he was barely twenty.

What, then, became of Dirck, *son* of Dirck Cornelisz? He appears to have stayed in the New Brunswick area; he may have been the "Derrick Van Horsdol" who took the inventory of John Guest's estate in 1755, as his father was living in Albany at the time. Also, in the will of James (Jacobus) Van Nuys "of the city of New Brunswick" (NJW 9209L, Liber 36, p. 533, written February 28, 1793), James mentions a lot of land within the city which is bounded "northerly on lot of Derick Van Arsdalen, dec'd". (James also makes note of land near Henry *Guest's* house.) At that time, Derrick Van Arsdalen, son of Cornelius Dircksz, was not deceased, so this "Derick" could not be from the Cornelius line. This could be a son of either of Cornelius' brothers Aereys Dircksz or Dirck Dircksz van Aersdalen, or it could be the brother Dirck Dircksz. It is more likely to be the latter, as

DIRCK
(continued)

hypothesis 2 suggests that Dirck Dircksz' son Dirck ("Dirck III") moved to Dutchess County and no son Dirck has yet been identified for Aereys. If this is so, then Dirck Cornelisz' son Dirck, born about 1722 or so, was deceased by February 28, 1793 and had lived most, if not all, of his life in New Brunswick. He probably had at least two sons, as Dirck III should have been his second son, the first being named for his wife Wyntje's father. Nothing more can be deduced at this time.



Johannes
Van Arsdalen
of
?????

Johannes Van Arsdalen was the only child born to Dirck van Aersdalen and Catlyntje Vanderbilt for whom a baptismal record has been found. Johannes was baptized at the New Brunswick Dutch Reformed Church on November 18, 1733 (PNJHS, vol. 11, p. 401).

His father moved to Albany when Johannes would've been in his teens. He may have died as a young man, or moved to the frontier. However, no further trace of Johannes or John has been located. ◇

JANNETJE
VAN ARSDALEN
of
DUTCHESS COUNTY, NY

Jannetje van Arsdalen was born around 1734 in the Six Mile Run area of Somerset County, NJ. She appears to be the last child of Dirck and Catlyntje.

Jannetje married Peter Sweed and baptized several children at the Raritans DRC. The first known baptism was that of Eva on February 4, 1756 (SCHQ, vol. 3, no. 2, p. 141). If this was the paternal grandmother's name, then Peter Sweed was a son of Arnout and Eva Sweed or Sweet, and was baptized at the Raritans on August 16, 1730 (SCHQ, vol. 2, no. 3, p. 216). It is assumed that the couple's first-born son was named Arnout or, perhaps, Arnold, and was born around 1754, although no baptism has yet been found for him. Peter and Jannetje baptized two more children at the Raritans, Catlina on August 13, 1758 (SCHQ, vol. 3, no. 2, p. 142) and Peterus on Christmas Day, 1760 (ibid., p. 143). Sometime in 1761 or 1762, Peter and Jannetje moved to the area of Fishkill in Dutchess County, NY. At Fishkill, the first recorded child of Jannetje and Peter was Derick, baptized May 23, 1763 (*First Reformed Church Records, Fishkill/Hopewell, Dutchess Co., NY* by Jean Worden, privately published, 1981; p. 214). The baptisms of Derick and Catlina establish Jannetje as a daughter of Dirck and Catlyntje. The naming of the children appears somewhat out of

order, as a son was named for his father before one was named for his maternal grandfather. It is possible that Jannetje's father died between Christmas Day, 1760 and May 23, 1763 and she decided to name her next son after him. It is also possible that the Sweeds moved to the Fishkill area so that Jannetje could look after her father, who may have been living nearby and may have been in poor health. ◇

NEW JERSEY IN 1793

Submitted by Mark Alan Thomas, 3618 Vinton Avenue #2, Los Angeles, CA 90034 with additions by CRV.

(From "NEW JERSEY IN 1793" by James S. Norton, privately published?, Salt Lake City, UT, 1973.)

On 30 November 1792, a law was passed to reorganize the New Jersey State Militia. The first step in the process was to take a state wide census of all eligible males between the ages of 18 and 45 years old. This record is the closest thing we have to a 1790 census for the state of New Jersey. The 40 Van Arsdalen men are listed alphabetically by county followed by the page number in the book.

Vanarsdale, Courtland, Essex Co., p. 127
 VnArsdalen, Abm., Bedminster Twp., Somerset Co., p. 385
 Vanarsdalen, Abm., Bridgewater Twp., Somerset Co., p. 393
 Vanarsdalen, Abraham, Hillsborough Twp., Somerset Co., p. 398
 VnArsdalen, Abm., Bedminster Twp., Somerset Co., p. 385
 Vanarsdalen, Chris, Hillsborough Twp., Somerset Co., p. 398
 Vanarsdalen, Chrisn., Hillsborough Twp., Somerset Co., p. 398
 Vanarsdalen, Chrisn., Jr., Hillsborough Twp., Somerset Co., p. 398
 Vanarsdalen, Cornelius, Hillsborough Twp., Somerset Co., p. 399
 Vanarsdalen, Cornelius, Western Precinct, Somerset Co., p. 401
 Vanarsdalen, Cornelius A., Hillsborough Twp.,

Somerset Co., p. 399
 Vanarsdalen, George, Hillsborough Twp., Somerset Co., p. 399
 Vanarsdalen, Har, Western Precinct, Somerset Co., p. 401
 VnArsdalen, Hendk., Bedminster Twp., Somerset Co., p. 385
 Vanarsdalen, Hendk., Bernards Twp., Somerset Co., p. 389
 Vanarsdalen, Hendk., Bridgewater Twp., Somerset Co., p. 393
 Vanarsdalen, Jacob, Western Precinct, Somerset Co., p. 401
 Vanarsdalen, Jacob, Jr., Western Precinct, Somerset Co., p. 401
 Vanarsdalen, John, Bernards Twp., Somerset Co., p. 389
 Vanarsdalen, John C., Hillsborough Twp., Somerset Co., p. 398
 Vanarsdalen, Mijndert, Hillsborough Twp., Somerset Co., p. 398
 Vanarsdalen, Philip, Bridgewater Twp., Somerset Co., p. 393
 Vanarsdalen, Philip, Bridgewater Twp., Somerset Co., p. 393
 Vanarsdalen, Philip, Bridgewater Twp., Somerset Co., p. 393
 Vanarsdalen, Philip, Hillsborough Twp., Somerset Co., p. 399
 VnArsdalen, Phillip, Bedminster Twp., Somerset Co., p. 385
 Vanaursdall, Hendrick, Jr., Eastern Precinct, Somerset Co., p. 395
 Vanaursdall, Hendrick, Sr., Eastern Precinct, Somerset Co., p. 395
 Vannarsdal, Ruliff, South Brunswick, Middlesex Co., p. 223
 Vannorsdal, Isaac, South Amboy Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 227
 Vannorsdal, John, Winsor Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 231
 Vannosdal, Abram, North Brunswick Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 222
 Vannosdal, Garret, North Brunswick Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 222
 Vannosdal, James, North Brunswick Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 222
 Vannosdal, John, North Brunswick Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 221
 Vannosdal, Okey, South Amboy Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 224
 Vannosdal, Richd., North Brunswick Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 221
 Van Nosdal, Jacob, North Brunswick Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 221
 Van Nოსdale, George, North Brunswick Twp., Middlesex Co., p. 221
 Vanosdal, Lawrence, Upper Freehold, Monmouth Co., p. 426 ◇



QUERIES

CORNELIUS VAN ARSDOL: Seeking info on the siblings & children of Cornelius, born ca. 1790 NJ, died 1869 IN; son of JOHN. Cornelius m. Jane McCLELLAN in OH, moved to DELAWARE CO., IN in 1820. Children: Mary, John, Ellen, Martha, Isaac (b. 1820 IN), Cornelius, Jane, Lucretia, & Rachel. *Charles F. Voorhees, 145 W. Church St., Milltown, NJ 08850-1546.*

ELLENORA, DAUGHTER OF PETER VANARSDALE: She was born in NY ca. 1824-1826, but where? Her parents were Peter V. Vanarsdale and Christina POWLISON. Ellenora married John AUGHINBAUGH in MARION CO., OH in 1844 but later moved to Wabash Co., IN. Which Peter Vanarsdale was her father? *Barbara Weisman, 176 Buckingham Drive, Elyria, OH 44035.*

LEAH, DAUGHTER OF DAVID VANARSDALE: Does anyone have info on Leah, her siblings, or father, all of YORK CO., PA? Leah was born ca. 1793-1800, York (now ADAMS CO.) PA, and she married Isaac THOMAS. Also seeking info on:
JOHANNES VANARSDALEN and wife ELEANOR (PETERSON) also of York County, late 1700s. *Ruth Vanasdalan, 110 Sycamore Drive, Mt. Holly Springs, PA 17065.*

Along this same line ...

CHILDREN of JOHANNES VAN ARSDALEN & NEELTJE PETERSON: Wish to correspond with descendants of **ANTIE** (m. Phillip BREEN of YORK CO., PA & baptized at least 4 children at Conewago), **YANNETIE** (m. Daniel KOVERT and bp. 2 children at Conewago), and **NELLIE** (m. John MONFORT & bp. PETER at Conewago). Also wish to find descendants & info on **SIMON VANARSDALEN** b. 1783 son of **SIMON VANARSDALEN** and **NEELTJE PETERSON** widow of **JOHANNES VANARSDALEN**. He was living in WARRINGTON TWP., YORK CO., PA in 1810 along with brothers **ISAAC** and **DAVID VANARSDALE**. And ...

CHILDREN of ISAAC VAN ARSDALEN & HANNAH/JOHANNA PETERSON: Wish to correspond with descendants of **SARAH** (m. John MONFORT), **JOHN**, and **PETER**. I would like to know more about the PETERSON family, especially the parents and siblings of Neeltje and Hannah. *Judy Cassidy, 117 Evergreen Ct., Blue Bell, PA 19422-2817; Jamescassidy22@cs.com.*

PARENTS of PRICE VANARSDALE & WIFE: Price died 11/25/1832 in NJ. Children: ANNA CAMP born 8/31/1807; ELIZABETH ANN born 10/16/1809; AARON HATFIELD born 1/25/1812; CORTLANDT born 8/6/1816; and GEORGE born 6/11/1820. *Sharon A. Wilson, 1042 Ivy Road, Memphis, TN 38117; twosisters1dog@cs.com.*

JOHN H. VAN ARSDALE: Seeking vital statistics, parentage and family of John H. Van

Arsdale, born circa 1820. He married at an unknown date, presumably circa 1845, **Esther DURYEE**, of CAYUGA CO., NY. This couple had the following children: **ISABELLE** and **MERRIUM** (married James White). (Elsewhere among this branch of Duryees in the Cayuga area are AMMERMAN connections as well.) **Richard A. McCool**, 56 1/2 East 8th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43201; mccool.13@osu.edu.

WILLIAM LAIRD VAN AUSDALL: Looking for ancestors & siblings of my grandfather, who was born January 5, 1872 in INDIANA. He moved to VIRGINIA about 1930 where he died in 1952. Also seeking info on **EUDORAS VAN AUSDALL** of INDIANA, a contemporary of William's who may be his brother or cousin. **Blanche Van Ausdall Berreman**, 843 N. Kenneth Place, Chandler, AZ 85226; nberreman@aol.com.

CORNELIA MARIA VAN AUSDOLL: Seeking contact with her descendants. She was born 4/19/1848 in BUTLER CO., OH to SILAS and REBECCA (TURNER) VAN AUSDALL and died 3/2/1930. She spent some time in GREENE CO., MO. She married first JOHN SMITH by whom she had son JACOB SMITH. Her second husband, WILLIAM DOAN, died in 1897, and they had children BELLE (ROSSON), DORA (BALDWIN), ED S. DOAN of DELAWARE, IN, and CHARLIE DOAN of MILAN, IN. Cornelia also had two sisters, AMANDA (GENTRY) of HAMILTON, IN and CHARITY (TINGER) of BATH, IN. **Lisa Carpenter-Clements**, P.O. Box 1396, Bald Knob, AR 72010; lcg37@ipa.net.

THEY CALLED HIM
BOGEY

Recently the Dutch-Colonies email list put together Humphrey Bogart's lineage as documented in John Albert Bogart's "The Bogart Family - Tunis Gysbert Bogaert and Descendants" published in 1959. As you can see, we Vans had some influence in making him the man known as "Bogey".

Humphrey De Forest Bogart was b. December 25, 1899 in NYC to Dr. Belmont De Forest Bogart and Maude Humphrey of Rochester, NY.

Dr. Belmont De Forest Bogart was b. 1865 in Watkins Glen, Schuyler Co., NY to Adam Welty Bogart and Julia (UNKNOWN).

Adam Welty Bogart was b. November 11, 1829 in Owasco, Victory Twp., Cayuga Co., NY to Peter Brokaw Bogart and Agnes Welty

Peter Brokaw Bogart was bp. November 10, 1793 in Millstone, NJ to Jacob Bogaert of Bucks Co., PA and Mary Brokaw.

Jacob Bogaert was bp. August 16, 1772 Bucks Co., PA to Gilbert Bogaert of Bucks Co., PA.

Gilbert Bogaert was b. 1748 to Jacob Gysbertsz Bogaert and his 1st wife, Ann Strycker.

Jacob Gysbertsz Bogaert was b or bp April 07, 1723 in New Utrecht to Gijsbert Bogaert and Marretje Jacobse Bergen, both probably died in Solebury, Bucks Co., PA.

Gijsbert Bogaert was b. ca. 1697 Staten Island to Gysbert Tunis Bogaert and **JANNETJE SIMONSE VAN ARSDALEN**.

Gysbert Tunis Bogaert was bp. December 05, 1668 NA/NYC RDC to the emigrant, Tunis Gijsbertsz Bogaert and Sarah Jorissey Rapalje.

Tunis Gijsbertsz Bogaert was b. ca. 1625 Heykoop, Province of South Holland. ◇

DAILY LIFE OF A 17TH CENTURY DUTCH POTTER

Our ancestor Sijmon Jansz van Aersdalen was engaged as a potter in Amsterdam before he sailed to New Netherland in 1653. Family legend says that he was sent here to study the native clays to determine their use for the pottery business in Holland. To shed some light on what the life of a 17th century Dutch potter in Amsterdam was like, **Cornelius (Cor) Snabel** of Amstelveen, The Netherlands sends us a transcribed synopsis from the book "Volksaardewerk in Nederland 1600-1900" by drs. J. de Kleyn which was published in 1965.

There were two important pottery centers in Amsterdam; the oldest was concentrated on both sides of the Singel (west side) and the other (after the extension of 1612) in the Jordaan. In the west side neighborhood we find the Anjeliërsgracht, with the Pottenbakkersgang on the north side. **Potteries were not only found inside the city-walls, like the Pottenbakkerssteeg near the Reguliersdwarsstraat, but also along the river Amstel and outside the old Sint-Antoniespoort (city-gate), where the Pottensbakkerspad was situated.** In addition to these alleys there was another Potterbakkerssteeg, which was called Korte-Kolksteeg until the end of the 17th century. There is also a Pottebakkersbrugh, the last bridge over the Nieuwezijds Achterburgwal, what now is the Spuistraat. On the Nieuwezijds Achterburgwal near the Lijnbaanssteeg, across the

"Geleysteechien" (or clayman-steeg) was the house called "Ses-Steenen Kruycken" (six stone bottles) and at the other north-corner of the Lijnbaanssteeg "De Vijff Cruycken" (the five stone bottles).

During the big extension of Amsterdam in 1612 all potteries were banned out of the city, because they often caused big fires. Not only did the potters have to move, but also shoemakers and furriers had to leave too. The big fire of 1421, which demolished three-quarters of the city, was probably caused by a pottery. Already in 1536 the Amsterdam Council decided potteries had to leave town, because "within the last few days pot-ovens caused three fires" on d'Burchwalle at the New Side.

Around 1600 a lot of potters from the Southern Netherlands moved to Amsterdam, partly because they had freedom of religion here and because the pottery business in, for instance, Antwerp was falling apart. Jacques Verham moved in 1591 from Mechelen to Amsterdam and in 1594 Samuel de Meulenaere came from Antwerp. The potters from the South-Netherlands were very skilled in faïence-pottery, with the bright colors green, yellow, orange, blue and white. Italian potters had left their influence in the South-Netherlands as well as the Spanish (against whom the eighty years war was fought). **Amsterdam became an important town for pottery.**

One inconvenient circumstance for the Amsterdam potters was the lack of good clay in the surroundings of the town, which was a financial disadvantage. **It even had to be brought in from abroad.** Not only the supplier had to be

paid, but also the shipping-agent and last but not least the “Aertmeter”. He was a civil servant, who had to “measure” the cargo and collect the appropriate taxes. The following document provides examples of where the potter had to get his clay.

Willem Hendricks, “toebackspijpenmaker” (tobaccopipe-maker) age 46 and Hendrick Claesz. potter within this town, the document produced by Arie Andiesz. profession aardemeter. Hendricks declares to use for making pipes Syberse, Frettense and Suitberchse clay, all from Köln and also Frederikse earth from Münster and clay from Hessen (all in Germany). Furthermore Hendrick Claesz. needs for his pottery red or brown earth and for fine glazing pots English earth, Doornikse and Delftse clay and some black variety, called Woerdense clay. They declare they paid the Aertmeter his fee and also paid their supplier.

It is obvious that the Amsterdam potters had more expenses than their colleagues from Delft, Woerden and Makkum, where part of the clay they needed could be found in the surroundings.

Another remarkable fact is that the Amsterdam potters never had a guild. The pottery-sellers in Amsterdam had their own guild. Dordrecht had a pottery-guild since 1649, as did Gouda and others. The faïence-painters belonged to the St. Lucas-guild for sculptors and painters.

Cooking- and frying-pans were mostly of simple pottery. These pans often had hollow handles, so a stick could be put in it, in order to avoid burning ones hands. Although the painted bowls, plates,

cups, etc. were often called “porcelain”, they were all made of clay, so they were imitations of the imported Chinese, French and English porcelain. The real porcelain was made of kaolin-earth, which becomes very hard if it is heated to 1000 to 1200 degrees Celsius. ◇

**REVOLUTIONARY WAR
PATRIOT
KILLED IN ACTION**

Charles F. Voorhees (145 W. Church St., Milltown, NJ 08850) writes that his son, on a fifth grade class trip in 1970 to the Old Tennent Church (near the town of Freehold in Monmouth County, NJ), was given a colorful lecture by the tour guide. The guide related that, during the Revolutionary War, an American soldier named Jacob Van Arsdale died from wounds in the church, and that the stains of his blood were still visible on the wooden pew. Mr. Voorhees speculates that this occurred during the Battle of Monmouth on June 28, 1778. This tragedy is recounted by Rev. Frank R. Symmes on p. 104 of his “History of the Old Tennent Church” (George W. Burroughs, Cranbury, NJ, 1904) and reprinted here.

“It is also a much repeated tradition that during the Battle an American soldier, possibly fatigued with the heat and having drunk at the well on the south line of the church lot, had come up and sat on the headstone of a grave a few feet to the southwest from the church, when he was struck

by a cannon ball and badly wounded, and the headstone broken off. He was carried into the church and laid in the third pew from the door in the west aisle. There his blood dripped out and he died. The blood stains from his wounds can still be plainly seen on the board seat; and before the graining of the pews was put on, the marks of the bloody hands of this dying soldier were visible on the book-rest of the pew in which he died, and on that also in the pew behind. The headstone of the grave is now gone though a part still remains under ground, and the footstone is also standing. The grave was that of Sarah Mattison, buried in 1774.”

Jacob’s identity is uncertain, but if he had been from this general area, he was probably a descendant of Jan Simonsz van Aersdalen (1676-1756), likely a son or grandson of Cornelis Jansz van Aersdalen (c.1698-?). At the Old Tennent Church on September 20, 1767, Jacob Van Aersdalen presented for baptism Mary (ibid., p. 221); was this the same ill-fated Jacob? ◇

UPDATE ON SAMUEL ARSDALE

In the Queries section of Vol. I, no. 1 of *The Vanguard*, CRV posed the question "SAMUEL ARSDALE: who was he?" Over Christmas, when I was home in Pennsylvania I purchased a book about Pennsylvania battlefields and monuments and ran across something curious in my reading.

The "Battle of Great Meadows" referred to the skirmish at Fort Necessity, George Washington's ill-fated attempt to stem the advance of the French toward Fort Pitt (i.e. Pittsburgh). This turned out to be one of the battles in which Samuel Arsdale was involved; an interesting fact, yes, but all the more enticing because I grew up only 15 miles from Fort Necessity!

The last record I had of Arsdale was September 29, 1754 when his service under Capt. Andrew Lewis was over. I checked the website for Fort Necessity (www.nps.gov/fone) for additional information but found that he was listed not only as Arsdale but also Isdale. This concerned me. As this battle was the first of the French & Indian War, I queried the FRENCH-INDIAN email list at rootsweb.com and quickly got an answer.

As reported in Murtie June Clark's *Colonial Soldiers of the South 1732-1774* (Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, MD, 1983; p. 484), on the "Size Roll" of Major Andrew Lewis' company in 1757-1758, "Sam:l Easdale" was described as age 35, height 5'7", occupation Trader (presumably Indian trader), that he enlisted in Frederick County, VA, and lastly that he was *Irish*.

I was very disappointed, but remember having run across other similar names during Federal Census research only to find that they were Irishmen, too. This, then, throws doubt on some other Arsdales and Asdells we have thought are Van Arsdales, such as Aaron Arsdale (*Vanguard* vol. III, no. 1, p. 23). Names are not always what they seem! ◇



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NEW VAN OSDOL BOOK

ANCESTRY OF GEORGE HOTCHKISS VAN OSDOL

By: Larry Stephen Wilcox and Willora Glee Van Osdol Krapf

(George's picture & brief bio graced the cover of the July 1999 *Vanguard*. - CRV)

OUTLINE:

- I: Bio on George Hotchkiss Van Osdol Children
- II: Flying Dutchman Ancestors Flee Europe
- III: Maps
- IV: Our Dutch Ancestors New Amsterdam
- V: The Dutch Migration to New Jersey
- VI: Conewago Dutch Colony York County, PA
- VII: Pleasureville Henry/Shelby County, KY
- VIII: Dutch Settlement Switzerland, Jefferson and Johnson County, IN
- IX: List Seventeen other Dutch Settlements
- X: Dutch Ancestry Arms {Coat of Arms}
- XI: Dutch Revolutionary Soldiers: 50 Related Surnames
- XII: Dutch War 1812 Soldiers: 25 Related Surnames
- XIII: Dutch Civil War Soldiers: 25 Related Surnames
- XIV: Dutch Ancestry; Fifty Dutch Allied Connected Families
- XV: Dutch Pictures along the Migration Routes



Mildred F. Vanorsdale, 81, of Connellsville, PA died Friday, April 6, 2001 in the Uniontown Hospital. She was born July 17, 1919, in Connellsville, a daughter of the late Clyde and Ethel Inks Eutsey. Mrs. Vanorsdale was a member of the Central Fellowship Church where she was active in many of the church committees. She is survived by one son, Charles Vanorsdale and wife, Mitzi, of Midland, TX; two grandchildren, Schuyler and Marissa Vanorsdale; and one step-grandson, Jonathan Webster. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Clarence Vanorsdale in 1967; four brothers, Clarence, William, Charles and Harry Eutsey; and three sisters, Alice Mae Eutsey, Nevada Cartwright and Dorothy Ackerman.