

the order and directions of the Noble Lords-Directors, dated the [16th of April, 1660], they have appointed and installed the same as provisional *schout* on the Esopus, and have given him the following commission :

“ The Director-General and Council of New Netherland to all who shall see this or hear it read, greeting :

“ Know ye, that in conformity with directions of the Noble Lords-Directors of the Incorporated West-India Company, department of Amsterdam, we have appointed and installed, as we herewith appoint and install Roeloff Swartwout as provisional *schout* in the village of Wiltwijck, on the Esopus, to serve there in the capacity of *schout* in accordance with this commission and the instructions already given to him or hereafter to be given, as a good and faithful *schout* is bound to do.

“ We therefore command and charge all and everybody to acknowledge the said Roeloff Swartwout as such, and to afford and give him any help and assistance, when called upon, in the performance of his duties.”

Having thus complied with the orders of the lords-directors of the Amsterdam chamber of the West-India Company, Director-General Stuyvesant wrote to them, on July 21, remarking :

“ Far be it from us, Most Worshipful Gentlemen, to slight your Honors' authority and disapprove the choice, made by your Honors, of Roeloff Swartwout for *schout* at the Esopus ; we have only delayed his installation until a fit opportunity should offer and the arrival of your Honors' further orders, for we mistrusted his capabilities and kept the place vacant so far. In pursuance of your Honors' special request he is now appointed, and we leave the result to his behavior and suitableness.”¹

The nature of the laws regulating the peace and welfare of the inhabitants of Wiltwijck is partly indicated by the following clauses extracted from ordinances in force in 1661 :

“ No person shall be permitted to perform on the Sabbath by us called Sunday any work at his ordinary business. * * * * Much less shall any one on the Sabbath of the Lord give entertainment in taverns, sell or give away, under any pretext whatsoever, beer, wine, or any strong drink.”

“ In order to prevent fires and calamity, no person shall be permitted to construct, or to have any plastered or wooden chimneys, or to kindle any fire in houses with walls or gables made with straw, or in the centre on the floors of other houses covered with thatch, unless there be a good solid plank ceiling in the aforesaid houses.”

¹ New York colonial manuscripts: New Netherland Council Minutes, vol. ix., p. 621. New Netherland Correspondence, vol. xiv., p. 30.

Documents relating to colonial history of the state of New York, vol. xiii., pp. 199, 205.