

First Farm in Menands

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Immediately he acquired the lease on the large farm which encloses the greater share of Menands. The farm was bordered on the north by the Kromme Kil, a slow moving stream on the south side of what we know today as Schuyler Flatts. The farm extended south to the Meeslandt Kil, a stream which flows south of the Dutch Village apartments and runs under the Park Lane apartments.

Broer Cornelis did not become famous for his farming activities. The farm land was of the best and many others coveted it without success. He controlled the lease until his death.

One gets the feeling that he had a close association with Kiliaen van Rensselaer to "get away" with some of his doings. He certainly had many irons in the fire to occupy his attention elsewhere than on the farm.

He was born about 16~~3~~⁴ and was buried December 10, 1676, a respectable age of about 72 years.

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Broer Cornelis

Journal of Jasper Danckaerts, 1679-1680
by J. Franklin Jameson
1913

p 199 April 23, 1680

"Mr. Sanders (at Albany) having provided us with horses, we rode out about nine o'clock to visit the Cohoes, which is the falls of the great Maquaas Kill-----. We rode for two hours over beautiful, level, tillable land along the river, when we obtained a guide who was better acquainted with the road through the woods. He rode before us on horseback. In approaching the Cohoes from this direction, the roads are hilly, and in the course of half an hour you have steep hills, deep valleys, and narrow paths, which run round the precipices, where you must ride with care, in order to avoid the danger of falling over them, as sometimes happens. ----- We arrived about noon." He describes the falls at length.

"On our return we stopped at the house of our guide, whom we had taken on the way up, where there were some families of Indians living. Seeing us, they said to each other, 'Look, these are certainly real Dutchmen, actual Hollanders.'" Robert Sanders asked them how they knew it. We see it, they said, in their faces and in their dress. "yes", said one, 'they have the clothes of real Hollanders; they look like brothers'. They brought us some ground-nuts, but although the Dutch call them so, they were in fact potatoes, for of ground-nuts, or mice with tails (peanuts), there are also plenty. They cooked them, and gave us some to eat, which we did. There was a canoe made of the bark of trees and the Indians have many of them for the purpose of making their journeys. It was fifteen or sixteen feet or more in length. It was so light that two men could easily carry it, as the Indians do in going from one stream or lake to another. They come in such canoes from Canada, and from places so distant we know not where. Four or five of them stepped into this one and rowed lustily through the water with great speed, and when they came back with the current they seemed to fly. They did this to amuse us at the request of Mr. Sanders. Leaving for home, we came again to the house of one Frederick Pieters (probably Philip Schuyler), where we had stopped in riding out. He is one of the principal men of Albany, and this was his farm.-----"

It is interesting to surmise where the location of the house of the guide might have been. Danckaerts had an easy two hour ride along the river flats before he came to the guide's house. From there they spent an hour of difficult travel to complete their journey to the falls. Because the Indians displayed their prowess with the canoe in the river the house would be near the same.

Your author believes that the site was on the mainland, directly opposite the southwestern tip of Van Schaeck Island, just north of Green Island. The river flats narrowed here and soon the travellers would encounter the woods and hills, and the formidable gully in the Harmony mill section. The Indians must have been squatters because they are on patroon land. The bark canoe was likely birch bark.

BROER CORNELIS VAN SLYCK

Jacques Cornellise van Slyck, son of Broer Cornelis, is listed as one of the first proprietors of Schenectady. However, Yates in his History of Schenectady County, π says that Broer Cornelis was the seventh named proprietor. We know that there were close ties between Arent van Curler and Broer Cornelis. Further, with the travel that Cornelis did in the area, to Canajoharie, etc. it seems logical that he probably was interested in obtaining land grant in the area of Schenectady.

We have no record of his having had a house in Schenectady. Further the lands at Willow Flats, and the islands, may have been entirely out of his hands.

Vrooman, Forts and Firesides, states that Broer Cornelis spent much of his later life at Canajoharie, probably trading with the Indians. He was adopted into his wife's tribe. His first son, Jacques, was born at the Indian village of Canajoharie in 1640, and like his father became one of the original proprietors of Schenectady. Vrooman says Otstoch was called a "Princess" and died on the great island known as Van Slyck's Island. Further, she was buried under a willow tree at the eastern point of the island, opposite the foot of Washington Avenue.

The sequence of his son's births is uncertain.

His daughter, Hillette, is well known as an interpreters of the Indian language. She became a Christian, broke with her mother, and married Pieter Danielse Van Olinda. Hillette was given Shaker Island, in Niskayuna, in 1667 for her work for the Indians. Also we find that she was granted 400 acres by Indian deed of October 6, 1704. This land was north of the Manor line, from the Kahoos or Great falls west to the patent of Peter Hendrick de Haes. History also states that Broer Cornelis spent some time at this Indian village, near the falls, prior to 1640. Maybe that is where he met Otstoch first. Undoubtedly he would be drawn to the site for trading purposes.

It is of interest that this 400 acres would be 1.3 miles long, along the Manor line, and only about a third of a mile in depth, or 1760 feet (26.6 chains).

There is no further record of use or occupancy of this until Van Olinda received a large patent in 1719, which included this acreage.

Danckaerts, in his Journal, mentions seeing Indians at the house of his guide, who he obtained in the vicinity of the falls area, page 200, April 23, 1680. Apparently these people lived near the Cohoes Falls.

Cornelis Theunissen van Breuckelen
Broer Cornelis van Slyck

Parents _____ and _____
 Born c 1604 Died Dec. 10, 1676
 At _____ At _____
 About 30 years old when he made agreement 4-5-1634
 Married _____ Otstoch previous to 1640
 At _____ Canajoharie ?

* * * SPOUSE * * *

Otstoch "Alstoch"
 Parents Frenchman Jacques _____ and Indian woman
 _____ Hartell
 Born Prob. c 1620 Died _____ Buried Van Slyck Island
 At _____ At _____ opposite Washington Ave., Sedy

* * * Places of Residence * * *

<u>Town</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
4-5-1634	Albany	NY	3 year agreement with Kiliaen van Rensselaer to do carpentering, brick laying, masonry or such work as ordered in the colony. By 10-3-1636 we know he is occupying the farm south of Schuyler Platts.	

* * * CHILDREN * * *

<u>Born</u>	<u>Died</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Buried At</u>
<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Place</u>
Mertia	1662		
Cornelis			
Jacques Cornelis	c 1640	c 1690	Griet's Breuckelen of Albany
Hillette	c 1640		Peter Barthele Van Olinde on Feb 10, 1705
Lived on east half of Willow Platts west of Rotterdam			
Leah		1) Clas Willemse van Coppert 2) Jonathan Stevens	
Lived on west side of Willow Platts.			

--- References ---
 Hist. of Colonie (1980), page 27 may show Van Slyck house west of Sedy
 Forts and Birsides by Vrooman has extensive story of this family.

BROER CORNELIS

History of New Netherland by O'Callaghan

- p 434 1631--Cornelis Teunissen van Breukelen, Raedts person; vol. 1 the descendents of this man now call themselves van Brackelen.
- p 439 1641-Cornelis Antonissen van Slyck, alias Broer Cornelissen, was the first patentee of Katskill, anno 1646. Van Slyck's Island, opposite Schenectada, was so called after one of his sons, Jacques, to whom it was granted, 13th Nov., 1692, by Director Stuyvesant.
- p 461 1643-Van Curler is making a report to the Patroon. "As to what the Lord writes, that what concerns the delivery of the cattle, proceeded out of the head of Broer Cornelissen. That he will not deliver up the same, nor pay for them immediately, is true. He hath frequently spoken thereof in my presence, and moreover, hath also endeavored to stir up others thereto."
- p 461 In same letter-Van Curler is telling about the fact that colonists had purchased goods from a shipment on credit, which was against the rules. He ordered Van der Doncq, with his servant, Hans Vos, to search the several houses. These two made cursory searches which merely involved passing the time of day in some cases. He proceeded to the house of Broer Cornelissen's where he did not search at once, but only asked "How are ye all here?" and looked in, and returned back, while he well knew there were duffels there.
- p 584 August 22, 1646-Katskill Grant at Katskill to Corns. vol. 2 Anth. Van Slyck.

BROER CORNELIS

Cornelis Anthonisz van Schlick from Breuckelen (near Utrecht). Generally referred to as Cornelis Teunisz, often Broer Cornelis and sometimes as Cornelis Teunisz, alias Broeder. He signed his name as Cornelis Anthonnisen van Schlick.

⁵
April 12, 1634: He signed a contract with Kiliaen van Rensselaer for three years to go to the colony of Rensselaerswyck, on the North River of New Netherland. He was about 30 years old. He is to do carpentering, bricklaying, farming or such work as shall be ordered or be capable of doing. He signed also for monies for his passage and for tools-Cornelis Thonissen. He sailed from the Texel "de Eendracht" the beginning of May 1634. His account in the colony begins August 12, 1634.

June 25, 1640: KVR to Cornelis Teunisz v B
I have not received any letter from you for a long time, more particularly not since I sent you the commission as representative of the patroon---in defending my rights against unwilling farmers---I shall soon find out whether the farmers are my master or whether I am their master. I have signed commissions for my cousin Arent van Corler and Pieter Cornelissen and you---to defend my rights.
The four years of your lease will end the first of January 1641. I shall extend your lease for six or four years if you please to accept the conditions of "mauris Jansen", providing you maintain my rights against others----.
----instead of serving me so many years you have tried to establish a farm---making me believe in your letter of June 26, 1636, that the house would be finished much sooner than others and at half the expense. The truth is---the first house burnt down and that the next one was erected not by you but by others at an excessive cost to me. What became in 1636 of your 25 or 30 morgens of summer and winter grain you promised me? Is it not true that in 1638 you had but 13 morgens of winter grain and 3 morgens of summer---?

Van Rensselaer Bowler (VRB) records indicate that Cornelis was before October ~~1636~~ 1636 in charge of a farm, which until 1648 he seems to have worked on shares. From 1648 to 1652 he was charged with an annual rent of f600 and from 1652 to 1661 f500. VRB records that he seems to have always occupied the same farm, immediately south of Schuyler Flatts. Between 1643 to 1648 he spent much of his time at the Manhatans. Aug. 6, 1646 de Hooges urges him to come up the river to see how the harvest proceeds and intimates that he might come to the colony at least once a year to look after his farm.

August 22, 1646: While at Manhatans he received a patent for land at Catskill, in return for services rendered in bringing about general peace and in ransoming prisoners in the hands of the Indians.

May 12, 1639 Cornelis was appointed "voorspraecke" or representative with van Curler and Pieter Cornelisz (mentioned above). He continued until the arrival of van der Donck in 1641. On March 9, 1643 KVR writes to vdD "the reason your honor can not force the removal of "broer Cornelis" from the council is that they might seek to degrade yourself "

BROER CORNELIS

July 18, 1641: KvR to Arent van Curler (AvC) "I see that the farmers of the colony act badly, the whole reason is that they are spoiled. If they do not want to accept my conditions, I can get plenty of farmers, much more ~~xxx~~ easily than servants. Cornelis Teunissen complains that you side too much with pter cornelissen; and I guess you and I have good reason for this as you will be able to conclude from the arrangements I have made, the reason being that pr Cornelissen serves me better than Cornelis Teunissen as far as the farm is concerned."

"I am expecting to hear what measures have been taken with regard to the delivery of the tithes and other grain. Cornelis teunissen will doubtless understand what my opinion of him is. I must write him also, but must first hear how he has conducted himself."

June 3, 1642 KvR to Johannes Megapolensis (JM) "--the place of broer Cornelis and the Great Flats together, including some woods which can easily be cut down, contain about 140 morgens (about 280 acres) -----" This is consistent with a report of farms in 1651, Cornelis 25½ morgens (51a) and the Vlackte as 44 morgens (88 acres) or a total of 139 acres of tillable land, the rest being woods and pasture. More later on farms.

March 13, 1643: KvR to JM. KvR is expecting JM to straighten out many of his problems in the colony. "Confer some time with Antonie de hooge (AdH), who spent the winter last at Manhatans, and extract the quintessence of his discourse. I imagine that the substance will not be favorable to the colony and that under a polite pretext it will serve to prepare for unfavorable judgment; for instance I take it that broer Cornelis is the best man in his judgment; while in my opinion he is the worst one I have."

August 4, 1639: Instructions for Cornelis theunissen van breuckel.. representative of the patroon and the participants of the colony of Rensselaerswyck, according to which among other things he must govern himself in defending the rights of his lord and master.

First, he shall take care and help to bring it about that means be found to pay the persons connected with the church and the government, etc.

And in order that no one may doubt that what is written is the will of his patroon, the said patroon has thought fit to seal these instructions with the seal of the colony and to sign the same, this 4th day of August 1639, in Amsterdam.

May 14, 1641 KvR to AvC: The furs---case of brant peelen brought more than 800 guilders, that of Cornelis teunissen 500 guilders.

July 19, 1641: KvR to William Kieft, director of N. Netherland "In their leases, I have imposed tithes upon my people for the support of religion (as at the first opportunity I expect to seek a suitable minister and have given orders to build a church) and also for the support of the officers and of justice-----. Whether broer Cornelis has done me good service with regard to this matter I know partly but he knows best of all."

BROER CORNELIS

March 9, 1643: KVR to AvdD. "The subtlety of pieter Cornelissen and the laxity of Cornelis teunissen give you cause to spur on the latter and to match cleverness with cleverness in the case of the former, in which you have acquitted yourself well. As to the willingness of Broer Cornelis to give tithes provided he be allowed to seed the farm once more after the expiration of his term, but the refusal of himself and every one else to recognize the right of preemption, while these people when their lease has expired may express such determination and force me, I do not see on what right they base that action nor that your Honor could not with justice eject them from their farms and in case of opposition make a strong protest against them.

March 13, 1643 KVR to JM: "And as to vanderdonck, I am surprised; if what you write me that you heard Kieft say was true and not said in passion, he would not be worthy to live and would be unfit for his office. I guess this must come from broer Cornelis---"

March 16, 1643 KVR to AvC "From the letter written while among the mahicans I understand that the matter with pter Cornelissen and Cornelis teunissen was settled. Let this agreement be carefully observed and the papers examined point for point---" "I am sick of all this talk that the farmers will not give me more except at f10, it is childish, they must give me one half as belonging to me after the tithes have been deducted; their half is uncertain. Who promised them f10? And furthermore, brant pelen, crayn Cornelisse and broer Cornelis have accepted the conditions of maurits jansen of f6----" "That the farmers refuse to furnish animals without actual payment is not justified by their contract. You must find out who the author of that statement is and give me the name of the man. It must be some invention of Cornelis teunisse, who in order to avoid paying me what he owes me asks me to pay the note of hand which derrick Corsen unfaithfully made out in his name."

February 1, 1651 Animals on farm of Cornelis teunissen

8 horses and 6 cows

1651 memorandum: A farm used by Cornelis teunesse Van Bruckelen f600 guilders, 25½ morgens (51 acres), 10 horses, 9 cows

Does not pay, claims ownership

March 1, 1655 Lease of land back of Cornelis teunisz van Breuckelen. At Easter of this year 1654, I, Barent Pietersz, took over from Abraham Stevensz, two years lease of the maize land lying behind the land of Cornelis Teunisse and have further leased the aforesaid land from Jan Batist van Rensselaer, director of the colony of Rensselaer, for four succeeding years, for the sum of f24 a year.

March 7, 1654: Johan de Hulter leased a farm situated from the fifth creek (Patroon creek) north to the farm of Cornelis Teunisz van breuckelen. The lease is for six years. He is to accept the farm with its house, barn and barracks as delivered. Rent to be 275 guilders in merchantable wheat at 10 guilders and oats at four guilders per mudde.

BROER CORNELIS

August 28, 1652 Renewal of farm lease

Johan Baptiste van Rensselaer has this day again leased and rented the farm used by Cornelis Anthonisz van Breuckelen to the aforesaid Cornelis Anthonisz and Johan Labatje.

First the lessees bind themselves to have built at the first opportunity a dwelling house, barn and barracks on the high ground in the pasture of the aforesaid farm, at their expense without charge to the patroon. The lease to run six years. The lessees shall the first two years pay an annual rent of 500 guilders without tithes, and this for the reason that they have to expend money on the building; the last four years annually 500 guilders as rent and 100 guilders as tithes. Payment to be made in wheat at 10 guilders and oats at four guilders a mudde.

This was signed by Cornelis Anthonisen van Salick (sic). There seems to be no indication that Labatje ever joined him in the farm venture.

November 18, 1654 Lease to Jan Barentsz Wemp of farm between two creeks (Pøstenkill and Wynantskill) on east side of the Hudson river. A footnote refers to land bought from the Indians as "certain creek situated south of the farm of Thomas Chambers and north of Monamin's Castle, with the surrounding wood and the adjoining land and the jurisdiction thereof, to the castle, obliquely opposite the house of Broer Cornelis."

The above restricts the location of Cornelis's house to the area immediately south of Schuyler Flatts (Kromme Kill). There is great change in the soil levels here and now it is impossible to determine the distance from the binnekill, the Little river.

April 8, 1637 Adriaen Huybertsz probably came over on Rensselaerwyck. He is credited with six years of service at f100. He did work four and one years for Cornelis Teunisz from Breuckelen.

March 7, 1654 Johan de Hulter leased the farm north of fifth creek. This seems to have been the same farm Adriaen Huybertsz took over in 1652 from Rutger Jacobsz.

Hulter's farm lease is for six years at 275 guilders in wheat at 10 guilders and oats at four guilders per mudde.

The farm extends from fifth creek (Patroon) north to the farm of Cornelis Teunisz van Breuckelen.

In 1651 this farm "called Blommendael, used by arion Huijberts; rut Jacobs lessee" is rated at f300, 14 morgens (28 acres), 9 horses and 10 cows.

Three Farms

We now have some information on three farm, one north and one south of Broer Cornelis.

	<u>Guilders</u>	<u>Morgens</u>	<u>Horses</u>	<u>Cows</u>
First farm at fifth creek	f300	14	9	10
Broer Cornelis	f600	25½	10	9
de Vlackte by arent Colaer	1000 ? (est)	44 φ	10	18

These farms covered the area from fifth kill all the way to Steene Kill (Stone Kill) at the very northeast corner of the front lawn of the present Watervliet Arsenal.

We know the southern boundary of Schuyler Flatts was the Kromme Kill (at Menands bridge) This leaves us with the fact that Broer Cornelis is almost twice as large as the farm south of him.

Also he rates about 60 per cent the size of the Schuyler Flatts.

(9)

φ Mainland 23 morgens
 1 island 16 "
 1 " 5 "

BROER CORNELIS

Miscellaneous notes:

p 256-footnote: details confusion of two Cornelis Teunisz-
There is only one Cornelis Teunisz van Breuckelen. His account runs through various ledgers from August 12, 1634 to May 1, 1661. On May 1, 1661 Cornelis was indebted to the colony to the amount of 4337 guilders, 10 stivers, and the same sum is charged against him in a list of debtors of 1674. The name van Slyck appears in the account books, but twice, in 1664 and 1666, in connection with an account for beer.

An entry in Proceedings of the Commissioners or Magistrates, 1676-80, in the Albany County clerk's office, under date of Jan. 2, 1677, ordering the constables of Albany to take charge of the estate of Broer Cornelis shows he died in 1676. (Elsewhere I have an entry that he was buried 12-10-1676--age 72)

p 490-KvR to AvC: KvR is concerned with the farmers who do not cooperate and authorises AvC, with the advice of pieter Cornelissen and advice of Cornelis Theunissen, if he accepts, to provide other farmers for farms on which the farmers refuse to accept without change the conditions of maurits jansen van Broeckhuysen. The patroon exempts herefrom, however, the two oldest farmers, namely Brandt pelen and Cornelis Theunisen aforesaid, not because he grants their argument, but taking that for what it is worth, mainly because at the time when they took possession of their farms, they had not signed the pledge to submit themselves freely, and to obey his laws and ordinances; this exemption to last until the expiration of their first lease, and no longer.

p 812-Claes Jansz: August 30, 1646 de Hooges ordered Nicolaes Coorn, officer of the colony, to seize the grain on the farm of Broer Cornelis and to turn the same over to Claes Jansz--in payment for work earned by him---while Broer Cornelis was in the Manhatans.

p 813-Jacob Jansz: Appears in harvest of 1640 when he served under Cornelis Teunisz. May 1, 1640 he received f32 extra pay for "faithful service to the patroon".

p 814-Arent pietersz: Began April 3, 1637 for six ~~YEARS~~ years. Served for several people including Cornelis Teunisz.

p 821-Marten Hendricksz: Began Aug. 14, 1639 for six years. Worked threeyears 3½ months for Cornelis Teunisz.

p 823-Claes Gerritsz: Began Sept. 24, 1640 for six years. Worked for several people including Cornelis Teunisz.

p 823-Teunisz Jacobsz: Began Sept. 4, 1640 for six years. Served first for Symon Walichsz and then under Cornelis Teunisz.

p 810-Maurits Jansz: Began May 12, ~~1639~~ 1639, young relative of KvR. Half year's wages charged to Cornelis Teunisz.

809p ~~236~~-footnote: Sept. 23, 1650 chosen to go with AvC and others on an embassy to the Maquaes. In 1658, 1660 and 1661 he was a member of the court of the colony.

p 617-June 3, 1642: KvR to JM. "the place of broer Cornelis and the Great Flats (Schuyler) together, including woods which can easily be cut down, contain about 140 morgens (280 acres)--" This seems to exclude the islands. It gives us further data to help us to determine the southern boundary of Cornelis's farm. We are never certain as to the east-west width of the farms.

BROER CORNELIS

P 18-footnote: SvC to MvR on June, 1677. If he (RvR) will not allow it---go on according to instructions from Holland---
 footnote: On July 3, 1677, MvR produced in court letters from the relatives at Amsterdam, dated November 3, 1676, whereby she was granted permission to have the grist-mill and the foreland of Broer Cornelis. Court 1675-80, 2:253-54.

p 39-Sept 1680-MvR to RvR: I have written before about the farm of Broer Cornelis and the old grist-mill---.

p 84-Jan 1683-MvR to RvR: I have requested before I might have the farm of Broer Cornelis, with the small island and the Grist-mill and the sawmill----

p 88-Jan 1683-MvR to RvR: Therefore, I beg you kindly for myself and my innocent children to bring about this much that I may obtain the Fifth kill and the farm of Broer Cornelis and the small island, both for my portion---

p 94-April 11/21, 1683-RvR to MvR: I received from Philip Schuyler a letter in which he writes me that on account of the loss and damage caused him by the cattle of Teunis de Metselaer, he is, in order to avoid all trouble forced to buy the rear land of Brer Cornelis, opposite the island which Barent Pieters used, as also the land that Teunis cultivates. I have written him that I prefer the said land made into a complete farm---I left it with him for fl2500 Holland money---but this on the condition that you were to be entirely content and satisfied with it. (several lines gone)

p 115-Aug. 15, 1683-MvR to RvR: (as to what you write) about the land of (Broer Cornelis) to sell the same to S^r (Philip Schuyler), he died on the 9th of May---for as soon as a reliable farmer (can be found I shall) cause him to leave, for Teunis de Matselaer lives there, so he shall be the nearest () when it is sold. Are we to sell the best farms? That cannot be demanded, but we shall do our best to sell the poorer places.

p 117-same letter: I have heretofore also written to you about the mill and the land of Broer Cornelis. I hope that brother will not reject my (offer), for I have for my money as much right to them as any one else and brother knows that I cannot live (without them) and the rent mounts up and in the end I shall not be able to pay it. I can not live with my family on 200 schepels of wheat and then receive calls from the most prominent people of the day.

p 129-October, 1683-MvR to RvR: My request, therefore, is that you be pleased to convey to N.N. the aforesaid land, to wit, from the old house of Broer Cornelis to the land of Thunis and from the said Tunis upward as he possesses it to the bridge of the Vlackte, together with the island of Barent, the miller, and also the free use of the woods jointly with the other farmers who pay the patroon's dues. I doubt not but brother will not refuse me this, but help me in the matter. For brother knows that I already have possession of it and if I do not have the land and the mill, how am I to make a living with my six children, especially as I am such a feeble & woman? (note: she walked with crutches)

p 149-May 11, 1684-RvR to MvR: As to the foreland of (Broer) Cornelis, since you have the use of that, I do not believe that any one will seek to take that away from you and I trust that from the time your husband, deceased, sent over the account of the colony, no rent will be demanded of you. ----In my opinion the mill must ---must remain part of the jurisdiction of the colony.

BROER CORNELIS

Maria van Rensselaer (MvR) widow Jeremias van Rensselaer
 b 7-20-1645 d 1-24-1689 m 7-12-1662
 Richard van Rensselaer (RvR) brother of Jeremias
 Nicolaes " " (NvR) " " " -youngest
 OloffStevensen van Cortlandt (OSvC) father of Maria
 Stephanus van Cortlandt (SvC) brother " "

Notes:

p 90-footnote: Cornelis Theunissen van Schlick (Slyck),
 alias Broer Cornelis--buried December 10, 1676,
 MvR

p 133-~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Nov. 1683 ~~XXX~~ to OSvC: They are considering the fact that Richard is in need of money and pressuring to get sales. "The island of Broer Cornelis alone, about which we have written, is worth more than this entire land near the island, and if Reygart is as much in need of money as he informed me, it is necessary to send this bill of exchange, for otherwise I shall not get the land above, for Juffrou Schuyler has sent over more money in order that I shall not get it.

p 135-Nov. 1683-MvR to RvR: And whereas I understand that the son of Juff Schuyler has said that I shall not have the land, as he has my brother's help, I beg you to be my and my children's help and advocate.

p 139-Jan 1684-SvC to MvR: This much I wish that (I) had (known) that father ordered the money (to be paid) in Holland (for the farm of) Broer Cornelis, as the same causes disagreement and no one (can be laid the blame for) the cause of it.

p 144-May, 1684-RvR to OSvC: I also see what you write at length about the land of (Broer Cornelis, which the widow) of Philip Schuyler, deceased, would like to buy, as it lies next to her land(many lines missing---) I was troubled by the attorneys of Barent, the miller, at Albany, to pay what was due him from the estate of (brother Jan Baptist), deceased, for which the money was needed, otherwise I should not have resolved to do so, as the widow of Philip Schuyler writes me that according to my demand she has decided to pay the 2500 guilders, Holland money, for the land, which money would have been very welcome to me, if sister, your daughter, had not objected to it. I wish that this had not happened, because an honest man likes to keep his word and I could have accomodeted sister with some other land. Inasmuch as sister now strongly insists on getting the said land and if she can resolve to pay the fl 2500 which the widow Schuyler will gladly give, we may grant sister the land, to wit, the rear ~~mf~~ land of Broer Cornelys, the island opposite it, and the land of Tuenys de Metselaer, and not, as sister writes, from where the old house of Broer Cornelis stood, which with his island is excludet. It seems to me that sister, your daughter, is a little too covetous. I request that this may by you and by sister be kept still for another year. I am writing to widow Schuyler that as Teunis de Metselaer objects and I do not want to have any trouble (lines missing)

BROER CORNELIS

~~EXIX~~

p 146-May, 1684-RvR to MvR: (I have) noticed with no little sorrow that between you and the widow of Philip Schuyler, deceased, there is no harmony on account of the land which Philip Schuyler (wished) to buy in addition (to his land) in order not to get into trouble with his neighbors, (and to which you are entitled) as being the nearest (relative). If I (can) and that you (get) the same, ----had had there and it is as the widow Schuyler (says), that it is not for the public, but for you privately, because you enjoy the benefit of it. I wish that they had accomodated you with some other land and that I might have kept my word here. I have written about it to your honorable father and if you are satisfied with it, I beg you to keep it still for another year, as if it remained in common, for I shall write to widow Schuyler that because of T(eunis) de Metselaer will not consent thereto and in order to keep out of trouble, I let the matter rest for the present and let it lie in common. But you must now above all see to it that some money be sent to me----to get rid of Barent Pietersz.

p 169-MvR to RvR: As you have written to my father, deceased, about the land, that if I was satisfied with it , I should keep it for awhile----I shall, please God, keep the land. Here MvR has much to say about the deal with Schuyler and the accusation that RvR would not have sold the land to her, etc. 11-12-1684 letter.

p 107-Philip Pietersen Schuyler-Will May 1, 1683, died May 9, 1683 buried May 11, 1683 in the Dutch church in Albany.

p 171-Nov. 12, 1684-MvR to RvR: As to your trusting that no one would try to overreach me with respect to the land of Broer Cornelis, I can not with the pen express the falseness of the people, which at present is so great that it cries unto heaven. I shall therefore be on my guard.

Maria van Cortlandt-b 7-20-1645, m 7-12-1662, d 1-24-1689

Her husband, Jeremias van Rensselaer, d 10-12-1674

August 19, 1662 Jeremias writes to his mother Anna "I thank the good Lord for His mercy in granting me such a good partner and we also pray God that He may long spare us together in good heaalth, for to live together so calmly and peacefully with a wife who has always led a good moral life and feared the Lord God is the best thing I could wish here on earth.----She is only entering her eighteenth year, but nevertheless we get along together very well in the household. About her figure and face I have not much to write, but you will be told all about that by friends----" (What did he mean ?)

The following information is also from letters of Jeremias. When her first son, Kiliaen, was born Aug 24, 1663 Jeremias says my wife is still reasonably strong and well, but her right leg still hurts at her hip, so that she can not use it very well. He mentions this condition twelve times up to 1671. She was operated in 1665, hole in right leg below hip, matter came out, later more holes which do not heal permanently, use of crutches and cane.

(continued on p 4)

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To continue the story of Maria;

After the death of Jeremias there was no one available who could succeed as director of the colony, and the burden fell temporarily on Maria, who in this emergency sought the advice of her brother, Stephanus van Cortlandt.

The task was not an easy one, as the colony was far from being in a flourishing condition and no suitable provision had been made for the support of Maria and her family. She had four sons and two daughters.

Nicolaes van Rensselaer, the younger brother of Jeremias, took charge April 4, 1676 as appointed by relatives in Holland. He was assisted by Maria as treasurer and her brother as bookkeeper. Nicolaes died in November, 1678 and again Maria had to take charge, her brother living in New York.

From that time on she carried on correspondence with her brother and with Richard van Rensselaer, who in 1670, after six years residence in the colony, had returned to Holland and was looking after the interests of the Holland branch.

The settlement of the estates of Jeremias, Jan Baptist and Nicolaes, the extravagant claims made by Robert Livingston, who married the latter's widow, and the share which was due to Maria and her children from the still undivided estate of Kiliaen van Rensselaer, the first patroon, all of which complications added to the troubles of Maria and show how much credit is due to her for having, in spite of all obstacles, kept the colony intact.

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p 228-June 3, 1660: JvR to Jan Baptist van Rensselaer
I would much rather rent than buy the farm (of Broer Cornelis), if only there was a chance of getting the farmer off the place, but I see no means of doing so here. If you would kindly do so much for me as to lease the same for me from the patroon and the co-directors, I should be glad to pay as much as it rents for now, but you might stipulate a little less, for all the land of the farm is full of weeds and nothing comes from it anyway, so that it will be getting worse and worse, for the farmer does not look after it much.

The house still stands as it did when you were here. One of the hay barracks is gone and as yet I see no preparations being made to put up another, although the other barrack is not much good either. Last winter the horses and cattle had to look for food under the snow on the first of March, as his fodder was then already used up.

p 239-Oct. 6, 1660-JvR to JBvR: In my letter of June 3/6 I asked you to hire for me the farm of Broer Cornelis, which I hereby recommend you to do, as I intend to go in for farming.

p p 270-Oct. 17, 1661-JvR to JBvR: I had hopes that you might have been able to secure for me the lease of the farm of Broer Cornelis. I quite counted on it and had already warned the farmer. If the opportunity should still present itself, I should still like to rent it, for I must now content myself with a place which involves nothing but expense, to wit, as I have written to you before, the farm of Evert Pels, of which neither the barn nor the house is worth living in.

p 287-JBvR to JvR-April 8, 1662: As to your leasing for yourself the farm of Broer Cornelis, objection is made to this. It would be best if one could put the farmer peaceably on a small (), for certain reasons, as he is not well liked among (), which being so, we shall talk further about it.

p 461-June 29, 1674-JvR to JBvR: Jerimias is trying to make a settlement with Johanna Ebbingh, who has an interest in the colony, having been the wife of Johan de Laet, a partner of same. He is attempting to avoid her having the privilege of making a drawing of a farm. He points out that she might be fortunate and get one of those in the heart of the colony. He lists the Grene Bos, the farm of Thuenis Dircksz, or the farm on Pasekanie, on which a new dwellinghouse stands, or the half island, or Broer Cornelisz' farm, or where we now live, or the farm of Pieter de Vlamingh. The worst of these is better than what she has now, for I could get no tenant for said farm, so that for two or three years it was lying fallow.

Note: The scoundrel, Jeremias, made a signed contract with Johanna by which she got the farm of Cornelis van Nes, etc. Further she gives up any claim to further settlements.

Note by RAJ: We know that Broer Cornelis was buried Dec. 10, 1676. The continuing wrangle over the Broer Cornelis farm carried on into 1684 by Maria, wife of Jeremias. While she seems to have been in possession earlier, there never seems to be a definite decision concerning the control of the farm. It is obvious that crafty old Broer Cornelis (born about 1604) had some close tie in the early days with old Kiliaen, the first patroon. He did seem to do what he pleased, to the disgust of the patroon.

The best way is to copy Vrooman as he has written the story.

Cornelis Anthonisz van Söhlick (Slyke) was the original settler of this name in the Mohawk Valley. He came to Rensselaerwyck from Breuckelen near Utrecht in the ship "Eendracht" in 1634 under contract to the Patroon. By trade he was a carpenter and mason, and his account runs through the records of the Manor up to the time of his departure for the settlements of Schenectady, where he was one of the "original proprietors." In addition to his work at these trades, he leased a farm which he seems to have maintained throughout as his residence in the Manor. The farm was located near Great Flats (north of Albany), for in one of the Patroon's letters he mentions:

"the place of Broer Cornelis and the Great Flats together---- contain about 140 morgens according to the survey."

Broer Cornelis must have made it a point to cultivate the friendship of the Indians along both the Hudson and the Mohawk for in 1640 he is mentioned as living part of the time at Cohoes Falls, on a tract of land given him by the Mohawks at the site of their old village. In 1646 Director Kieft of the Manhattans gave him a patent for land at Catskill in recognition of his services as peacemaker with the Indians and also for his influence in obtaining the release of some white men held captive by them. In 1650 he was chosen to go with Arent van Curler on an important mission into the "Maquas Country."

In addition to his other activities, Broer Cornelis found time to do considerable trading among the Indians from whom he earned his nickname "Broer" or "Brother", having married a part Indian woman (probably prior to his grant of land at Cohoes) and having been adopted into her tribe. His wife was Otstoch the daughter of an Indian squaw whose husband was a French trader named Hartell who came from the French settlements to the northward, about 1620. Little is known of Hartell and not much more of Otstoch, except that she was called a "Princess" and died on the great Island known as Van Slyck's Island. Tradition says she was a savage beauty and at her death was buried under an old willow tree at the eastern point of the Island, opposite the foot of Washington Avenue. The date of her death has not come down to us but Broer Cornelis died in 1676, after having spent much of his later life at Canajoharie among the Indians.

Two sons survived Broer Cornelis, named Cornelis and Jacques. Perhaps Cornelis died early, for history has little to do with him. A third son, Marten, preceded his father in death. Van Slyck's Island, the same on which his mother was buried, was a gift to Marten from the Indians and was patented to Jacques, his brother, by B Governor Stuyvesant in 1662, the year Marten died.

Jacques was born at the Indian village in Canajoharie in 1640 and like his father, became one of the original proprietors of Schenectady. He died about 1690, and during the most of the fifty years allotted him, was very active in the affairs of the settlement and in his trading business.

BROER CORNELIS

Court Records:

1648-1652: Various people were assigned as members of the court for colony of Rensselaerswyck, by the patroon, as early as 1632. On May 12, 1639 the patroon entrusted the administration of justice and general management to three 'gecommitteerden', or commissioners, namely, Arent van Curler, Pieter Cornelisz van Munnickendam and Cornelis Teunisz van Breuckelen. The first was to be secretary and bookkeeper and act as "commies", the second to receive tithes and super-cargo of the vessel, and the third was the attorney to defend the patroon's interests.

April 10, 1652-through high-handed proceedings Director Peter Stuyvesant brought to a close the long standing controversy between the Dutch West India Company and the authorities of the colony of Rensselaerswyck. He constituted the court of Fort Orange and the village of Beverwyck. The last minutes of this court ended December 30, 1660. Records are missing until September 3/13, 1668. The English took control September 24, 1664.

In 1665, Governor Richard Nicolls consolidated the area into "Court of Albany, colony of Rensselaerswyck and Schaeenhechtede." The first minutes of this court began September 3/13, 1668. The last minutes are dated December 1, 1685.

There are six volumes covering the minutes. For convenience of locating an entry it will be easier to list volume and page. In many cases Broer Cornelis is merely mentioned and I will probably list the pages and indicate no interest (NI). Otherwise I will enlarge upon his activities over the years.

Volume 1. Court Minutes of Colony of Rensselaerswyck 1648-1652.
p 10 May 12, 1639 (see entry above where patroon appoints a court of three.

p 26 April 16, 1648 Cornelis Theunisz from Breuckelen is ordered to bring in and settle his account on Wednesday next, when () him () forfeiture ().

p 27 April 23, 1648 At the request of Cornelis Theunisz for an extension of time to render his account, permission is granted him for the last time, without prejudice to our previous order, to render his account on Tuesday next, without fail, on pain of forfeiture of one pound Flemish, or six guilders.

p 29 April 30, 1648 Cornelis Theunisz from Breuckelen is once more ordered and commanded to render his account next Tuesday, on pain of forfeiting twenty-five guilders.

p 32 July 23, 1648 Cornelis Teunisz from Breuckelen and Evert Pels are ordered to settle their accounts within eight days and then to consider and determine together who is to satisfy Claes Tyssen. Cornelis Theunisz appeals (from the decision).

p 33 October 8, 1648 The order of (July) 23 of this year as to the question between Cornelis Teunisz and Evert Pels is renewed and they are at once more ordered to settle their mutual accounts within eight days after date, to wit, as far as Claes Tyssen is concerned, under penalty of forfeiting six guilders each and (so) from eight days to eight days.

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p 35 October 15, 1648 Claes Tyssen declares here before the courtand Broer Cornelis that Evert Pels, having with him Cornelis Teunisz, called him a rascal and a thief.

Another entry: Likewise, all that is due to Quiryn Cornelis and Cornelis Quirnen from Broer Cornelis is attached in the hands of said Broer Cornelis.

p 47 Evert Pels summoned----on account of his (Claes Tyssen) delivered grain which he received from Broer Cornelis for his labor and which was delivered to Evert Pels, as he, Pels, admitted on the aforesaid date.

p 48 December 16, 1648 several farmers mentioned --Cornelis ~~Teunisz~~ Tuenisz included.

p 52 December 17, 1648 Evert Pels is ordered to pay and satisfy the 26 guilders which he owes Claes Tyssen, in money or goods, as stipulated, cum expensás, saving his claim against Cornelis Teunisz. 15

p 71 April 8, 1649 Cornelis Teunisz van Breuckelen having been notified that he is alleged to have said that changes were made in the contracts after the time the leases were signed, which he denies, asks that the case be put over until Rutger Jacobsz comes up the river. Also, that Cornelis Teunisz on April 5, 1649, having called to the honorable director to come out of his house, gave up the lease of his farm, to which the honorable director consented on condition that he should render his accounts, which Cornelis Teunisz admits.

p 72-73 April 29, 1649 Cornelis Teunisz van Breuckelen to be asked in court whether he still stands by the words spoken by him twice on April 7, 1649, to Director Slichtenhorst, to wit, that he, Slichtenhorst, had changed the contracts under which the six lots were leased on September 14, 1648, after the leases were signed and that the copies which they had procured of the said contracts or agreements did not agree with the original terms which were read to them at the time aforesaid leasing took place, to which he added that he and Rutger Jacobsz and two or three other persons would prove what is stated above. Whereupon a categorical answer, yes or no, is demanded, and in case no answer is made, that it be taken that he, Breuckelen, still stands by what he said. Cornelis Teunisz asking for a copy of the foregoing charges and eight days' delay in which to make answer, his request is granted.

p 84 June 24, 1649 Cornelis Tuenisz van Breuckelom (sic) summoned for the second time at the request of the director to appear in court on the 1st of July.

p 85 July 1, 1649 Cornelis Theunisz van Breuckelen summoned to appear. First default.

p 86 July 8, 1649 Broer Cornelis was cited to appear before the court on the 15th.

p 87 July 15, 1649 Order is also issued to Broer Cornelis to refrain from lodging of harboring him (refers to another case).

p 105 February 3, 1650 Abraham Stevensz has this day leased the meadow [Valeye) behind the farm of Broer Cornelis for one and a half beavers a year, on condition that all expenses shall be borne by him, and this for the period of four or five years.

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- p 108 March 17, 1650 Those who hold under a lease any property of the patroon, whether farms, mills, or other (property from which they receive) emoluments, must sign the lease within the space of three weeks after the notice is served, on pain of being deprived of the lease. All those who heretofore have held any property in common with the patroon and afterwards kept the farm implements, household effects and other property for their private use, contrary to all law, are ordered hereby to deliver a correct inventory thereof within two weeks from the date of service of the notice and to confirm the same by oath, after which both sides shall choose impartial persons to make an appraisal. (In the margin written) March 21, 1650 notice was served on Toenis Dircksz and Broer Cornelis.
- p 127 August 20, 1650 Broer Cornelis paid wages to Claes Gerritsz.
- p 129 September 23, 1650 Arent van Curler, Gerrit Wencom, Cornelis Teunisz van Breuckelen, Thomas Chamber and Volkert Hansz to repair, with a present to the Maquas country, to renew the former alliance and bond of friendship, (There were Indian threats at this time). been
- p 143 January 12, 1651 Jan Labatie, having/written to by the honorable general to send him a certain negro residing at the house of Broer Cornelis, he came to the director's house to request in the first place permission to apprehend the aforesaid negro-----
- p 149 January 26, 1651 Director Brant van Slichtenhorst, plaintiff, against Teunis Dircksz van Vechten, defendant, for slander. Whereas the defendant, on the first of February 1650, when the plaintiff in his official capacity came to the house of Cornelis Teunisz van Breuckelen to make an inventory of the patroon's cattle----- (abused the plaintiff in front of many witnesses).
- p 158 December 21, 1650 Jan ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Baerensen, who has had the use of the aforesaid garden before Carsten, declares that he took it by order, authority and consent of Cornelis Teunisz van Breuckelen, at that time officer of this colony.
- p 163 September 28, 1651 Attachment of money due to Claes Gerritsz by Broer Cornelis.
- p 204 1648-1650 Receipts by Director Slichtenhorst May 12, 1650 from Broer Cornelis 128:--.
- p 202 1652 Inventory of Slichtenhorst's effects at time of his arrest. A writ of attachment of money due to Broer Cornelis by Captain Blaeuvelt.

- Volume 2. Court Minutes of Fort Orange and Beverwyck 1652-1656
- p 42 October 28, 1652 Jan Labatie, magistrate of the court, resigned to live in the colony on the farm of Cornelis Theunesz van Breuckelen.
- p 175 August 25, 1654 Jochem Becker, plaintiff, against Daniel Rinckhout, defendant, about some grain measures which he gave and loaned to the defendant at the house of Broer Cornelis and which have not been returned. Court orders defendant to return articles within two days or pay fine of ten guilders.

BROER CORNELIS

Volume 3 Court Minutes of Fort Orange and Beverwyck 1657-1660
 p 83 December 11, 1657 Cornelis van Breuckelen, plaintiff,
 against Dirckjen Martensen, defendent. (Why ?)

p 90 January 8, 1658 Cornelis van Breuckelen, plaintiff,
 against Dirckjen Harmensen, defendent. The plaintiff demands
 delivery of an anker of brandy for which he made cash pay-
 ment in beavers. The defendent says the beavers were no good.
 The parties having been heard, (the court) orders and condemns
 the defendent to satisfy the plaintiff within the space of
 eight days.

p 97 January 22, 1658 Cornelis Teunissen, plaintiff, against
 Jacob Janssen Stolle, defendent. The plaintiff maintains that
 as he has farmed the slaughter's excise, those of the Esopus
 and Katskill must also pay the aforesaid excise. The defendent
 says that those of the Esopus are exempt from all excise for
 the space of four years more, according to the "Exemptions of
 New Netherland," and in case they are liable, the proceeds
 must redound to the benefit of their place, according to the
 ordinance drawn up by the director general and council of New
 Netherland. January 29, 1658 The court refers the matter to
 the director general and council of New Netherland.

p 239 January 13, 1660 Cornelis Breuckelen, plaintiff,
 against Teunis Cornelissen, defendent (why ?)

p 257 June 1, 1660 Anderies de Vosch, plaintiff, against
 Wynandt Gerritsen, defendent. The plaintiff demands payment
 for seventy-four boards and produces as witness Cornelis
 Theunesen van Slyck, who says that the defendent agreed to
 pay the debt. The court condemns the defendent to pay for
 the boards in question immediately.

p 260 June 8, 1660 Cornelis Theunesen and Jacob Thysen,
 plaintiffs, against Willem Teller, defendent. The plaintiffs
 say that the defendent called them rabble and injured their
 reputation. They demand reparation of character. The defendent
 asserts that he said that it would be a miserable thing if I or
 the common people or rabble should rebel against the law of
 the public authorities or make a law against the authorities.
 Lambert van Neck and Hendrick Roose Boom, appearing before
 the honorable court at the request of Cornelis Theunesen say
 that they heard Willem Teller say: "If the principals of this
 place listened to this rabble, they would be crazy"; without,
 however, mentioning any names. The court appoints the next
 court day for the parties to institute their proceedings.
 (I believe that this Cornelis was Cornelis Theunesen Bosch.
 See p 267, associated with Jacob Thysen van der Heysen.)

BROER CORNELIS

Volume 4 Ct Min of Albany, Rensselaerswyck & Schenectady 1668-1673
p 114 November 11, 1669 Citations-Rhyntie Stevens against Broer Cornelis. Rhyntie Stevens, standing inside, makes known that she has caused to be attached 25 or 26 schepels of maize in the hands of Gerrit Reyers and two beavers in the hands of Juriaen Jansz, belonging to Broer Cornelis. She requests that the said attachments may be declared valid. The court: fiat.
p 116 December 2, 1669 Rhyntie Stevens against Cornelis Theunisz, 2nd default.

p 119 January 13/23, 1669 Citation-Ryntie Stevensz against Cornelis Theunisz. Date is January 23, 1670, new style

p 121 January 13, 1669 (January 23, 1670, new style) Rhyntie Stevens, attorney for her brother, Jan Stevens, plaintiff against Cornelis Theunisz van Breuckelen, defendent. The plaintiff demands of the defendent eight and a half beavers for wages due to her brother. The defendent admits the debt, but says that he has done some curing for Tory and her brother. He is willing to pay five beavers at once, the rest to be offset against the treatments. The honorable court having heard the parties on both sides order the plaintiff to write about it to her mother and to accept the beavers that are offered in part payment of the debt, provided that she must lift the attachment on the defendent's money.

(Note: Tory may be Jacob Hendricksen Tery. The curing may refer to the gelding of horses or some other veterinary treatments.)

p 132 March 3, 1669 (1670) The honorable officer, G. Swart, plaintiff, against Eldert Gerbertsz Cruyff, defendent. The plaintiff demands of the defendent interest according to his bond on account of Broeder, namely, on 33 beavers, which he has owed him since long. (Cornelis Theunisz van Breuckelen, alias Broeder.) The defendent maintains that he is not bound to pay in beavers because he signed to do so, as he could have paid in grain. The honorable court having heard the parties on both sides condemn the defendent to pay the plaintiff the sum of fl.40 in beavers, in consideration of the fact that he has made some payments in beavers.

p 252 May 25, 1671 Pieter Adriaensz, plaintiff, against Willem Pietersz, defendent. The plaintiff demands of the defendent the sum of ten beavers which he undertook to pay for Aert Goosens. The defendent answers that his uncle, Broer Cornelis, agreed to pay said amount and that the plaintiff was satisfied therewith, deferring to his oath and in case of refusal offering to take the oath himself. The honorable court having heard the parties on both sides order them to have Broer Cornelis summoned to appear on the next court day to give information, when judgment will be given.

p 263 July 6, 1671 Willem Pietersz Slyck, plaintiff, against Cornelis Theunisz Slyck, defendent. The plaintiff produces an affidavit that the defendent agreed to pay for his account to Pieter Adriaensz the net sum mentioned in the preceeding minutes. The defendent answers that for the fl.100 in seawan he became surety before the court of the colony and that he, Pieter Adriaensz, never spoke about it, who now charges ten beavers for it, which is unreasonable. The court orders the plaintiff to recover the amount from Aert Goosens.

BROER CORNELIS

Volume 4 (cont.)

p 303 June 13, 1672 Willem Pietersz Slyck, plaintiff, against Cornelis Theunisz Slyck, defendent. The plaintiff demands of the defendent fl.80 in beavers, which he was condemned to pay to Pieter Adriaentsz, but which the defendent some years ago agreed to pay, and for which he is now being dunned and which he can not afford to pay. The defendent answers that Pieter Adriaentsz is entitled to but fl.100 in seawan and not ten beavers, and that he is willing to pay him fl.100 in seawan. The honorable court having heard the parties condemn the defendent to pay Pieter Adriaentsz the 10 beavers demanded and to indemnify Willem Pietersz Slyck.

Volume 5 Ct Min of Albany, Rensselaerswyck & Schenectady 1675-1680
p 142 August 15, 1676 Harme Janse, farmer, appearing in court, complains that he is still suffering great loss and damage to his grain by the cattle of Annetie Lievens, the widow of Gocse Gerritse, deceased, which he proves by Andries Hanse. He also presents a petition praying that he may take the cattle of the aforesaid widow to Albany to the sheriff in case he again finds them in his grain. Sybrant ~~XXXXX~~ van Schayk, appearing in court, produces an affidavit of Roeloff Gerritse whereby he attests that he has seen the cattle and the dry stock of Broeder (Cornelis Teunissen van Schlick-Slyck-, alias Broeder) on this side of the neighbors on Greene island in the oats of Harme aforesaid, and that there were no cows of the widow aforesaid among them. The honorable court refer to their preeding judgment in the matter dated the 6th of June last, to wit, that the widow aforesaid shall make a suitable fence to prevent further complaints, or, instead thereof, engage a suitable herder. As to the request of Harme, it is denied, but he may hold the cattle and complain to this court.

p 185 January 2, 1676/7 Juffrow Maria van Rensselaer, widow of Mr Jeremias van Rensselaer, deceased, appearing in court, produces the book of Mr Jan Baptist, showing that the two islands, one opposite the house and farm occupied by Cornelis ~~XX~~ Teunise van Breuckelen and the other to the north thereof, of which Arent van Curler and afterwards his widow, deceased, have had possession by permission, belong to the colony of Rensselaerswyck; and she also produced the deed of purchase of the aforesaid two islands, dated December 7, 1650. Furthermore, she requests that the chattels which Broer Cornelis, deceased, in his lifetime received from the colony may be returned as they are the patroon's property. The honorable court: fiat.

p 253 July 3, 1677 Juffrow Maria van Rensselaer, widow of the late Seign^r. Jeremias van Rensselaer, former director, appearing in court, produces letters from the relatives at Amsterdam, signed by J. Baptist, Rykhart, Susanna and Leonora van Rensselaer, dated November 3, 1676, whereby at her request they grant permission and consent to the said Juffrow to have the grist-mill and the foreland of Broer Cornelis, near the house, provided she pay therefor what the friends shall agree upon, (See minutes for further information pn settlement on mills)

Broer Cornelis

Volume 6 Ct Min of Albany, Rensselaerswyck & Schenectady 1680-1685

No entries for Broer Cornelis--

He was buried December 10, 1676

Note: A review of the court minutes fails to show that old Broer Cornelis was ever involved in serious troubles. He seems to come and go his own way, and any difficulties are solved in an aimable manner.

One can be misled about the fact that Maria v R. is continually pleading to secure Broer Cornelis's farm. All of these entries are subsequent to the burial of Broer Cornelis on December 10, 1676.

It appears that he did not attend entirely to his farm. The early years may have been good but it was not long before he is spending several years in the Mannhattans, around 1640 he may have been at the Indian village near Cohoes falls, certainly he spent much time with the Indians in the Canajoharie area, he married a half-breed from there.

My first entry of Jeremias v R. on June 3, 1660 indicates that Cornelis was not paying too much attention to the farm. "for all the land of the farm is full of weeds and nothing comes from it anyway, so that it will be getting worse and worse, for the farmer does not look after it much."

How, and when, Cornelis acquired "the island" is unknown to me. It is not mentioned in the August 28, 1652 lease renewal. Nor is it identified on page 743 inventory of farms. There were three islands. Two of them are listed for arent Colaer. Perhaps the third was taken over by Cornelis about this time. In the letters of Maria v R. on p 133, Nov. 1683, she states "the island of Broer Cornelis alone---is worth more that this entire land near the island---"