

strikingly laconic: "Our people have bought the Island Manhates from the wild men for the value of 60 guilders [\$24.00]; it is 11,000 *morgen*<sup>1</sup> [22,000 acres] large."<sup>2</sup>

Pieter Minuit, the third director-general to be intrusted with the management of the company's affairs in New Netherland, arrived at the "Island Manhates," on May 4, 1626. Shortly afterward the construction of a rude fortification of earth and logs was begun on the south end of the island. A number of French and Dutch colonists, who had been brought there from Holland by the West-India Company, built for themselves during the summer and fall about thirty bark dwellings contiguous to the site of the fortifications. The seat of this second colony obtained that year the name of New Amsterdam.

Describing the beginnings of this colony, Wassenaer, writing under the date of "November, 1626," says: "The colony was planted at this time on the Manhates, where a fort was staked out by Master Krijn Frederijke, an engineer. It will be of large dimensions. The ship which has returned home this month brings samples of all the different kinds of produce there. The cargo consists of seven thousand two hundred and forty-six beaver, six hundred and seventy-five otter, forty-eight mink, and thirty-eight wild-cat skins, and various other sorts; [besides] several pieces of oak and hickory timber.

"The counting-house there is kept in a stone building, thatched with reed; the other houses are of bark of trees. Each has his own house. The director and the store-keeper (*coopman*) live together. There are thirty ordinary houses on the east side of the river, which runs nearly north and south.

"The Honorable Pieter Minuit is director there at present; Jan Lempo, sheriff; Sebastien Jansz Crol, and Jan Huyck, [are] visitors of the sick, who while awaiting a clergyman, read to the congregation there on Sundays Scripture lessons with explanatory notes. François, the mill-wright, is busy building a horse-mill, over which will be made a room sufficiently spacious to accommodate a large congregation, and then a tower will be erected in which the bells brought from Porto Rico will be hung. \* \* \* \*

"It happened this year that the *Maykans* [Mohegans], being at war with the *Maquacs* [Mohawks], requested to be assisted by the commander of Fort Orange and six others. Commander Krickebeck went up with them a [Dutch] mile from the fort, and met the *Maquacs*, who peppered them so bravely with a discharge of arrows that they were forced to fly, leaving many slain, among whom were the commander and three of his men. \* \* \* \*

"There being no commander [at that post], Pieter Barentsen assumed

<sup>1</sup> *Morgen*, about two acres of land.

<sup>2</sup> Holland documents, vol. 1., p. 155.