

# Beautiful Air

—the Voyages of Henry Hudson to the  
New World and up the Great River



•Edward Sanders•

# Beautiful Air

## —the Voyages of Henry Hudson to the New World and up the Great River

~Edward Sanders~

He came from the mists of time  
in an itchy age of exploration

not much more than a 100 years  
after sailors were certain  
the world was round

and therefore they couldn't flip off the edge  
of the Orbis Mundi  
as they sailed to the West

Not much is known about Henry Hudson  
where he was born  
what he did as a youth  
or where he earlier sailed

before the time in 1607  
when he was hired by the English Muscovy Company  
to sail out to the north and west  
in a search for the fabled Northwest Passage  
to the riches of China

English Muscovy had been sending out boats  
in quest of the Passage  
for over 50 years

1607 was the year that the London Company  
sent three boats of settlers  
to a small peninsula by the Chesapeake Bay  
to set down roots

They named their tiny village Jamestown  
after the King that began to rule

after Elizabeth passed away in 1603

Shakespeare was working on his *Sonnets* in 1607  
and one of his patrons, the Earl of Southampton  
whom some scholars believe to be the beautiful youth  
of the beautiful poems

was one of the directors in London of the Jamestown voyage

Three of the tasks that were given to Jamestown  
were to do good works among the Natives  
to locate, mine and send back barrels of gold  
and to look for a “passage to the South Seas”  
that led across the vastness of the unmapped continent  
to the trading wharfs of spice  
and the stealable armbands of gold

It had been a quest that  
humans in boats had been pushing  
such as when, back in 1534, 73 years in the past, Jacques Cartier  
took his ship up into the St. Lawrence River  
sleuthing for the Orient!

or when Martin Frobisher  
had located a inlet in 1576  
on what is now called Baffin Island  
thirty one years before Hudson  
and thought it was the Northwest Passage!

That spring of 1607  
Hudson was in a little ship called *Hopewell*  
with just a few men  
as he sailed from Gravesend on the Thames

He worked to the north off the east coast of Greenland  
till he came to the thick pack of ice  
way up above the Arctic Circle  
by an island called Spitzbergen

Hudson then poked along the chilly ice-pack’s edge  
probing for an open waterway

which he could not find  
& so turned back toward England



They left at the end of April  
oozing ever northward

sailed past the northernmost point of Norway  
then by June 9  
came upon ice ice ice ice

The danger to arctic ships in those days  
was to enter a narrow waterway  
only to have the ice close around you to the rear  
& thus you are trapped!

The *Hopewell* searched for a clearwater path  
through the icecaps

no dice

and so returned back where they'd begun  
smacking now and then against the caps

no dice

Two of Hudson's crewmen spotted a mermaid  
around the Latitude of 75°07'

with black hair and a woman's breasts  
the tail of a porpoise  
but speckled like a mackerel

perhaps they were excessively horny  
or were woozy from ship's biscuit

Finally the crew reached Novaya Zemlya  
where the plan called for sleuthing along  
the western Siberian coast to a rumored place  
where the water was warm  
& led to the Pacific

It didn't work  
so finally the *Hopewell* sailed back to Gravesend  
arriving on August 26

It was his final trip for the English Muscovy Company

### **Hudson's Third Voyage**

Hudson meanwhile was very eager  
to sail again toward the wealth-reaping waters of Cathay

On January 8 of 1609

Henry Hudson signed a contract with the Dutch East India Company  
He needed an interpreter for the text was in Dutch

The contract bound Mr. Hudson  
“to search for a passage by the North,  
around the North side of Nova Zembla, and shall continue  
thus along that parallel until he shall be able to sail  
Southward to the latitude of sixty degrees.”

That is, he was to drive north over the top of Novaya Zemlya  
then edge to the East  
looking for an unfrozen Cathay path

Wife Katherine and their sons  
were required to move to Amsterdam  
at least during the third voyage  
as a kind of surety of Hudson's obedience

He had a mixed crew of Dutch & English  
on a ship called the *Half Moon*  
*Halve Maen* in Dutch

The Dutch for the Dutch East India Company:  
De Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie, aka VOC

chartered by the freshly independent Dutch Republic  
in 1602  
primarily  
to grab largess in spice trading

It had about 40 ships at its call

The Dutch East India Company did its evil

in the East, where its headquarters was in Java  
 (the future Jakarta, Indonesia)  
 whence it traded in the Moluccas and Banda Islands

In the Bandas, source of almost all the nutmeg and mace  
 the Dutch were crushingly violent  
 killing or driving off a good part of the indigent people  
 and using slaves to build its nutmeg industry

On March 25, 1609  
 the *Half Moon* left Amsterdam



A sketch of the *Halve Maen* leaving Amsterdam

and oozed north along the coast of Norway  
 to where the long isle of Novaya Zemlya lurks in the Barents Sea  
 between 70° and 80°

If Hudson had been able to sail east then hook down  
 through clear but ice-crusty water  
 to 60°

he'd have gone to a latitude  
 where open water might  
 have led to the Spice!

—but, of course he couldn't

Apparently a “mutiny” came to the *Halve Maen*  
 when the way was clogged again with impassable ice  
 up by the northern coast of Novaya Zemlya  
 just as on his second voyage the previous year

John Smith had sent Hudson letters from Virginia  
 apparently suggesting there was a waterway located  
 to the north of the small colony of Virginia  
 which would lead to the Pacific  
     (or at least a large body of water)  
             and thus to the Spice!

Hudson apparently proposed to the crew they sail  
 south to the American continent to about 40° latitude  
 to sleuth this waterway

### **The Map (or Maps) Utilized by Henry Hudson Perhaps Sent by Captain John Smith**

The map is discussed on p. 30 in *The Memorial History of  
 the City of New York* edited by James Grant Wilson, Vol 1,  
 New-York History Company, NY 1892, and also in footnote 3  
 on the same page

The map, it is speculated, was “a copy of a map made soon after the  
 voyage to New England and Virginia in 1607.”

and, in footnote 3:

“Van Meteren says with regard to Hudson's exploration in latitude 40°N: ‘This  
 idea had been suggested to Hudson by some letters and maps which  
 his friend Captain Smith had sent him from Virginia, and by which he  
 informed him that there was a sea leading to the western ocean by the  
 north side of the southern English colony.’ I.e., north of Virginia.

(Emmanuel Van Meteren was a historian who had access to  
 Hudson’s charts and papers)

“The river is indicated, in accordance with Captain John Smith’s idea,  
 as a strait, leading to a large body of water,” that is, “an inland sea without  
 a western end.”

“It is not unlikely that Hudson had with him a copy of the map, for his guidance on the voyage of the *Half Moon*”

More from footnote 3 on page 30:

“Asher suggests that one of the maps sent by Smith to Hudson was (Michael) Lok’s Verrazano Map published in (Richard) Hakluyt’s (book) “Divers Voyages.”

In any case, John Smith had heard from the Natives of a huge sea to the west  
 (the Great Lakes)  
 and had suggested a water passage to the north of Virginia leading to a western ocean

The map Hudson brought with him on his third voyage may have had some elements of a one created by an Englishman named Michael Lok

Lok had been a partner of Martin Frobisher who sailed three times 1576-77-78 to search for the Northwest Passage

Frobisher brought back from the first trip some black ore mistakenly but fervently thought to be gold which caused much gold-mania and attracted gold-starved English investors

Mr. Lok created a map in 1582 called the “planisphere” which showed the North American continent reduced to a narrow strip near the latitude where H. H. found the River:



Lok's map shows the continent narrow with water to the west

Whatever the maps Henry Hudson may have been studying  
in his cabin that spring of 1609  
it's clear that on May 14  
the *Half Moon* stopped at the Faroe Islands  
for fresh water

heading southward

By July 3, 1609  
with its foremast and foresail  
lost in a storm  
the *Half Moon* arrived at Newfoundland  
where it spotted a big fleet of French boats fishing

Then, July 18  
the ship found a harbor  
where they cut a tree to make a foremast  
and mended their sails

Hudson himself went ashore

The next day the sailors traded with the Natives  
and also during the next several  
while the mast was being repaired

They grabbed most easily from the water's edge  
some 31 lobsters

and held a feast  
to which Henry Hudson brought some wine  
from his own supplies

By the 22nd the crew had fashioned two spare masts  
and stored them on the ship

The crew, especially the violence-prone Robert Juet  
kept eyes of fear on the Natives  
and noted where they beached their canoes

July 25 there was violence  
Juet brought a crew armed with muskets  
to a Native village and, in his words,  
“drave the salvages from their houses, and took the spoil of them,  
as they would have done us.”  
Later that night they went back and violenced the Natives  
from their sleeping place, stole whatever they could.

Hudson knew the Natives might attack and  
so sailed away at dawn

August 3 the *Halve Maen* passed Cape Cod  
heading south till they sailed past Delaware Bay

The ship then went south almost to Jamestown  
then headed north once more, close to the shore

On August 28, Delaware Bay was spotted  
Excitement! Was this the passage to Cathay  
John Smith had hinted to Hudson?

The *Half Moon* entered the Bay  
for a few miles, but it was too beshoaled  
so Hudson ordered the trip back northward

The *Half Moon* arrived at the Edge of the New Continent  
on September 3

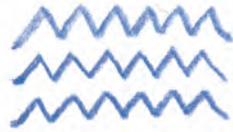
& spent a few days off Sandy Hook

then drifted on the tide  
up the River toward the future Yonkers & Beyond

Ahh, he thought  
the wide river to the Orient!

Gold, spices & glory here I come!

Ahh the glory of the merging of Seas



& how the sacred water glyph  
of Ancient Egypt  
still holds sway!!



### **A Profusion of Life**

Facing north northeast  
the future Staten Island to the left  
the future Brooklyn to the right  
& the fish-jumping, lobster teeming waters rushing  
from up ahead

North they drifted on the tide  
the future New Jersey to the left  
Manhattes to the right  
up up up

They spotted seals resting on Robbins Reef  
over by the future Bayonne  
Robbins is from the Dutch word “robbens” for seal’s

Salmon and surgeon were so abundant as the *Halve Maen* floated  
they could be caught with baitless ease

### **The Beautiful Smell on the Air**

Sailors who landed in their sea-stained ships  
weary from wind-whipped voyages  
marveled at the pleasing scents of the New World

Columbus was aware of it

John Winthrop later compared the air of New England  
to “the smell of a garden”

Sir Walter Raleigh’s crew smelled wild flowers and  
the petals of shrubs  
even before a shoreline came to view

So it’s likely that Henry Hudson and his crew perked up  
at the beautiful smell that blew from the forested shores

Ahh, he may have felt, it’s the beautiful scents  
that beckon me up this fair-shored strait  
to the wonders of the Passage to Cathay!!!

### **The Natives the *Halve Maen* Encountered— The Algonkians**

The Natives the sailors of the *Half Moon* encountered  
upon along the Great North River  
were Algonkians and lived in a loose federation  
of tribes or “sub-tribes”  
under a bunch of names—  
Mahican, Delaware, Wappinger, Esopus,  
Manhattes, and others

all the way from the St. Lawrence River  
down to the Virginias.

Along the Hudson were  
the Mahicans in the northern parts  
the Delawares west of the Big River & below the Catskills  
the Wappingers along the River  
from what is now Poughkeepsie down to the Atlantic  
and along some of Long Island Sound.

Some called the majority tribe along the Hudson  
the Munsee Lenape

I like the name Mahican  
which occurs on some early Dutch maps

The Mahicans

and most of the other woodland Natives  
 were not as warlike as their  
 ferocious neighbors to the west & north: the Iroquois

Life among the Mahicans  
 had its comforts

There was good hunting in the vast woods  
 lots of wild turkeys, and passenger pigeons, rabbits,  
 squirrels, deer of course  
 all to eat by the tens of thousand  
 yet never to drop in number

Millions of beavers  
 to be caught along the back country streams & marshes  
 that fed into the Great North River

It's said that beaver tail cooked in bear grease  
 was *haute cuisine*  
 in the early 1600s

The bounty was vast! Beneficences of  
 heath hens, geese, mallards, teal— all easily caught

and you could fish the future Hudson River  
 just about bare-handed  
 to gather from its whirls of striped bass, perch, shad....

The Hudson once teemed with oysters  
 from the lower bay to Croton Point  
 Some oyster middens are 12 feet thick  
 and the Natives baked them in sand pits  
 wrapped in seaweed

They lived in bark houses with curved roofs  
 some of them dome-shaped  
 and quickly could fashion their long canoes of  
 birch or elm caulked with a jelly  
 of pounded slippery elm bark

They cleared land for agriculture  
 Built villages in the midst of large garden areas

Prepared their plots in the spring  
Corn and beans and squash

Some of the richest Native gardens  
by the Great River  
lay along the frequently flooded alluvial lands  
near the Esopus Creek and Rondout Creek in Kingston

Great fields of maize and beans once triumphed  
where now the blacktop of the Herzog Mall extends

In the summer the Natives camped by the shores  
to fish and raise their crops  
with much drying of fish for the winter

In the fall was the harvest of pumpkins, beans, maize, squash  
& the holding of ceremonies

They hied in the winter to the brrrrr-warding denseness  
of the forests, or to rock outcroppings

to fend off the cold



Print of Early Manhattan, from Vol. 1 of the  
1892 Memorial History of the City of New-York

### Not Much Known About Religious Practices

Both the Dutch and the English  
never bothered to learn much about  
the ceremonies and the beliefs  
the sense of cosmos & spirit  
of the many Natives they displaced



The Natives kept big storages of Indian wheat  
and gave the sailors some well cooked bread

September 5

A few from the ship went ashore  
and spent time with a crowd of children, women, men  
who gave the sailors tobacco as landing gifts

They noted the tall and “goodly oaks”  
by the shore, perfect for the building of boats  
or maybe even some European villages

A Native came aboard the *Half Moon*  
bringing sweet-tasting dried currents  
Others came with “mantles of feathers”  
and wearing various furs, plus necklaces of red copper  
and also copper tobacco pipes

They left at night, but as Robert Juet noted,  
“we rode very quiet” in the dark,  
“but durst not trust them.”

### A Battle on Sunday

September 6

Hudson sent forth an exploratory crew of five  
“to sound the other river.”

They noted how sweetly the air swelled with pleasant smells  
of grass and flowers

The party of five was returning  
when they were “set upon by two canoes”  
which carried a total of 26 Natives

Night fell, and there was rain  
which blew out the matchfire with which  
they could have triggered their muskets  
One of them, a man named John Colman  
died from an arrow in the throat, plus two were injured

They floated the night  
and could not find the mother ship

At 10 a.m. on September 7  
 the party returned to Hudson's vessel  
 they went ashore and buried their mate  
 a place they named Colman's Point

The next day the Natives came aboard the *Half Moon*  
 with tobacco and wheat to trade for bead and knives

They "offered us no violence," wrote Robert Juet  
 but made careful note of the Natives  
 "to see if they would make any show of death  
 to our man, which they did not."

September 9  
 The *Half Moon* spotted two big canoes  
 full of male Natives  
 one boat carrying bows and arrow  
 Hudson was suspicious, and took two Natives as hostages  
 and then took the ship to the river's channel  
 and anchored for the night

On the twelfth, very hot, with wind from the south-south-west  
 the *Half Moon* sailed a bit upriver.  
 After anchoring, some Natives came aboard  
 "Making show of love," as Robert Juet noted,  
 giving them wheat and tobacco, but once again  
 he jotted in his journal, "we durst not trust them."

On September 12 the winds were not of favor  
 and so Hudson anchored early.  
 In the morning a group of 28 canoes  
 packed with Natives— children, women, men  
 but the sailors were suspicious  
 and would allow no canoe to load up Natives,  
 though Hudson traded with the bobbing canoes  
 getting some oysters and beans  
 Juet noted the Natives' yellow copper pipes

September 12, 1609

The *Half Moon* pushed northward  
 passing the future Yonkers



the crew traded for some "plump" oysters

with Natives

then oozed up through the Highlands

on and on, straining for the Cathay route

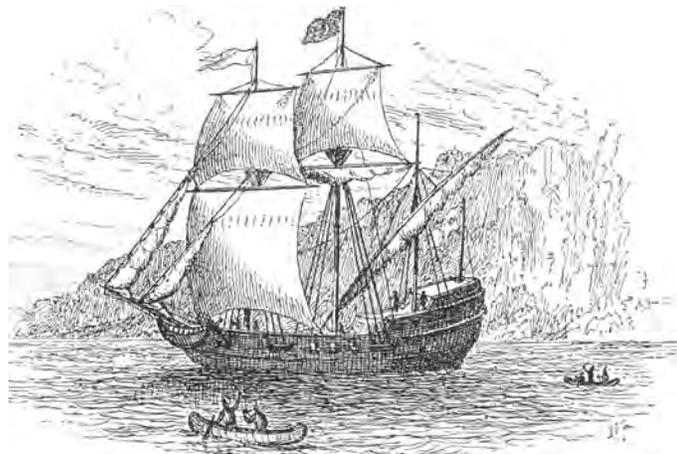


Half Moon near Yonkers in 1609 surrounded by Indian canoes  
from E. M. Ruttenber's 1872 *History of the Indian Tribes of Hudson's River*

On Sunday, the 13th  
Hudson ordered his ship to travel with the tide  
upriver for a number of miles  
At tide-turn they anchored

Again four canoes approached  
with a great store of "very good oysters"  
which they "bought for trifles"

In the afternoon they floated with the tide  
for two and 1/2 leagues  
then anchored for the night



On the 14th of September they sailed for 12 leagues

around 36 miles, up the Hudson  
 with a fair weather south-east wind  
 to a place there, as Juet wrote, there was “very high lands on both sides”  
 They noted how many fish were in the River,  
 & the closeness of the escarpments

The next day  
 with the “wind at south”  
 they ran up the river around 60 miles  
 sailing past tall mountains  
 noting great groups of salmon in the water



**The Half Moon in the Hudson Highlands**  
 from the 1892 Memorial History of the City of New-York

During the morning the kidnapped Natives  
 wiggled out of a porthole and escaped

by nightfall there were more natives  
 which Juet described as very loving  
 plus very old men, “where we were well used.”

The weather was very hot on September 16  
 while during the night a number of canoes came about the ship  
 and in the morning some Natives climbed aboard  
 bringing them ears of Indian corn, pompions (that is, pumpkins) and tobacco.  
 Night came and the *Half Moon* sailed north another 6 miles

On and on Cathay-obsessed  
 till September 17

it came to a shallowing section of the River  
 and Hudson was beginning to realize

## it was not the Path to Spice

On the 18th

in the shallows above what is now called Castleton  
 Henry went ashore in a Native canoe   
 with the senior citizen chief of the tribe  
 He noticed a well-made circular house of oak bark  
 with an arched roof and containing a big storage of  
 corn and beans  
 “enough,” he wrote, “to load three ships”

My guess is that Hudson wanted to ask some  
 questions about a big body of water up ahead  
 or a waterway cutting deeply into the continent

Hudson made note of the copper pipes with which the Natives  
 smoked tobacco

made him wonder if copper mines were nearby  
 and noted “all kinds of timber suitable for shipbuilding”

and making barrels and casks  
 important for the shipping of stuff

They apparently wanted him to stay with them for the night  
 and when they saw he was afraid  
 broke their arrows into pieces and tossed them into a fire

September 19, 1609

The *Half Moon*  shoved further up the river  
 to where now Albany  
 nestles by the water

dropped anchor  
 and sent a smaller boat upriver

who brought back the news  
 that neither the Big River  
 nor its westward tributary  
 now the Mohawk

was fit for a passage to Spice

September 20

a smaller boat was sent upstream  
 a second time to “sound the river”  
 then, uh oh, only two leagues to the north, that’s 6 miles  
 the river’s channel became narrow  
 with varying depths

On the 21st, the ship’s carpenter went ashore  
 to make a fore-yard  
 Hudson decided to test some Natives  
 “whether he had any treachery in them”  
 They brought some Natives into the cabin  
 to get them drink on wine and aqua-vita  
 but found no treachery, just a bit of drunken merriment.

September 22

in the spirit of “measure twice, cut once”  
 a party of five “went up without boat”  
 to sound the river

In the afternoon Natives boarded  
 to give Henry Hudson some beads & tobacco  
 They brought a “great platter” stacked with venison  
 and pointed out to the captain “all the country round about”  
 then departed all except the old Native hostage

And then in the evening after dark  
 the small boat returned  
 from sounding the Hudson

They had traveled upriver about 24 miles  
 and found the water so shallow  
 that the *Half Moon* would not be able  
 to advance much further

This was not the route to Cathay

During the next few days the *Half Moon*  
 worked back down the River

At one spot they gathered a big store of chestnuts

On the 25th of September

some of Hudson's sailors walked on the west side of the River  
 and "found good ground for corn and other garden herbs."  
 They noted great stands of oaks, walnuts and chestnuts  
 and a big amount of what Juet called "good stones," plus  
 a "great store of slate" useful for building houses

In his report to the Dutch West India Company  
 the Captain would stir the advent of Dutch settlers  
 on the Hudson's fair shoresides

October 1 & 2

Not that far north of what Robert Juet called Manna-hata  
 a canoe got close to a cabin window  
 and up and in came a Native  
 to steal a pillow and some shirts  
 He was shot to death  
 Another had a hand cut off and drowned  
 The 2nd of October found the *Half Moon* fighting  
 the upcoming tide  
 and then there was hostility with the Natives  
 Juet and his mates killed a few with musket fire  
 A hundred or so shot arrows from the shore  
 according to the violence-prone Juet

Then the boat headed down stream  
 to a bay, in Juet's words  
 "on that side of the river that is called Manna-hata"

On October 4 the *Half Moon*  
 "came out of the great mouth of the great river"  
 and then they set their mainsail and spritsail,  
 plus their topsails  
 and steered off into the main sea  
 called the Atlantic

One month and three days later  
 the boat of Hudson arrived back  
 in English water  
 in the great Flow of Time

from the place with the Beautiful Air

*No gold no spice no China*  
*No passage no silk not much glory*  
*Except the Stuff of Story*

But there were oodles  
of beaver and otter skins

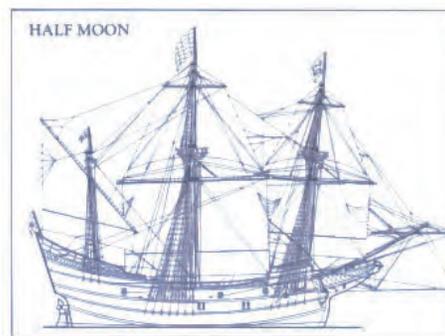
plenty of wood to build  
plus farmable land to the sides  
of the Great Flow

He realized, even though the path to the Spice  
so far either was blocked by ice  
or that the path across the supposedly narrow continent  
predicted by the maps  
was yet in error  
nevertheless

the Groote River and its tributaries  
might give wealth

Robert Juet had noted  
while the ship rested a few miles north of Kingston, NY  
how "the people of the Countrie came flocking aboard...  
many brought us Bevers skinnes and Otter skinnes,  
which wee bought for Beades, Knives and Hatchets."

### Beaver skins: Path to Wealth



Beaver fur  
was enormously hankered for  
in the Europe of 1609

to be made into felt for instance

Based on Hudson's up-the-River success  
the Dutch gov't in Amsterdam would soon grant  
the Dutch West Indies Company  
broad power to manage North & South America,



### A “Starving Time in Virginia”

Meanwhile the winter of 1609-10 was called  
the “Starving Time” in Virginia  
where there were just a few hundred souls in the colony  
so that by the end of six months  
only 60 had survived

& some had run off to join the Natives

Summer came  
& th’ governor asked Chief Powhatan to give back the run-offs

but Powhatan refused  
and then it was revenge as  
the good Englishers attacked an Indian village  
killed 15 or 16 cut down the corn and burned the houses

took children into boats  
tossed them overboard  
then shot them thrashing in their heads

### Population

1610

The estimated number of Europeans  
in the future U.S. colonies  
was 210

### Hudson’s Fourth Trip

1610

The English seized the *Halve Maen*  
plus its documents  
when it landed in England  
instead of Amsterdam  
in the fall of ’09

It took six months before the ship was released to the Dutch  
and Hudson never returned to the home country

of the Dutch East India Company

Instead, still itching to sleuth the ice  
he sought backing in England  
for his fourth voyage up into the brrrr

and a syndicate of support was put together  
which included Prince Henry  
and wealthy Londoners

His ship was called the *Discovery*

Hudson like all explorers  
delighted in studying the maps of previous voyages  
It's not really certain which maps Hudson consulted  
that hinted at a Northwest Passage through  
what the explorer George Weymouth  
in an earlier trip, had termed the "Furious Overfall"  
that is, the Hudson Strait  
then down into the huge Hudson Bay  
to its southmost parts

(Only some bits of H.H.'s final journal survive  
beginning April 1610 when he was still in London  
and ending August 3  
near a place called Cape Wolstenholme  
—named after one of the investors in  
Henry's 4th

Cape Wolstenholme is located along the southern edge  
of the Hudson Strait  
through which, moving east  
the *Discovery* oozed into the huge Hudson Bay

then probing 100s of miles southward into the  
James Bay  
Cathay-probing

It's likely the mutineers  
threw away the missing journals)

April 17 the boat set sail  
with 22 sailors and two "ship's boys"

The boat was wished well on its out-sailing  
by a group that included Prince Henry  
and the geographer Richard Hakluyt

May 5 the *Discovery* passed the north of Scotland  
then north north north  
to the east side of Iceland

### Desolation

Then Hudson ordered the ship to the west  
to Greenland

where on June 15  
Hudson wrote: “We were in sight of the land  
in latitude 59°27’, which was called... ‘Desolation’”

They headed northwest for another five days  
and then Hudson spotted what he described as  
“a strong stream running from east southeast  
to west northwest”

Wow! a strong stream of water running to the northwest!  
Yay! a possible path  
to the golden spice!

Where was Hudson and his crew?  
They were near the northern top of Newfoundland  
& the eastern side of the Hudson Strait

which led into what would be called Hudson Bay

Hudson then ordered the ship along the coast of Baffin Island  
for two weeks of winds and oodles of ice

Thereupon in a uh oh, Hudson ordered the *Discovery*  
to move back to the south

where after some up and down and back and forth  
the ship went into the Strait

and forth into Hudson Bay  
sometime in early August

After August 2, 1610 the journals of H.H. ceased

The crew apparently developed a sense of mutiny  
and Hudson fired the quarrelsome Robert Juet as mate

as the boat shoved onward into the great Bay

Apparently he ordered the *Discovery* to poke here and there  
down into Hudson Bay for hundreds of miles  
then into the narrower James Bay  
poking like an appendix at the southmost part

Then he sailed a bit back to the north

Time's crunching icicles brought on the winter  
while the boat was down toward the bottom of James Bay  
and thus it was stuck in winter ice

It's not known even after almost 400 years  
the exact location

The shipsmen had six months of food  
Hudson ordered the ship's carpenter  
ashore to build a house even though it was snowing  
the carpenter objected, but finally it was constructed

Food was plentiful at first: they caught over a thousand partridges  
described as "white as milk"  
and nets full of fish

after which the dull brutality of arctic winter  
engulfed.

Spring came.

A single native approached the explorers  
and traded skins for knives and trifles

Finally the waters were freed enough  
to move the ship  
back up into the great Bay

No more bread. Very little cheese

Squabbling.

Then the ship was ordered to the northwest  
as if Hudson was determined to keep up  
his search for the Northwest Passage

Grrrs arose to the GRRRRS! of mutiny

The night of June 20, 1611  
a group of sailors  
decided to place Henry Hudson  
and all the men who were ill  
into a shallop  
then set them adrift

The ship's carpenter decided to join his captain on the shallop  
bringing his tools along

The ship and shallop  
were around 800 miles south of  
Cape Wolstenholme and the Hudson Strait

and the clear path home

The little shallop at first was tied to the *Discovery*  
then the cords were severed

and the drift of eternity commenced

Hudson's young son John was with him

9 in all

The *Discovery* reached the Hudson Strait by mid-July  
where some Natives taught them a method  
utilizing a snare on a pole's end  
to capture birds

24 had sailed from London back in the spring of '10  
only 8 returned

### **No Monument to Hudson in London**

Hudson's wife Katharine

demanded a financial settlement  
and years later was able at last to return to England

where she strived to have a monument to Henry  
raised up in London  
to no avail.

There were three voyages to  
what is now Hudson Bay  
'tween '12 and '15  
looking for Henry Hudson & his son

but also the boatway to Asia

again to no avail

Born around 1610 was  
Peter Stuyvesant  
the fierce and grumpy future  
leader of New Amsterdam

who was about two  
when Hudson's shallop was set adrift

### **The Dutch Start to Trade on the Hudson** 1612-14

Two Dutch ships, *Tiger & Fortune*  
were sent to trade with the Hudson River Natives

and a few huts were constructed  
on Manhattan

on the now very lower Broadway  
around number 45

1613 saw a more permanent "trading post"

then '14 a Fort on the southern tip  
on the way to the Apple

### **Adriaen Block Maps Manhattan**



August 1619

the first slaves, brought by a Dutch ship,  
were unloaded ashore for sale  
at Jamestown, Virginia

These were possibly/probably the first Africans  
in the English American colonies

but slaves were not numerous for another 50 years

during which indentured white servants  
out of England

supplied much of the grunt and groan  
in the farms & tobacco fields

1623

the Dutch West India Company  
was chartered in the Dutch Republic  
to trade and colonize  
the Novus Mundus

The next year  
it built trading places  
at Fort Orange (Albany)  
and on the isle of Manhattan

They ordered a warehouse constructed at the Fort  
and then shipments of otter and beaver  
down to Governors Island  
and off to Europe

The Company offered land to the  
men who would bring their families  
to the Dutch settlements

small lots

and then immigrants came:  
Some were Walloons— Protestants  
from the Spanish Netherlands  
who joined Dutch farmers  
establishing homesteads or “boweries”

on Long Island  
and along the lower Hudson

both sides of the River

In May of 1624

30 Dutch families arrived in New Netherland  
led by Cornelis May  
who was New Netherland's first governor

The 30 families constructed houses along  
the very southern tip of Manhattan



one of the earliest images of New Amsterdam  
in 1626

### Farming, Fur Trading, Fishing, Lumbering

created the cargoes  
for the “return voyages”  
during the Dutch years

though during the first decades  
(until the beaver-bearing ponds & marshes  
became depleted) the most moolah-rewarding thing  
the Dutch could do  
was dealing in furs with the Natives

And so on September 23, 1626  
the Dutch ship *The Arms of Amsterdam*  
sailed from New Netherland

with a big first cargo  
of 7246 Beaver skins  
178 1/2 Otter skins  
675 Otter skins [sic]  
48 Minck skins  
36 Wild cat skins

33 Mincks  
plus 34 Rat skins!

plus lots of oak and hickory timber

bound for Amsterdam

The crew brought good news to the States General:

“They have purchased the Island Manhattes  
from the Indians  
for the value of 60 guilders”

The whole long and thick-treed Island!  
for some tools and some cloth perhaps  
though it’s not clear

The colonists on Manhattes  
reported to the Company  
that they had planted seeds in May,  
then brought them to harvest in September

“wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, canary seed, beans and flax”

Indeed, it was Peter Minuit who had arrived on May 4  
and bought Manhattan from  
some Canarsie tribal chiefs for  
what is described in many history books as  
vague assortment of gewgaws, gadgets & trink’s

The truth is that no one really knows.

The island was called “Manhattes” by the Natives  
a name to stick upon the time-wrought robes of  
Clio, the Muse of History

The Dutch Reformed Church  
was brought to the village of Manhattan  
and to Fort Orange

Missionaries were sent north to the Mohawks  
so that with a lot of work  
some were converted

## The Patroon System

1629

The Dutch West India Company  
voted to set up huge domains  
on both sides of what some early documents  
call the North River  
not yet the Hudson

offering 16 miles of frontage along  
New Netherland's navigable rivers to each "patroon" who  
would bring fifty humans, each above 15 years,  
and plunk them on the land as laborers  
bound to terms of servitude

After this, a group of "great feudal families" was established  
some so persistent/powerful  
they survived through wars and rev  
all the way to the middle of the 1800s

The Patroon system was set up on June 7, 1629  
by the Dutch West India Company  
through a document called the  
"Charter of Freedoms and Exemptions to Patroons"

thus almost all the land along both sides of the  
Great River  
was given out to a few

Big prob for the patroons:  
they wanted to manage their estates moolahiferously  
while staying in Holland—

the age-old problem of absentee latifundia

## A Huge Patroonship by the Future Albany

August 30, 1630

meanwhile on the Hudson River  
surrounding Fort Orange  
and extending 24 miles on both sides of the Hudson River  
the Dutch patroonship  
called Rensselaerswyck

was founded by the jeweler Kiliaen Van Rensselaer  
one of the Dutch East India Company directors

with a couple o' thousand tenants  
and just about the only successful patroonship

as it kept itself intact when  
it became an English Manor in 1685  
all the way to when  
the Down Rent war of 1839  
killed off the concept of perpetual leases

Van Rensselaer managed the shot from Old Amsterdam

1638

to Nieuw Amsterdam

came Dr. Hans Kiersted

selling Kiersted Ointment

with a secret family recipe

### **New Sweden**

March 1, 1638

A foray of Dutch boats led by Peter Minuit  
the purchaser of Manhattes  
brought a group of Swedes  
to the Novus Mundus

where they created a little village  
(near where Wilmington, Delaware is now)  
and named it Fort Christina  
after the Queen of Sweden

Thus New Sweden was born  
(on land later belonging to Pennsylvania, N.J. & Delaware)  
and began to quarrel with nearby Dutch settlements

(Peter Stuyvesant later attacked and conquered NS  
in 1655 & oozed it into New Netherland)

### **The Log Cabin Arrives from Sweden**

1638

The Swedes brought to America their own logs  
 with which to build some Finnish-styled log cabins  
 & the first steam bath  
 which the Puritans of Plymouth  
 really could have used

### **Yonkers is Born!**

1639-1646

the Dutch West India Company  
 “bought” the site of the future Yonkers  
 from the Manhattes Natives  
 In '46 it was given to  
 Adriaen van der Donck

His title *De Jonkbeer* became the city’s name

### **Violence from Land Disputes**

Around 1638 the Dutch West India Company  
 moved the economy toward the growing of grain

and brought in additional settlers

It took a couple of years  
 but by 1640 more New Netherlanders had shifted to agriculture

### **The Brutality of the Dutch Empire**

Whether in their nutmeg colonies in the Banda Islands  
 or against what they often called the “Heathen”  
 up and down the River

and however proud the Dutch are now  
 of their Hudson Valley presence

the truth is that they were known for their brutality  
 in many parts of their Empire

## Then Kieft Went Kill-Batty

There was a governor named Willem Kieft  
 (He came after Peter Minuit)  
 who was the most anti-Native of the New Netherland leaders  
 and his violence was butcheresque

He ruled from 1638 to '47  
 at a time when the Dutch were spreading into Long Island  
 and Connecticut, grabbing land

as Natives up and down the Great River  
 were signing very questionable "Indian deeds"  
 for vast acreage with vague boundaries

Kieft attempted to tax the Tappan tribe  
 in corn and wampum  
 to pay for the very Dutch gov't  
   that was taking their land

The Natives demurred

Kieft accused the Raritans of Staten Island  
 of stealing some pigs in 1640  
 and sent 100 troops  
 who killed several Raritans  
 and "mangled the body of another"

The Raritans retaliated  
 and thus the basic peace 'tween the Dutch  
 & the numerous Native groups  
 was riled into kill-craze.

Governor Kieft's wars with the Natives  
   '40-'45

as an account in *Proceedings of the  
 American Philosophical Society*, Vol 121, #2, described it:

saw "blood baths from Kingston to Westchester  
 and from the northern tip of Long Island to Staten Island."

It prompted the historians Charles and Mary Beard to write:

“Of all the sickening butcheries that accompanied  
the conflict of whites and Indians  
there was nothing more horrible than the tragedies  
which occurred on the frontiers of New Netherland,”

—See Charles and Mary Beard in  
their *Rise of American Civilization*, p. 75

### **Fur Greed**

1642-'53

The killing of animals for fur  
was a factor in the war-inducing tension

A war over the fur trade and supplied by the French & Dutch  
saw the Hurons and Iroquois fight

The Iroquois bested the Hurons  
& the Hurons pulled west  
to Wisconsin, Michigan and western Ontario

and the winning Iroquois  
signed a peace treaty with th' French

### **Small Pox and Disease Ravage the Hudson Valley Natives**

Amoebic dysentery, venereal disease,  
tuberculosis, measles, & yellow fever  
were threats to the New Netherland Natives

while smallpox several times ravaged the Algonkian-speaking  
natives of the Great Valley

during the Dutch years

Adriaen Van der Donck (the owner of Yonkers at the time)  
said in 1656 that smallpox had killed  
90 % of the Natives in the villages  
of New Netherland

### And Alcohol

The Esopus Natives near the future Kingston  
and the other Mahicans  
had a fondness  
    some say a weakness  
        for rum and spirits

The Dutch forbade its colonists  
to trade for furs with alcohol

yet Dutch agents and interlopers  
traded guns, kegs of powder, and rum

setting up illegal little stores  
in the holds of boats tied in the Hudson

Willem Kieft too, as violence prone as he was  
managed to make money aplenty  
He apparently sold kegs of powder and muskets to the Natives  
liquor too (a major crime in old New Netherland)  
and operated a tavern

### The War Weakening the Dutch

The war that followed the slaughter of the Raritans  
in the summer of 1640  
not only caused a great loss of life and largess  
but had a negative impact on the entire colony  
so that as one history put it, “New Amsterdam  
was in no condition to offer resistance to the invading forces of  
the Duke of York, in the year 1664.”

(see *The Memorial History of the City of New-York*, Vol. 1, p. 200)

### Meanwhile There Was Plenty of Fun for Visiting Puritans

1642

The Dutch were not nearly as Puritanical as the  
dour stewards of the Plymouth Colony

so that around 1642  
many traders arrived in New Amsterdam from  
Virginia and New England

some to escape the “solemn reign of the blue laws,”  
and to experience the jollity of the small town of Manhattan

“to have a bout at nine pines, and a glass of Rosa Solis....  
or a draft of new ale and a game of backgammon at Snedeker’s  
little tap-room” by the docks

In short, a Puritan could have a little forbidden fun  
in the future Apple

(See the 1892 *Memorial History of the City of New-York*, p. 221)

1642

the first Dutch Reformed Church in Manhattan  
of rudimentary wood  
inside a fort to protect against Natives

### **An Attack As Bad as My Lai**

February 25, 1643

Finally, the winter of 1643  
Kieft promulgated what E. M. Ruttenber termed  
“a massacre more terrible than any of which their  
annals bear record”

(see Ruttenber’s 1872 *History of the Indian Tribes  
of the Hudson River*, p. 107)

On February 25, the Natives  
had “gathered behind Pauw’s settlement”  
and were sleeping “when the work of death commenced”

First shrieks, then silence  
like at My Lai

as “warrior and squaw, sachem and chief,  
mother and babe, were alike massacred.”

The Dutch attackers tossed babies into the water

and would not let their parents save them

Then total war began

1644

the first Thanksgiving in New York  
to celebrate the safe return  
of Dutch troops after a battle  
with Connecticut Natives near Stamford.

After the attack on the New Jersey village  
the Natives rose up  
along the Great North River

burning Dutch settlements  
so that the fort at New Amsterdam grew crowded

Kieft split in '47 and a trembling peace returned

1646

Before he departed Kieft chartered Breuckelen

The modern Flatbush Avenue  
was a Native trail

### **The Long Battle of Drive-Out**

The Dutch, then the English  
spreading up the Great North River  
Staten Island, Yonkers, Long Island  
& along the Connecticut River

was part of a long battle of drive-out  
that would last 240 more years

to the final  
battles in  
the Plains  
in the 1890s

## Peter Styuvesant Arrives in New Amsterdam

1646

A mean and rather funless person named Peter Stuyvesant became governor of New Netherland

He was stern and efficient  
but had a combative relationship  
with the increasingly cosmopolitan  
colonists of New Amsterdam

Born around 1610  
the final director general  
of New Netherland

came to power in '46

He was a military man  
& lost his leg against the Portuguese in 1644

and thereafter sported a silver banded wooden one

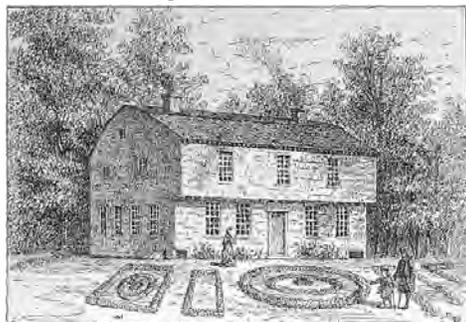
He did bring a bit of political and economic reform  
& was known for his fierce efficiency  
but unpopular

He was a flame-brain, prone to anger  
flaring with pomposity, it is said,  
and intolerant

The burghers rose up  
won self-gov't

and Mr. Stuyvesant perforce had to bargain with the youthful city  
on issues of taxes and defense

Stuyvesant had a house  
with circular gardens on the Bouwery



## Fire Always a Problem

1648

4 fire wardens were appointed in New Netherland  
by Director Stuyvesant

to inspect the wooden chimneys of the city

& collect 4 guilders for each chimney not well swept

money to be used for equipment such as leather buckets,  
ladders, axes

for "The Prowlers" 8 guys  
roaming the streets 9 pm till dawn

## The Remonstrance of the Nine

July 27, 1649

Many Dutch settlers sought to live in peace  
with the Natives

Thus after the terrible killings of 1643  
& the long cycles of blood  
a Council of Nine Men  
who served as advisors to Peter Stuyvesant  
wrote a lengthy critique of New Netherland  
particularly the heavy-booted and hemic reigns  
of Kieft and Stuy

Of particular interest is the following text from  
the Remonstrance regretting the treatment of the  
Natives:

"We are also in the highest degree beholden to the Indians,  
who not only have given up to us this good and fruitful country,  
and for a trifle yielded us the ownership,  
but also enrich us with their good and reciprocal trade,  
so that there is no one in New Netherland or who trades  
to New Netherland without obligation to them.  
Great is our disgrace now, and happy should we have been,  
had we acknowledged these benefits as we ought,

and had we striven to impart the Eternal Good  
to the Indians, as much as was in our power,  
in return for what they divided with us."

(The full & lengthy text of the Representation of the Nine is found in  
E. B. O'Callahan, ed. *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of  
the State of New York*, Vol 1.; the text here quoted is on pp. 294-295,  
published in 1856.)

1650

the English & the Dutch  
agreed on border lines  
divvying up their North American colonies

### Slaves Come to New Netherland

1652

the Dutch central gov't allowed  
importation of black slaves to New Netherland

There were laws to prevent mistreatment  
so that whipping of slaves was not allowed  
unless the slaveowner received permission  
from the government

That same year, Stuyvesant had to grant New Amsterdam  
home rule, i.e. an autonomous city gov't

1652

miniature golf was played in New Netherland  
where a crooked club putted a small ball  
around a green

### The Power of the Dutch Empire

The Dutch of course were powerful traders  
—by 1648 they controlled 3/4s of the shipping of Baltic grain,  
and much of the Swedish metal,  
plus 3/4s of the salt sent from France and Portugal  
to the Baltic States.

They were very powerful also in porcelain, sugar, spices

The weakening of the Dutch in the *Novus Mundus*  
came about through its two exhausting wars  
with England

including:

### **The First Anglo-Dutch War**

1652-1654

when England, led by Oliver Cromwell  
went against the Dutch Republic  
just recently freed from Spanish control

By '53 the English had the battle advantage  
and in 1654 the Dutch accepted what is called  
“the first Peace of Westminster”

### **The Creation of Wall Street**

1653

The Dutch colonists in New Amsterdam  
were mightily afraid

of Indian attacks  
& afraid too of the British

so they built a wall across lower Manhattan  
along what is now Wall Street

from the Hudson to the East River

### **The Beauty of Dutch Gardens**

by 1653

Dutch women were famous for their gardens

as an early visitor named Van der Donck recounted  
after he surveyed the beautiful green fuse of spring  
in New Amsterdam:

“white and red roses, stock roses, cornelian roses, eglantine,  
jenofifelins, gilly-flowers, different varieties of fine tulips,  
crown-imperials, white lilies, anemones, bare-dames,  
violets, marigolds, summer-sots, clove trees”

plus “sunflowers, red and yellow lilies, morning-stars,  
bell-flowers, red and white and yellow maritoffles.”

all part of the glory of the Green Fuse  
and the nearby beauty of the windmills as well  
and maybe a flock of geese in a gabbling pen

1654

the first Jewish immigrants  
in the Colonies  
3 escaping the Spanish Inquisition in Brazil  
and others  
24 in all  
to New Amsterdam  
where they founded a synagogue

Governor Stuyvesant wanted to stop it  
but the Dutch West India Company upheld their right  
to come

### Stuyvesant Attacking New Sweden

1655

Stuyvesant led Dutch soldiers  
down into New Sweden  
to crush Johan Printz’s control in Delaware  
after years of arguments over trade and hegemony

and the Dutch took over

Thereafter, the Swedes and Finns living along the Delaware River  
eagerly became English citizens when  
William Penn founded Pennsylvania in 1683.

1656

Sunday WILL be a day of rest!  
said a law in New Netherland from the burgomasters

no drinking, building, sawing, smithing, hunting, dancing,  
cardplaying, bowling, or “jaunting in boats or carriages”

### **Price Controls for Bread!**

Also in New Amsterdam in '56  
a law requiring bakers to bake coarse & white bread twice a week  
  
both for Xtians & for Natives

The price was controlled at 14 stuyvers for an 8-pound coarse loaf  
—that’s a little more than a guilder

### **Golf-Zap in Ft. Orange**

1657

Okay. Possibly the first mention of golf  
aka kolven, an early form of the sport

in a complaint from the sheriff of Ft. Orange (Albany)

that 3 men were playing kolven on a Sunday

1657

horse racing was forbidden in New Amsterdam  
by Stuyvesant

In 1658

the Dutch spread to rural north Manhattan  
to found Nieuw Haarlem  
today’s Harlem

### **Boston Murders Quakers**

1659

When Quakers came to Massachusetts  
they were jailed and tossed out

but when two dared to return in 1659  
they were murdered by hanging

on the Boston Commons

—one bloody root of the American karma

They were William Robinson and Marmaduke Stevenson  
who deserve a monument  
on the Commons

1658

possibly the first hospital in the future United States

a “clean house with plenty of firewood, and a fire”

supervised by a matron  
and set up by Dutch West India Company surgeon  
Dr. Varravanger

### Bad News for Fence Thieves

1659

In New Amsterdam a law:

“No person shall strip the fences of posts or rails  
under penalty for the first offense  
of being whipped and branded,  
and for the second, of punishment with the cord until death ensues”



A sketch of Nieuw Amsterdam in 1659  
as you would find it arriving by boat.  
Note one of the first things to see:

the gallows & stocks  
down by the dock at the water's edge  
in this 1659 print from John Barber and Henry Howe's  
1841 *Historical Collections of the State of New York*

## The Division Sign

1659

The Division Sign

÷

yea, it came to America

invented by the German mathematician Johann Rahn

## The First and Second Esopus Wars

1659-1664

On September 20, 1659

a bunch of Dutch colonists and soldiers

sans provocation

attacked a group of around five Natives

sitting around a campfire not far from

the Native village of Esopus

(now Kingston)

Thus began the first Esopus War

The second Esopus War commenced on June 7, 1663

with a surprise attack on Nieuwe Dorp (Hurley)

and on Wiltwyck,

the name forced on Esopus by Peter Stuyvesant

The second war went till May '64

with the nearly total destruction of the Esopus culture

in the mid-Hudson

thanks to the grind-and-pound tactics of Mr. Stuy

June 23, 1663

Charles II forked over New Jersey to James, the Duke of York

with important implications for the

future United States of America

### **The Eng's Claimed it was Theirs**

The grovel of grab  
was everywhere

The English, for instance,  
claimed that the New Netherland colony  
  
was actually owned by them  
by virtue of the Eng's discovering & claiming  
it first

### **Population**

1664

New Netherland  
after 40 years  
had about 10,000 residents

### **The Birth of New Jersey**

1664

a couple of the first operators of Carolina  
one Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret

arranged a huge land grab from their good friend  
the Duke of York

territory between the Hudson and the Delaware  
which was given the name New Jersey

They began to sell small freehold parcels  
and buyers arrived

to join the Dutch  
who had already built hamlets on the Hudson's western bank

The first townlet in New Jersey was Elizabeth

Then Puritans from Connecticut

formed Newark

& Scotch-Irish Presbyterians moved into the eastern portions  
of the future state

while near the Delaware River  
came English Quakers

### **Dutch Snuffed Out of NY**

1664

It was the year too that King Charles II  
granted to his brother the Duke of York  
(the future King James II)

the entire land mass  
'tween the Hudson and the Delaware

and sent a fleet against New Amsterdam

Surrender! was the message.

A surprise English naval attack in September  
a fleet of four British ships  
under the command of Colonel Richard Nicolls

who was hired to the Duke of York

would bring Peter Stuyvesant's career to the dust of history  
as he surrendered control of New Netherland

Dutch power had weakened  
in part because of the Anglo-Dutch warfares

and even though they had brought Europeans  
up and down the Great River

fought against the English expansion from Massachusetts  
down along the Connecticut River

and bested the Swedish settlers in Delaware

the Dutch found their vast power tattered

And so it was that September 8, 1664  
the town & fort of New Amsterdam  
was surrendered

February 28, 1665

The Duke of York promulgated  
what were known as  
the Duke's Laws

Protestant sects were recognized within New York

as opposed to the Dutch  
who only allowed the Dutch Reformed Church

### **The Second Anglo-Dutch War** 1665-1667

Eleven years after the first Anglo-Dutch War  
came the second

Charles II had been restored to the throne in '60  
& the Parliament urged Charles to war again upon the Dutch  
whipped on the while by English merchants

This he did in '65  
with not "good" results

The ships of the Dutch  
bested the English in June of 1666  
sliding up the Thames  
to destroy them at anchor  
in the Medway River in 1667

Thus the Peace of Breda o' 1667

They're always declaring peace  
while building the war ships of the morrow

Meanwhile the Dutch colony  
of Nieuw Amsterdam  
came to a nominal close

however humiliating the peace deal  
was to the English

### **New York is Founded**

Though the down-toned Dutch grabbed back Manhattan in '73  
it lost it again to the Brits in '74  
permanently by the Treaty of Westminster

after which it was four on the floor  
for Britain

They named the future city after the brother of the king  
the Duke of York

Early New Jersey and New York  
tended to be ruled  
by greedy fellows  
eager to escape their debt problems back in England

so they kept busy padding their estates  
to avoid the hated clank of Debtors Prison

### **The Great Plague in London**

1664-1665

It began in early November of '64  
and continued through the severity of the winter  
then picked up through '65  
till 68,596 passed from the plague  
out of a population of 460,000

plus 2,000 more in '66

Houses of the afflicted were sealed  
with a red cross painted outside  
& the words  
"God have mercy upon us!"

After that year it more or less departed

## The Plague and Fire Medal

1666



They struck a medal remembering the  
 1666 Plague and Fire in the “Annus Mirabilis” of London  
 The Eye of God is in the center, with comets on each side,  
 one spewing down pestilence, the other flame  
 while in the foreground Death on a horse  
 fights a knight

And so it was that on July 21, 1667  
 the so-called Peace of Breda  
 negotiated at Breda Castle in the Netherlands

gave all of New Netherland  
 over to the ownership of England.

Thus passed the time that Henry Hudson  
 came to the Hudson Valley  
 and urged the Dutch to settle  
 and the tracing of those years

## Beautiful Air

—the Voyages of Henry Hudson to the  
 New World and up the Great River

©2009 Edward Sanders

adapted from *America, a History in Verse*, Vol. 8, The 17th Century