1922

Excerpt: Souvenir History of Pella, 1874-1922

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Beginning of Colonist Movement in Holland

NAMES OF THE MEN APPOINTED AS OVERSEERS FOR EACH SHIP

Before sailing from their native land, the colonists had elected eight men to act as leaders, two for each ship. Among them were representatives of almost every vocation.

The leaders on the ship “Maastroom” were, G. H. Overkamp and Isaac Overkamp. Both of these were men of ability and Christian character, and for many years they were leaders in the civil and religious life of Pella. G. H. Overkamp died on the 10th of August, 1894, and Isaac Overkamp on the 21st of October, 1895.'

On the Pieter Floris those in charge were, J. F. Lecocq and Heerkes Ypes Viersen. Mr. Viersen died on the 3d day of August, 1894, and J. F. Lecocq on the 12th day of March, 1888, at the age of eighty-three.

Those in charge of the colonists on the Catharina Jackson, were J. Rietveld and J. Smeenk. These also have long since gone to their reward. J. Smeenk died March 13, 1854, and J. Rietveld, November 30, 1859.

The leaders in charge on the Nagasaki were, Dr. A. J. Betten and A. Wigny. When the “History of Pella,” by K. Vanstigt, was published in 1897, Rev. Betten was still living. A. Wigny died December 22, 1873. We have not been able to learn the date when Mr. Betten died.

There are individuals in nearly every community who, by reason of pronounced ability and force of character, are natural leaders. Characterized by a spirit of perseverance, and inspired by an abiding faith in the God of their Fathers, two virtues that never fail to attain leadership, these men were of incalculable service to the colonists, and their memory is still cherished by those of the pioneers who survive.

“For such as these
There is no death; the stars go down
To rise upon some other shore;
And bright in heaven’s jeweled crown
They shine forever more.”

LIFE ON THE OCEAN

It was not necessary for our voyagers to await their arrival at Pella, to discover that they had left the comforts and conveniences of an orderly life behind them. This became evident almost as soon as they left the shores of their native land. One of the vexing problems was that of preparing their meals, which each family was expected to cook for themselves. As there were only two “Kom- buisen” or crude stoves on each ship, this required the exercise of great patience and self-denial, and was one of the things that helped to classify the colonists into the two groups, that in a general way compose society everywhere. That is, it divided the unselfish sheep, who had a proper consideration for the comfort and rights of others, from the selfish goats who only considered their own well-being.

It has often and truly been said that there is no place like shipboard to learn to know others; and this certainly proved true on the long and tedious voyage.
BEGINNING OF COLONIST MOVEMENT IN HOLLAND

Os, van D.
Os, van Elizabeth
Os, van Dirk
Os, van Geertruida

Post, de Arent
Post, de A. Mrs.
Post, de Johanna
Post, de Elizabeth
Post, de Hendrik
Post, de Adrianus

Roovaart, v. d. Jacob
Roovaart, v. d. Adrianus
Roovaart, v. d. Lydia
Roovaart, v. d. Antonia
Roovaart, v. d. Beye
Roovaart, v. d. Leentje

Raad, de Cornelius
Raad, de Cs. Mrs.
Raad, de Jasper
Raad, de Arie
Raad, de Albert
Raad, de Mietje

Schakel, Jan
Schakel, Jan Mrs.

Schakel, Cornelius
Schakel, Leendert
Stek, Sygie
Streef, Gerrit
Toom, J. A.
Toom, Maatke
Toom, Hilligje
Verhoef, Elizabeth
Valk, Antje
Verhey, Corstianus
Verhey, Cs. Mrs.
Verhey, Jacobus
Vos, de Jan
Vugt, van Willem
Waal, van der Jan
Waal, van der J. Mrs.
Waal, van der Klaasje
Waal, van der Neeltje
Wormhoudt, Hendrik

NAMES OF THE PASSENGERS WHO SAILED ON THE GOOD SHIP PIETER FLORIS WHICH LEFT AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND, EARLY IN APRIL, 1847, FOR BALTIMORE

Akkerman, Jan
Akkerman, J. Mrs.
Akkerman, Pieter

Beintema, Tjebbe
Beintema, T. Mrs.
Beintema, Dirk
Beintema, Levi
Beintema, Geertje

Blokland, van Hendrik
Blokland, van Andries
Blokland, van A. Mrs.
Blokland, van Jan
Blokland, van Cornelius
Blokland, van Leentje
Blokland, van Johanna
Blokland, van Teunis
Blokland, van Cornelia

Boest, den Dirkje
Branderhorst, G.
Branderhorst, Jan
Brinkhuizen, B.
Brinkhuizen, B. Mrs.
Buwalda, A.
Buwalda, A. Mrs.
Buwalda, Boukje
Buwalda, Paulina
Buwalda, Doortje
Buwalda, Geertje
Colyn, Huibert
Colyn, Leendert
Colyn, L. Mrs.
Colyn, Jacob
Colyn, Maria
Colyn, Albertus
Colyn, Mientje

Dam, van Jan
Dam, van Jan Mrs.
Dam, van Maria
Dam, van Annigje
Dam, van Gerrit
Dam, van Arie

Doornenbos, J. S.
Doornenbos, J. S. Mrs.
Doornenbos, Roelofje
Doornenbos, Cornelia
Doornenbos, Roelof
Doornenbos, Simon

Diekenga,
Diekenga, Mrs.

Dykstra, Geert

Ellenbroek, Gerrit
Ellenbroek, Janke

Griffloen, Willem
Griffloen, Jan
Griffloen, Jan Mrs.
Griffloen, Alarichie
Griffloen, Fygie

Haan, de Wopke
Haan, de W. Mrs.
Haan, de Impje
Haan, de

Hengeveld, Jan
Hengeveld, Jan Mrs.
Hengeveld, Jacob
Hengeveld, Jan
Hengeveld, Laurens
Hengeveld, Geertje

Kock, de Aart
Kock, de A. Mrs.
Kock, de Engel
Kock, de Stephanus
Kock, de Leendert
Kock, de Arie
Kock, de Jan
Kock, de Hester

Kuyper, Pieter
Kuyper, P. Mrs.

Lakeman, Cornelius

't Lam, Pietje

Lecoeq, J. F.
Lecoeq, J. F. Mrs.
Lecoeq, J. F.
Lecoeq, Jacobus
Lecoeq, Theodorus
Lecoeq, Mietje
Lecoeq, Christina

Lingen, van Kaatje

Mantes, Jan

Maren, van Jan
Maren, van Jan Mrs.
Maren, van Hendrik
Maren, van Lucas
Maren, van Jaantje

Meengs, Hendrik

Mechgelse, Karel

Meulenbrugge, Mrs.
Meulenbrugge, Jan Albert

Meyer, Jan
Meyer, Jan Mrs.
Meyer, Jacob

Moor, de Mrs.
Moor, de Jan
Moor, de Geerste

Pol, de van A.
Pol, de van A. Mrs.
Pol, de van Cornelia

Pas, Huibert
Pas, H. Mrs.

Popesyn, Pieter
Popesyn, P. Mrs.
Popesyn, Pieter
Popesyn, Johanna
Popesyn, Geertje
F. LeGOCQ

Born in Amsterdam, Holland, July 14, 1828, and received a liberal education in the schools of that renowned city. In 1847 he came to the United States with his parents and in company with the first emigrants, under the leadership of Rev. H. P. Scholte. The ship of the flotilla on which he sailed was the Pieter Floris. After an eventful trip they landed at Baltimore, Md., and came by canal boat to Keokuk, Iowa, from whence they traveled in wagons to their destination, 120 miles distance, to “Pella to be” or the famous “Strooi Stadt,” a cluster of straw thatched huts that made up the first settlement at Pella. May 22, 1856, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Van Gorkom, from which union six children were born. From 1856 until 1872 he was engaged in a successful general mercantile business in this city. In 1872 he moved to Orange City, Iowa, being among the early pioneers of that settlement, where he served four years as deputy county treasurer and four more years as county recorder. He also served several years as deacon of the First Reformed Church at Orange City. In 1883 he had the courage to pioneer it once more, this time in Douglas county, South Dakota, where he started a bank in company with his son. He served as elder in the First Reformed Church from its organization and was the efficient secretary until he died, May 26, 1907. His son, Frank, lives in Lynden, Washington, and his daughter, Cornelia, is a resident of this city.

MAARTEN KLEIN

Was born in Leerdam, South Holland, in 1836, and emigrated to Pella with his parents in 1847. He lived on the farm about three miles west of Pella until his majority, helping his father with the farm work. Married Johanna Hoogenaaker in March, 1855. Later he moved to Eastern Nebraska until the time of his death, which occurred about twelve years ago.