

at least none on the subject of our expected collection there, has been received by us assuring good success for it.' When, as they observed, they contracted for the building of the block-house church and made themselves liable for 'the heavy expenses,' their 'expectation and hope in the beginning were set very justly' on obtaining help from the people of New Amsterdam; therefore, as they reasoned, 'in the event of a failure we should be very much disturbed and distressed; even if everything should turn out for the best, it would be very difficult to collect the remainder from the church here.'"

The site selected for the building was near the center of the intersection of *Handelaars* and *Jonkers straten*. On the second of June, the corner-stone was laid in the presence of the magistrates of Fort Orange and Beverswyck and those of Rensselaerswyck, and a large assemblage of the inhabitants of the village and the manor. The Reverend Gideon Schaets, who had accepted the pastorate of the church, on May 8, 1652, conducted the religious services, and Rutger Jacobsen, a magistrate, placed the stone in position.

Built in the form of a block-house of the period, the church was loop-holed, and on the platforms above it were placed three small cannon to command the three roads diverging from it. (See diagram, page 532.) In 1657, a bell, presented by the directors of the Amsterdam chamber of the West-India Company to the congregation, was hung in a small belfry forming the pinnacle of the structure. Twenty-five beaver-skins were sent to Holland to pay for a pulpit, but their value was, as it seems, insufficient to obtain one. However, the directors of the Amsterdam chamber of the West-India Company, "to inspire the congregation with more ardent zeal," contributed seventy-five guilders for the purchase of the *predickstoel*, which was sent to Beverswyck in a vessel, which sailed some time after the departure¹ of the one on which the bell had been sent.

The hostile attitude of the Indians, in the fall of 1659, caused the inhabitants to unite in inclosing the village with a high fence of planks and palisades. They immediately began constructing it, and in the spring of 1660 completed the defensive stockade. According to present metes and bounds, it extended northwardly along the bank of the river from the foot of Hudson Avenue to the site of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's passenger-station. Thence it continued to a point near the northwest corner of the station of the New York Central and Hudson River railroad, where it deflected to a point on North Pearl Street, about two hundred feet north of Maiden Lane. Its extension on the side of the hill terminated at a point on State Street, near Lodge Street. Descending the hill, the barrier reached a point on South Pearl Street, near Beaver Street, and thence extended to Green Street, about seventy-

¹ The history of the city of Albany, New York. By Arthur James Weise. Albany, 1884, pp. 104, 105, 106