FORT BEVERSRODE AND BEYOND

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The 300th anniversary year of the occupation by the Dutch in 1633 of the site of the City of Philadelphia, and their later building of Fort Beversrode upon land enclosed by the Delaware and the Schuylkill, have a significant bearing upon a familiar criticism of American life. If, as asserted, we set too high a value upon mere mass of people and product, defer too much to numbers, and too little to quality, of men and manu-

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1 The name of the animal, the beaver, is the same in the Dutch and English languages. In both, the plural number and the possessive case are indicated by the letter s. In the Old Dutch the word "rode" means "clearing," the name of the fort "Beversrode" meaning such a clearing made by the beavers as was made in the forest by the settlers in America. Authorities: Dr. A. J. Barnouw, Queen Wilhelmina Professor Dutch Language and Literature at Columbia University; Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker, who translated a book from the Old Dutch, and who in "Pennsylvania The Keystone" rejected the English spelling of the fort's name and called it "Fort Beversrode." In Hilaire Belloc's "Charles the First" (1933), the author says that the Dutch language is nearer to the English than any other Continental speech.
factures, it may be useful to reflect upon the performance of so small a country as was The Netherlands when the Dutch preceded the other white races to the regions which are now Philadelphia, New Jersey and Delaware.

On November 23rd, 1933, at Cowes, England, and in Baltimore, was commemorated the 300th anniversary of the sailing of two vessels, *The Ark* and *The Dove*, bearing Leonard Calvert and his colonists to the shores of Maryland. At Cowes, on the Isle of Wight, Lord Fairfax presided over the exercises at the unveiling of a tablet. Sir Timothy Eden, descendant of Lord Baltimore, and the American Ambassador to Great Britain made addresses which were broadcast over the ocean, as was the address of Governor Ritchie in Baltimore. The eminent speakers on both sides of the Atlantic formulated one main thought, important if drawn from factual foundation. They asserted that for the first time in the world in Maryland was a government with no taxation without representation and without religious intolerance. We are met here to commemorate the coming in the same year of 1633, to this part of New Netherlands of the Dutch, another important element in the making of America; to recall the actors and events of three centuries ago, and to consider American origins in a period earlier than the one in which the American Ambassador, Governor Ritchie and the English speakers stopped in their backward glances. If we are to know the beginning of the principle "no taxation without representation" and of religious toleration it is necessary to go beyond Maryland, to cross the Atlantic, to go beyond England and across what was long called the German Ocean, to the shores of the Zuyder Zee, to The Netherlands; not to Lord Baltimore, who had in part a Netherlands ancestry, but to the people commonly called Hollanders, among whom in the century previous to the sailing of
The Ark and The Dove were established the principles and practices of religious tolerance and taxation with the consent of what were called the "sovereign provinces" of the United Netherlands.

Neither in the New Netherlands, nor in the neighbor states of Pennsylvania and Maryland, wherein was followed the Dutch example of freedom in worship, as it was also practiced in New Amsterdam, have all the members of many sects risen above intolerance. But whatever the degree of hostility in one or another period of time, it was powerless, because of benign laws, to suppress this or that form of Divine worship.

The Netherlands government was often embarrassed by its "sovereign provinces" as was the American government long afterwards with those "sovereign states" which formed the Southern Confederacy. The "sovereign provinces" were sometimes slow in advancing their proportion of cost of national upkeep. Often in the States General there could be no action because delegates had no instructions from the provinces which they represented. Along with the benefits and advantages of a Republican form of government there were in The Netherlands as in our own country perhaps somewhat too much of independence and an excess of the centrifugal over the centripetal forces at vital moments.

The simultaneous migration of the Dutch to the shores of the Delaware and the Schuylkill and of Calvert and his followers to Maryland held a momentous portent for three adjoining states of our Union, a portent concealed at first from view, but soon appearing as a cloud no bigger than the hand of man, and then darkening the outlook for more than a century.

That century of three hundred years ago has been called "The Golden Age" of "The Netherlands," wherein Holland was one of seven federated provinces. That federation was formed January 23d, 1579, three
hundred and fifty-five years ago with the novelty of a written constitution an example followed by the written constitution of the American Union. That century of extraordinary Dutch attainment was also marked by the two darkest blots on the history of The Netherlands, the execution of Oldenbanevelt in 1618, outcome of religious zealotry and politics, and the murder of John de Witt, by the populace in 1672. Not Holland, not the United States, nor any other country has consistently maintained its highest ideal and practice of civilization. The long war with Spain was over with Spain’s grip on the world broken. The Netherlands were well on the way to leadership in letters, the arts, science, education, exploration, commerce, wealth. Prosperity had deserted the southern provinces which had been adherents of Philip of Spain. Antwerp was an abandoned harbour, while the cities of the provinces of Holland and Zealand flourished. Learned men of the south in large numbers sought the better opportunities offered in the Holland province: Rubens remained at Antwerp. Van Dyke went to England. Amsterdam, a city of 100,000 people, was called by an English tourist “the greatest commercial city of Christendom,” whence forty ships sailed regularly between Holland and India, 800 ships sailed twice yearly to the Baltic, and numerous vessels carried products to the English, French, Spanish, German and Italian ports and to the Levant. Twenty thousand ships, three times as many as England had, were carrying Dutch commerce.

In the seven provinces of The Netherlands were about 1,300,000 people of whom one-half were in the province of Holland. Draining and diking by the year 1640 had reclaimed eighty thousand acres of land in the provinces of Holland and Zealand. Where there had been lakes and bogs were now growing useful crops and thousands of cattle grazed. The rivers Meuse and Scheldt were held in check. The profits of the East India Company had been enormous, as high as 162%
in the years 1610-11. Seeking a shorter way to India, William Barendz, who died in 1597, had attempted a passage by way of the Arctic Ocean. Caught in the ice he took his ship apart and with the timbers built a hut. In the summer he dismantled the hut, rebuilt the ship, and sailed home. In 1871, two hundred and seventy-four years later, an English expedition arrived at Barendz's winter quarters, recovered articles left by him, and confirmed the accuracy of his scientific observations.

In the next century the Dutch employed Henry Hudson, English seaman, to captain the voyage of 1609 to North America. The Northern Company, formed in 1622, from several small companies, was a forerunner of the modern "trust" in destroying competition, regulating production and prices and controlling the market in the whale fisheries. In the early part of the century 3,000 Dutch ships were trading in the Baltic, 2,000 with Spain, 10,000 engaged in coasting voyages, 600 trading with Italy, and others, in all numbering 16,289 vessels, employing crews of 159,825, were carrying the trade with The Archangel, Denmark, Norway, Barbary, St. Thomas, China and elsewhere. Forty thousand sailors were employed in the herring fisheries. In 1609, was founded the bank of Amsterdam, a century before the bank of England. Wherever money passed, in Europe or the Orient, the notes of the bank were at a premium. A directorship was an office of honor, filled only by men of the best character and standing, who served without pay. Long afterwards pamphlets were printed in London advocating the establishment of a similar bank in England, and demonstrating how important had been the bank of Amsterdam in promoting the trade and commerce of The Netherlands. Walter Raleigh and other Englishmen long before had been crying out that the Hollanders were masters of the sea.

The lead gained by The Netherlands in commerce,
finance, exploration, was accompanied by like activity in education, art, literature. Vondel, the great Dutch poet, wrote his "Lucifer" from which John Milton, a few years later, "lifted" so liberally in plan, thought, and detail for his "Paradise Lost." From the other countries of Europe students went to the Dutch universities. The famous Leyden school of philology developed. Scientific methods were introduced in the municipal Latin schools. Significant of the merit of the Dutch school method, built upon so old a foundation, was the statement of Governor Brumbaugh of Pennsylvania, himself an educator of life-long experience, that the Dutch public schools are the best in the world. At the Leyden school 300 years ago were 800 students. The whole world used the compasses, sextants and telescopes made at Amsterdam and Leyden. Leyden was the home of the famous Elzivier press, and for a time, of the Plantijn press. It was the century of the great Rembrandt and Frans Halls, and of scores of painters of only a little lesser rank, and of Dutch architects and sculptors such as Hendrick Keyser, a patronymic well known in Philadelphia, who made the tombstones of William I. and Erasmus. The Netherlander, Mercator, had made his famous map of the world.

Dutch geographical names, Tasmania, New Holland, New Zealand, Van Diemans Land, Cape Horn, Cape May, Cape Henlopen, New Amsterdam, encircled the earth, and bear witness to the extent of Dutch exploration.

The offer by the States General, in 1614, of a forty year commercial monopoly to discoverers of new passages, ports, lands and localities led to the foundation of the New Netherlands Company. In 1616, Cornelius Hendrickson, from Monnikendam on the Zuyder Zee, discovered the mouth of the Schuylkill, and ransomed from the Indians a Dutchman who had come overland from the North River. The building, in 1623, by the
Dutch of Fort Nassau on the east bank of the South River; the settlement by DeVries at Swanendael, near the present town of Lewes; the occupation by the Dutch of Manhattan Island; the building of Fort Beversrode by Andreas Hudde on land now within the City of Philadelphia, bought in 1633 from the Indians by Arent Corosen, agent of Wouter van Twiller, Governor of New Netherlands; the subsequent building of Fort Cassimir; the assumption of control of the whole of the South River, after the surrender of the intruding Swedes to Peter Stuyvesant; the growth of the Dutch settlement at New Amstel where the houses were built of brick and were tiled, where there were a school of twenty-five pupils, gardens and growing crops of wheat and rye—all these undertakings have their place in an historic story, the details of which are recorded in numerous publications. But their significance has a far wider bearing than its narrow application to Passyunk and the City of Philadelphia. It is not this narrower significance but a broader one that I wish to suggest.

The voyages to the North River (the Hudson) and to the South River (the Delaware) are not to be estimated by the later importance of Philadelphia and New York. They were but two, and perhaps at the time two of least importance, of the many Dutch explorations and voyages around the earth, in the Arctic Circle and the Antarctic, along the Equator, to South Africa, to South America, to the Orient, India, China, Japan, to the islands of the great oceans. Settlements and trade followed the flag of the United Provinces of The Netherlands, whose red, white and blue stripes and five pointed stars, the point numbers distinguishing it from England’s flag stars, were to be seen again on the flag of our own united provinces which made the American federation. The word “stripe” is Dutch. The voyages to America were but one, and, in the period,
a minor manifestation of a boundless energy, skill and leadership, driving along hundreds of headways, that made the country familiarly called Holland, the wonder, the envy, the model of the Western world. Nearly three hundred years later the English economist, Barker, wrote:

Our ideas of civil liberty, of religious toleration and of peaceful and natural development and most of our sciences and industries were borrowed from The Netherlands; English civilization is Dutch civilization to a very large extent.

Thorold Rogers repeated the eulogy with:

Holland taught Europe nearly everything; she was the university of the civilized world, the centre of European trade, the admiration, the envy, the example of nations.

The historian, Bancroft, did not exaggerate the Dutch influence upon the American colonies when he declared that the United Provinces of The Netherlands were the Fathers' model for united provinces of America. Kitchin's "History of France" says that the Dutch twice saved the Western world from subjection —first from Spain and then from France. President John Adams wrote to his son, the second President Adams, "mostly study the Dutch" and again he wrote, "The originals of the two Republics are so much alike that a page from one seems a transcript from the other." In like manner Franklin wrote "In love of liberty and in bravery in defence of it she has been our great example."

"The seven Provinces (which we call Holland) were an example which no one in England engaged in the struggle against the Crown could fail to follow. The parallel runs close through the story and it is always the Dutch who give the example, and come first in date. . . . Throughout the century and on until William of Orange usurped the Throne of England the Dutch example colours everything." Charles the First, by Hilaire Belloc (1933). Pseudo historians in America could profit by Belloc's contrast between the value of tradition and the danger of the scientific and documentary method to which latter process many Americans make a blundering adherence.
On every side about us today exist the evidences of the Dutch influence upon the United States. On our highways vehicles pass on the right as in Holland and not on the left as in England. There are written constitutions of the union and of every state composing it. England, unlike Holland, has no written constitution. In our national senate, every state, large and small, has equal representation as in The Netherlands, and our national senate, because only one-third of its members go out of office at a time, is as President Buchanan said, "constitutionally and legally the same body that met in 1789." This feature of our senate we find in Penn's "Frame of Government" whereby the council was a continuing body, one-third of its members going out of office each year, a Dutch plan, one of the many ideas Penn derived from The Netherlands practice. Penn's Council and Assembly presented to the Governor names of persons for judges, treasurers, masters of the rolls, sheriffs and coroners. The system, continued in the Pennsylvania Constitution, found its way into the National Constitution by which the President appoints and the Senate consents or rejects. In The Netherlands war was declared by the Legislature as it is in the United States. All over the United States deeds of conveyance are recorded in a public office as in The Netherlands, contrary to the practice in England. We have the written ballot by way of Holland. England rejected it until about sixty years ago. The first free school in the American colonies was the Dutch school of 1628 for both boys and girls in New Amsterdam. In Penn's colony the land of a person dying was liable for his debts, as it was in Holland, while in England it was exempt. In Holland the children of impoverished parents were maintained at public expense and were then made apprentices in some trade. In Penn's colony children past the twelfth year of age were to be taught a trade. Such practices introduced
in Pennsylvania by William Penn were unknown in Europe except in The Netherlands, and their introduction in Penn’s colony was directly due to Penn’s knowledge and appreciation of the Dutch. His mother was Dutch, according to Pepys with more brains than his father. Penn preached in the Dutch language and for a time lived in The Netherlands.

Our American language has many Dutch words, "hustle," "scout," "boss," "cookies," "waffles," with many terms about ships, boats, sports. As the game of golf was first made known to Scotland from Holland, so the first golf club in the United States was the Dutch golf club of Savannah, Georgia, in 1797. In Holland golf was so popular that a law was passed prohibiting the players from obstructing highways. In one period of our year we have the Dutch game of golf and in another the Dutch roll, foundation of all artistic skating, and the Dutch Santa Claus, the deathless archetype of nature’s, humanity’s, Christ’s, wardenship and love of little children.

When we turn from material things and from the arts, science, education, practical customs and law making to religion, we find a like contrast between Holland and the rest of Europe, and find also in Holland the influence that made Pennsylvania a Quaker colony with toleration for all religious sects. The Huguenots driven out of France found refuge in Holland. The Jews oppressed nearly everywhere sought shelter in the same country, a safe place of exile for the English regicides, for a future monarch like Charles II. of Great Britain, of a former monarch like William, lately the German emperor, as well as for the harried peasant and protestant, the Pilgrim fathers of Massachusetts, Governor Bradford of the Plymouth colony and the Baptists of England, of the last named of whom many joined the Dutch Mennonite Church. Hundreds of years before the time of George Fox and
William Penn, the Anabaptists in Holland driven from Switzerland, where they were persecuted by church and state as a menace to both, taught and practiced what became later the fundamentals of the Quaker cult. The great William of Orange, prototype of George Washington, in 1578 had granted toleration to the Mennonites and Prince Maurice followed his father's example. They held for the separation of church and state, as the United States has held. They held that the church is an independent, voluntary group of believers united for the purpose of worship; that the Bible is the guide to faith and practice. They refused to bear arms or to take an oath, and by their rejection of infant baptism came to be called Anabaptists. In them originated the Baptist church, the Congregational church and the Quakers. There were a number of Anabaptist divisions, among them those of Munster, where John of Leyden tried to set up a theocracy. The Mennonites of Holland disapproved of this as did the Anabaptists of other countries. In no great length of time all the Anabaptist sects faded out except the peaceful Mennonites, who in the 17th century at Germantown carried on the affiliation with the Quakers begun beyond the Atlantic Ocean, and made that famous first formal protest against African slavery. At one period the Mennonites nearly approached political control of The Netherlands. In Holland "Mennonite fine through and through" indicated the best grade of material and workmanship in the handicrafts. In recent times four Mennonites were members of the Supreme Court of The Netherlands, and three of the Council of State; the President of the Bank of The Netherlands was a Mennonite. Of the hundred members of The Netherlands Academy of Science eleven were Mennonites, although they represented but one-hundredth of the population. In this country today there are Mennonite colleges in Indiana, Kansas, Ohio
and South Dakota, and many preparatory schools. There are Mennonite missions among the Indians in Oklahoma, Arizona and Montana, in the Argentine, in China, Africa, Armenia, Thibet, in Siberia and other quarters of the globe and mission buildings in India.

The origin of so many things in Pennsylvania is thus to be traced to Holland and to the Mennonites of Holland, and we do well to recall them. Even if all of our people were not a chosen people, standards were chosen standards, and necessarily leavened the whole lump. If in some respects, perhaps in many respects, we have fallen away from these standards which were the basis of law and custom in Penn’s times and on down to the devastating effects of the world war, in spite of all such falling away we have held fast to much that was good. We continue to practice the custom of Holland in caring for the halt, the lame and the blind. May the Recording Angel take account of that when are reckoned the things we have left undone which we ought to have done and the things done which we ought not to have done.

A well-known writer has been quoted as saying that the Dutch were “kicked out of Pennsylvania.” Contrariwise it may be affirmed with more accuracy that but for the influence of those remote Latin schools in Holland and of the Dutch settlements on the west side of the South River, the English Quakers would have been forced out of what is now the central and major part of Philadelphia, unless they chose to live under Lord Baltimore’s government rather than under William Penn’s.

When a Dutch ship on August 28, 1609, entered what is now the Delaware Bay, previous to the Dutch discovery of the Hudson, the Dutch claimed the country, the beginning of New Netherlands. When Lord Baltimore’s charter of 1632 for land extending northward “under the fortieth degree of latitude” was granted,
the English authorities were ignorant of American
geography, of the width of a degree of latitude and of
the location of the parallels of latitude. If Baltimore’s
grants had been to the fortieth degree of latitude the
state of Maryland would now include all of Delaware,
a part of West Virginia and a strip nearly twenty
miles wide across southern Pennsylvania, and the
Philadelphia of a later period would conform with the
boast of Thomas Cresap that it was the finest town in
Maryland. The attempt of Maryland’s governor, by
sending Colonel Nathaniel Utie to New Amstel (New
Castle) with notice to the Dutch settlers to vacate had
all the effect of a political roorback. The local Dutch
governors, Beekman and Alricks, sent duplicate mes-
sages by land and sea to Governor Stuyvesant in New
Amsterdam. Stuyvesant, saying that Utie should have
been arrested, sent Augustine Herman and Resolveert
Waldron to Maryland to remonstrate. The two met
the Governor of Maryland and the Council at Patuxent.
They asked to see Lord Baltimore’s grant, which was
in Latin, and pointed out that the grant was for coun-
try uncultivated and occupied only by savages having
no knowledge of the Divine Being. They put the finger
upon the weak spot in Lord Baltimore’s contention.
Late in the next century the Lord Chancellor of En-
gland gave his decision in favor of Penn; that what
is now the state of Delaware did not belong to Balti-
more; that the disputed territory of the peninsula
should be divided by a north and south line half-way
between the Chesapeake Bay and the Delaware, tan-
gent to a circle twelve miles from New Castle, and
thence north to a point fifteen miles south of Phila-
delphia.

This north and south line, the western boundary of
the state of Delaware, had been suggested years before
by the Dutch. Maryland historians, in upholding Lord
Baltimore’s claim, are prone to ignore a similar de-
cision made long before in 1685, by the Lords of Trade and Plantations in London, approved by King James. In the later decree of chancery made by Lord Har- dwicke that the agreement of 1732 between Lord Balti-
more and Thomas and Richard Penn as to these bound-
ary lines must be carried out, the Lord Chancellor said
that this agreement had been proposed by Lord Balti-
more himself; that he himself had produced the map
or plan attached to the agreement; that he had reduced
the heads of it in writing; was well assisted in making
it, and that a great length of time had been taken for
consideration and reducing the agreement to form. Be-
cause of the ignorance in England as to the number of
miles in a degree, determined by the French astron-
omer Picard, and a like ignorance of the location of
the 40th degree of latitude, the geographical terms of
the grants to Penn and Lord Baltimore were both
physically impossible. But for the Dutch settlements
on the Delaware, and for the exception to Baltimore’s
grant, pointed out by the Dutch commissioners about
a quarter of a century before William Penn’s coming
to Pennsylvania, his colony would have lost to Mary-
land the city of Philadelphia, the birthplace of Penn-
sylvania’s only President, and the historic sites of
the battlefields of Brandywine and Gettysburg.

The application of the assertion that the Dutch were
“kicked out of Pennsylvania,” could only be to the
acquirement of New Netherlands by the English. There
then came to an end the Dutch government of New
Netherlands under which was the territory now com-
prising the states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsyl-
vania and Delaware. Not until our national constitution
was adopted was the territory of these present states or
other states brought under one government. New En-
gland was a geographical designation, not a federation
of different colonies. By one of frequent perverse work-
ings of fate the end of New Netherlands was due to a
Dutch naval victory over the English and incidentally to what may be called a "fluke."

In Europe the country holding the supreme power and wealth and thus creating envy has been the object of attack by the other nations, often by a coalition of them. It was so with Spain. It was so with Holland, Spain's successor in the position of supremacy. It was so with France under Napoleon, and in our own time the coalition was repeated against Germany whose products were filling the markets of France and England and elsewhere in the world.

The immediate cause of the first war between England and Holland, with many contributing causes, was England's Navigation Act of 1651 aimed primarily at Dutch commerce. Dutch vessels were doing the carrying trade of Europe, including the trade between England and France. The Navigation Act prohibited importation into England in non-English vessels of products from non-European countries and from European countries other products than those of the exporting countries. One effect of the act in America if enforceable, would be to prevent the Dutch from trading with the two Eastern Shore counties of Virginia, where at the time nearly all the foreign trade was with Holland, where there were many Dutch residents, where their descendants still live, contrary to the opinion that this Virginia population is of unmixed English blood. Following the Navigation Act English cruisers began to search Dutch vessels for contraband goods even taking the vessels into English ports. In the naval war that inevitably followed such aggression there were defeats and "victories on both sides. The early Dutch defeats were followed by Tromp's victory over Blake. Conditions in both countries were unhappy. Both tired of the war and a temporary peace followed. It was in this period that John de Witt, aged 26, an advocate and mathematician, a poet, translator of Corneille's Hor-
ace, came to the fore on his way to the office of Council Pensionary and to hold as a statesman the foremost place in The Netherlands.

By 1661, the war clouds gathered again. The Duke of York, heir to the throne, and his following, wanted war again to break up the Dutch commerce. In the spring of 1666 De Ruyter twice defeated the British fleet under Monk and Prince Rupert, after the second victory the Dutch carrying back to Holland six ships and 3,000 prisoners, among them the English vice admiral Ayscue and the corpse of his colleague, Berkeley. Again Monk and Prince Rupert set out and this time defeated the Dutch fleet. There had been heavy war losses on both sides. The province of Holland, using the proper term to distinguish the one province from the federation of provinces, The Netherlands, was hard put to it to pay the interest on its war loan. The plague was raging in England. The diplomats were at work over tentative steps towards peace, Breda was selected as the meeting place, for peace negotiations. At Breda the familiar play of cross purposes began. The Dutch found that the French, who had a hand in the negotiations, were showing English leanings. The English suspected that France was sparring for a chance to seize the lower Netherlands. The wings of the Dove of Peace fluttered but did not settle. John de Witt decided that Admiral De Ruyter and a Dutch fleet in the Thames would be the best peace negotiators. The Dutch fleet of eighty vessels, carrying troops, arrived at the mouth of The Thames in June, 1667. Seventeen vessels under Van Ghent sailed up the river, followed by the main fleet. Cornelius De Witt and Van Ghent went up the Medway. The Dutch troops captured the fort of Sheerness and there hoisted the Dutch flag. Further up the Medway the heavy chain across the stream was broken, the English batteries were silenced and seized by the troops, The Royal
Charles, bearing the English Admiral's flag, was captured, and other ships destroyed. Proceeding on to Upnor three large English vessels were destroyed, The Royal Charles and the Unity were carried back to The Netherlands.

The entries in the diary of John Evelyn give an eye witness account of the dismay in England, as follows:

1667—June 10. To London alarm'd by the Dutch who were fallen on our fleete at Chatham, by a most audacious enterprise, entering the very river with part of their fleete, doing us not only disgrace, but incredible mischiefe in burning severall of our best men of war. . . . This alarm caused me . . . to send away my best goods, plate, etc. . . . The alarm was so great that it put both country and citty into a panic of feare and consternation, such as I hope as I shall never see more; everybody was flying.

Two weeks later he wrote:

The Dutch fleet still continuing to stop up the river so as nothing could stir out or come in.

On June 28th again he went to Chatham to view not onely what mischiefe the Dutch had done, but how triumphantly their whole fleete lay within the very mouth of the Thames, all from the North fore-land, Margate, even to the buoy of the Nore—a dreadfull spectacle as ever Englishman saw, and a dishonor never to be wiped off. . . . Here in the river off Chatham, just before the town, lay the carkass of the London (now the third time burnt), the Royal Oake, the James, etc., yet smoking.

Late in the next month on July 29th he wrote:

I went to Gravesend, the Dutch fleet still at anker before the river.

The Dutch fleet had blockaded the mouth of the Thames for about two months, the blockade only ending with the making of peace, a fact so commonly ignored that of recent years we have been told often that England has never been invaded since the time of the Normans. The brief landing by John Paul Jones
during the American Revolution might perhaps be overlooked, but the closing of the Thames for two months, both as to duration and in far reaching consequences, is in another category.

The successful expedition did what John de Witt hoped. The dickering and playing for advantage at Breda ceased and the delayed peace treaty, made largely on Dutch terms, was concluded on July 31st. England abolished commercial restrictions against the Dutch. As to colonies it was agreed that both sides should retain what they held on May 10th, 1667.

Nevertheless the conflicts of the nations of Europe with their devious methods continued. France was pressing for possession of the Spanish Netherlands. The Triple Alliance, Holland, England and Sweden, against France was formed. Then Charles II. of England made a secret alliance with France in that continuing English hope of destroying Dutch commerce, receiving also a bribe of 3,000,000 francs yearly and a promise of the mouths of the Scheldt and the Dutch island of Walcheren. French money in Sweden was likewise effective. France was successful too in winning other states into helping break down the Dutch Republic. An army of 120,000 men made up of the English, French, Swiss, Italians, was ready. A Jewish banker, Zadok of Amsterdam, secretly bought for the allies an abundance of Dutch munitions pretending it was for the Spaniards who at the time were friendly to the Dutch. Among the French officers were the famous Turenne, Condé, Vauban. Munster and Cologne were to attack the eastern frontiers. The English-French fleet was to assail Holland and Zealand. Relying for safety upon the Triple Alliance of England, Holland and Sweden, unaware that England and Sweden had secretly broken away to France, perhaps relying also too much upon past victories, as two centuries later Robert E. Lee was to rely upon a Pennsylvania battle-
field, trusting perhaps to that Dutch ability to meet a new situation which has caused them to be called the Yankees of Europe, both the Dutch army and the navy were in an unprepared condition. On land the young Prince of Orange, William III., inheritor of a great name and of great talents, whose fame he increased, had been given command with the reluctant consent of John de Witt of an army of 20,000 men to oppose the advance of the allied force of six times that number. Soon the French were in possession of three Dutch provinces. The populace and the chief opponents of De Witt blamed him for the disaster and he and his brother were murdered by the mob.

The energy and talent of the young William of Orange who soon was made stadtholder as well as captain general, reawakened the spirit of the Dutch now that the house of Orange was again above, "Oranje Boven." The army was increased to some extent and gained several victories by swift movements upon isolated forces as the American General "Stonewall" Jackson was to do long afterwards. The great Dutch Admiral De Ruyter won a series of naval victories over the allied English and French fleets. The dikes about Amsterdam were cut by the Dutch; the land was flooded and the water line proved to be an insurmountable defense against French invasion. Spain, the ally of Holland against France, threatened war against England on the one hand, and on the other distributed money among members of the British parliament. Peace between England and Holland was concluded by the treaty of Westminster, February 19, 1674. Early in 1674 the French gave up the siege of Holland and before the end of the year had backed out of The Netherlands.

The Dutch victories on the Thames and the Medway in the previous war with England had enabled the Dutch to dictate the terms of the treaty of Breda. The
terms of that treaty were largely followed in the treaty of Westminster. New Netherlands went to the English because the States General of Holland had not received word that in August, 1673, before the treaty of Westminster was made, the Dutch with little difficulty had recaptured New Amsterdam from the English. The Dutch, therefore, were not "kicked out" of New Netherlands, did not lose it in a war, but by the long delay taken by a sailing vessel to cross the Atlantic and pass safely through a war area to a Dutch harbour and by the Dutch adherence at Westminster to the favorable terms of the treaty of Breda.

The Dutch retained Surinam, which they still own. On November 9th, 1674, all New Nederland was delivered to England, her possession ending with the American Revolution. My hearers may decide for themselves which country in the long run had the best of a bargain made in ignorance of the recapture of New Amsterdam by the Dutch.

It is worth while to recall even with an inadequate summary, events which once shook and altered Europe, and shaped the course of American history, which in so large a measure influenced the Fathers of the United States, and still affect, however unwittingly, our daily lives.

With similarities in the countries there is one marked contrast between the people of The Netherlands and the people of the United States. When America was all frontier the settlers who cut down the forests pushed the valueless brush wood into a ravine. We are still disposing of our litter in the same way, our present day ravines being the town streets. We shall approach nearer to civilization when our people suppress lynching, banditry and publicly displayed slovenliness, all frontier inheritances.

Book writers today treat the Puritan with scorn. If the Puritans of Holland, England and America, along
with John Calvin, excluded certain harmless forms of self-expression they showed an understanding of humanity by their condemnation, severe and practical, of self-indulgence socially harmful. They are to be credited with the good they did and are not to be measured solely by present day excess of self-expression and its consequent delirium of frenzied irrationalities.

Profound as was the world-wide impression made by the events narrated, and though that impression continued for centuries, it has faded from the common memory. Our school books no longer tell, as did the books in my school days, the story of Tromp and the broom at his masthead, to indicate that he had swept the English channel clean. A not distant future time will crowd out our present. Our Tromps, De Ruyters and De Witts will be supplanted by later actors in tragedies, losses, defeats or triumphs of peace or war. Meanwhile the influence of the lives of men sturdy in character and strong of mind, leaders of their world, does not cease when the men themselves are no longer held in remembrance.

In what appeared to be an age of Democracy, in this country attended by the substitution of mass rule for the representative government of the Fathers, in other countries with the downfall of monarchs, with the disappearance of men of political power, described by the Dutch word "bosses," there have come to the fore others, with varying methods, but underneath each holding an extraordinary power, overriding precedent or established order or governmental contact. Whether the hopes of Germany and the United States or the plans of the Soviet in Russia be realized or prove to be an ignis fatuus fading in the daybreak of fact, "Quien sabe?" as the Spaniards ask. The millions who hope and the doubters springing up like mushrooms would be more content if they could be assured that
anybody knows. Whatever the outcome of experimental
government, the product of a world’s colossal blunder,
we have warrant from our knowledge of the past that
the courage and character of great leaders and peoples
have not died with them. The same characteristics are
still displayed in the Netherlands by the draining of
the Zuyder Zee and the first around the world air line
mail, and are possessed by our own and other nations.

Such courage and character are needed to meet the
perplexing embarrassment, financial and political, pre-
vailing in our Commonwealth extending westward
from the site of Fort Beversrode to the waters of the
Monongahela and Allegheny and northward towards
the sources of the Susquehanna and the Delaware. Our
State’s government is disorganized; its financial re-
sources are near exhaustion; interest and sinking
fund must be paid annually; current obligations can-
not be met out of current resources vastly reduced by
attacks and threatened attacks upon the state’s main
sources of revenue, the corporations; the chaos in
finance is attended by confusion in politics not com-
forting to the independent mind that would have sanity
attend independence. Albert Gallatin, a great Secretary
of the Treasury, had no tricks of financial legerdemain
to put the United States on a sound financial basis and
a surplus in its coffers. His simple rule of guidance was
the truth that if the people wanted something the
people would have to pay for it.

Like Germany we have had recently a revolution,
and like Germany, so far it has been a peaceful one, the
whole mass in each country moving almost as one man
on the one way. Although external in their remoter
cause, at present the new perplexities social, political,
financial, thrown up like volcanoes from the strata
of society, are an internal product. But these erratic
ebullitions are less than the perplexities surmounted
by The Netherlands in the 16th and 17th centuries.
Not as yet is there an alliance intent upon destroying by armed force the power and upon grasping the trade and wealth of the richest of countries as Spain in her day was attacked, as England and France attacked Holland, as England and France fought against Russia, as many European countries were allied against France, and later against Germany. Our present perplexities of external origin and internal growth are not at present both internal and external as were Holland’s at the time the Dutch built Fort Beversrode. As a man must do, so must a nation put its own house in order. There are Pennsylvanians wise and strong like the leaders who made Holland a great country. Of one such Pennsylvanian, William Hard, a keen Washington observer, wrote some three years ago, "there is no finer mind or character in Washington public life." There are also within our state men of a different kind, perhaps an occasional mountebank, notoriety seeker, demagogue, stirrer of domestic strife in the absence of armed warfare, when the need is for industrial and social peace in order that recovery may begin as nature ordains, with the ground workers. In a few months the people will choose between them, for one or another office. Hope for the future is based on the other hope that the people will know the difference between principle and the absence of it, and as well the difference between the men among whom the choice will be made.