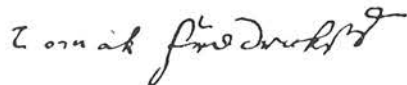


The Genealogy of the Cadmus Family

by David M. Riker

Thomas Fredericksen, his wife Marritje Adriaens and infant son Frederick emigrated to New Netherland between the years 1647 and 1650. They did not have an established family surname and, according to the custom of the period, used patronymic names for identification. A patronymic name, which changed every generation, indicated the first name of the father and had a variety of endings such as s, en, se, sen or szen. The family name Cadmus and its variety of early forms was not established by Thomas' descendants until sixty years after his arrival in New Netherland.

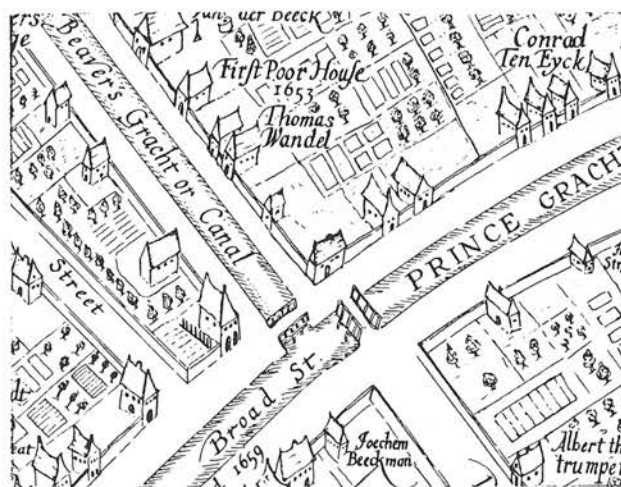


Signature of Thomas Fredericksen, 1659.

The European origin of Thomas Fredericksen is unknown since no indication of it is given in any of the early records. John O. Evjen in his book on immigrants to New Netherland called him a Dane from Oldenburg, Holstein, but there is no evidence to support such a claim.¹ It is known, however, that Thomas was born circa 1611.

The first record of Thomas Fredericksen in New Netherland is found on September 18, 1650, when his second son Adriaen was baptized at the New Amsterdam Dutch Reformed Church.² Sometimes called "Thomas de Kuyper" (the Cooper), he lived in New Amsterdam where he practiced his trade. He apparently held other jobs too for on November 22, 1655 he appeared in court to testify that he was fully satisfied with his wages while employed making barrels for holding brandy. That same year he was taxed six florins for improvements to the fortifications at New Amsterdam which included the erection of a plank curtain on the wall north of the city as well as the strengthening of Fort Amsterdam. In 1656 Thomas was selling wine and beer at his home and had become a tavern-keeper. On April 12, 1657 he obtained the small burgher right from the city magistrates.³

On June 29, 1656, he bought a long narrow piece of property on the northwest corner of what later became Beaver and Broad Streets. The lot had originally been granted in 1647 to Pieter Van der Linden when that area was on the southern edge of the West India Company's common ground called "the sheep pasture" and was also part of the marsh called Blommarts Vly. Through the middle of this Vly ran a drainage ditch which was later widened to form a canal called the Prince Gracht. Thomas' property fronted 200 feet along the Prince Gracht and 35 feet along the Beavers Gracht, a feeder canal. It was an excellent investment since Thomas was eventually able to sell front lots along the Prince Gracht to owners of the interior grants.⁴ He kept the house and lot on the corner measuring 35 feet by 52 feet as his own residence. Another lot, sold off in August of the same year to Conrad Ten Eyck, was at the rear of Thomas's property. This sale allowed Ten Eyck access to the path along the Prince Gracht. In 1659 and 1660 Thomas sold two more lots front-



Portion of Exton map of New Amsterdam showing Thomas Fredericksen's house at corner of Prince Gracht and Beaver's Gracht.

ing on the Prince Gracht, one to Abraham Lubbersen and another to Boele Roeloffsen, a tailor.

By 1657 Thomas Fredericksen was employed at the Dutch West India Company's weigh-house and in March of that same year he was appointed overseer of the other workmen there. The weigh-house, used to check the weights and amounts of goods shipped for the Company, had been constructed in 1653 near a small dock on Schreyers Hook. Thomas resigned his position here in September 1659, receiving the thanks of the city magistrates for his services.⁵

In September of 1660, following a dispute with his neighbor, Abraham Lubbersen, about a small boat, Thomas Fredericksen was summoned to appear before the court. He was away at Fort Orange at the time but Lubbersen, who wanted to settle the matter at once, had the court appoint arbitrators who apparently settled the matter between the two.⁶

By the Fall of 1661 Thomas Fredericksen and his family had removed to the village of Bergen (now Jersey City, NJ).⁷ Bergen at that time was a fairly new village which had been founded when Director Stuyvesant and the Council approved a petition, dated August, 1660, to allow settlement on the high ground about two miles back from the North (Hud-

¹ John O. Evjen, "Scandinavian Immigrants in New York 1630-1674," Pub. 1916, Reprint Gen. Pub. Co. Inc., Baltimore 1972.

² Baptisms in the Reformed Dutch Church, New York, Collections of The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Reprint The Gregg Press 1968.

³ B. Fernow, ed., "Records of New Amsterdam"; Vol. I, p. 370, p. 403; Vol. II, p. 33, p. 166; Vol. VII, p. 151; New York 1897 (hereafter called RNA).

⁴ I.N. Phelps Stokes, "The Iconography of Manhattan Island, 1495-1909"; Vol. 2, p. 243, p. 372.

⁵ RNA, Vol. III, p. 43; Vol. VII, p. 151.

⁶ RNA, Vol. III, pp. 203, 222.

⁷ New York Historical Manuscripts: Dutch-Register of Solomon Lachaire, p. 88, p. 95, trans. by E.B. O'Callaghan. Pub. by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore 1978.

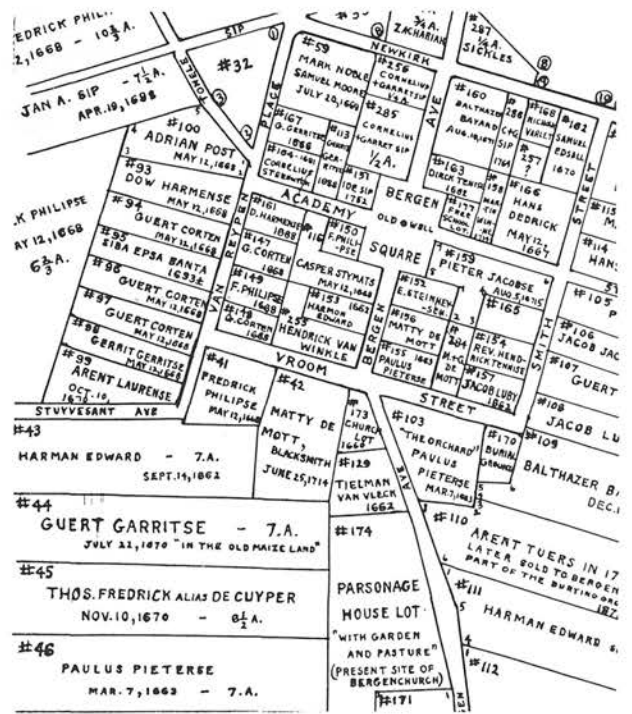
David Riker, an engineer with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, is a member of the Society and serves on its Committee on Genealogy.

son) River in Pavonia. This area had been ravaged by Indian wars of the 1640s' and 1650s' and as a result Stuyvesant required all settlers to reside in compact villages which could be easily protected. Stuyvesant also directed that all claims the Indians might have to the land be settled by purchase. When Bergen was laid out in the Fall of 1660, it was designed as a square 800 feet on each side, intersected by two main streets with a small green at the center. The village was protected by a rectangular palisade wall with a gate at the center of each side.⁸ How long this protective wall remained in place is uncertain but it was probably removed with the passing of the Indian threat. It is not known whether Thomas Fredericksen leased a lot within the palisade or lived on a farm outside the gates.

On December 28, 1662, Thomas Fredericksen was one of several petitioners who complained to Director Stuyvesant about the fencing of highlands situated at the south end of the village enclosure. Contending that this section of highlands was the better part of available pasture land for grazing their cattle, they also voiced their fears that the highlands to the north might also be fenced thus depriving the Bergen villagers of all suitable land for their cattle and restricting them to marshy ground unfitted for grazing cattle.⁹

The establishment of a church was one of the first concerns of the Bergen settlers. In 1662 they petitioned Director Stuyvesant and the Council to provide them with a minister. Thomas Fredericksen was among those agreeing to contribute three guilders yearly towards the support of a minister, his name appearing on a list attached to the petition. Unable to get a domine, the settlers that same year engaged Englebert Steenhuyzen as voorleser and schoolmaster. The earliest services were probably held in a private house and later in the log school house on the green. Eventually the settlers built their own octagonal stone church south of the village outside the palisade. Thomas' wife, Marritje Adriaens, was one of the original twenty-seven members of the church listed in 1664, but Thomas did not join until November 13, 1666.¹⁰

By 1664 Thomas Fredericksen was apparently well enough established in his home at Bergen to dispose of his New Amsterdam property.¹¹ The latter property included his house and lot at the corner of the Beavers Gracht and the Prince Gracht which he sold on February 12, 1664 to Cornelis Barentsen Van der Kuyl. Although the English conquered New Netherland September 7, 1664, it was not until November 22, 1665 that Thomas, with other freeholders and inhabitants of Bergen, took the oath of allegiance to Charles II, King of England and the Lords Proprietors of New Jersey.¹² Eight years later he became active in the local government



Early Property Plan of Village of Bergen. Courtesy of The Genealogical Society of New Jersey.

at Bergen, serving as schepen during the Dutch re-conquest.¹³

It was not until 1677 that Thomas Fredericksen received confirmation of the grant to his lands at Bergen. This grant included four different lots as follows: (1) nine and a half acres along the highway south of Paulus Pieters (2) ten acres of meadow east of the Hackensack river (3) six and a half acres south of Hendrick van Ostrum and north of Paulus Pieters and (4) 13 acres of meadow along the creek at the foot of Snake Hill.¹⁴ Since one of these lots was very close to the stone church and the center of the village, it is likely that Thomas had occupied that property for some time, perhaps since he first came to Bergen in 1661. The other properties appear to have been lands on which he could graze his livestock.

On July 27, 1678, Thomas Fredericksen made a joint will with his wife in which their ages and the ages of their eight living children were given. Thomas did not die until May 19, 1702, his wife following him on December 10th of the same year. They were buried in the Bergen Reformed Church burying ground with the use of a pall, a black cloth thrown over the coffin and rented to those who could afford the fee, an indication of the affluence of the deceased person.¹⁵

It was not until the 1730's that all branches of the Cadmus family assumed the surname Cadmus. If the children and grandchildren of Thomas Fredericksen had assumed a surname related to Thomas' profession, the name would have been Cooper or Cuyper. The surname Cadmus, perhaps, relates to Thomas' place of origin in Europe.

Historians and genealogists during the last century were apparently unable to trace this family to its progenitor in America because they were unfamiliar with the use of patronymic names. Charles Winfield in his history of Hudson County for example, wrote in 1874 that the first of the family in Bayonne and Jersey City was Dirck Cadmus.¹⁶ It is now known that Dirck was a grandson of Thomas Fredericksen.

⁸ John E. Pomfret, *Colonial New Jersey*, pp. 14-16, New York 1973.

⁹ Documents relative to the Colonial History of The State of New York, ed. by E.B. O'Callaghan and Berthold Fernow, Vol. 13, p. 234.

¹⁰ Bergen Records-Holland Society of New York, ed. and trans. by Dingman Versteeg and Thomas E. Vermilye, Jr., reprint by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore 1976 (hereafter called Bergen Records).

¹¹ I.N. Phelps Stokes, *The Iconography of Manhattan Island 1495-1909*, Vol. 2, p. 372.

¹² New Jersey Archives, First Series, Vol. I, p. 49.

¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 125.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, Vol. XXI, p. 28.

¹⁵ Bergen Church Records.

¹⁶ Charles H. Winfield, "History of Hudson County, N.J.," p. 555, NYC 1874.

Thomas Fredericksen and Marritje had children:¹⁷

- + 1. Frederick Thomasen (see below)
- + 2. Adriaen Thomasen (see below)
- 3. Tryntje Thomasen, bp. 23 Feb. 1653 (New Amsterdam); died young.
- 4. Francyntje Thomasen, bp. 4 Apr. 1655 (New Amsterdam); m. 15 Aug. 1672 (New York) Laurens Toers, son of Arent Laurensen Toers and Anna Claes. They removed to near Acquackanonk (Passaic, NJ) in 1699.¹⁸
- 5. Tryntje Thomasen, bp. 16 Jan. 1658 (New Amsterdam); died young.
- + 6. Cornelis Thomasen (see below)
- 7. Tryntje Thomasen, bp. 3 Sept. 1662 (New Amsterdam), m. 6 Oct. 1684 (Bergen) Teunis Jansen Pier.
- + 8. Johannes Thomasen (see below)
- 9. Jannetje Thomasen, bp. 8 July 1668 (Bergen); joined Bergen church in 1690.
- + 10. Thomas Thomasen (see below)
- 1. Frederick Thomasen, b. c. 1647; m. 23 Oct. 1672 (New York) Catharina Hoppe(r), daughter of Andries Hoppe(r) and Geertje Hendricks. Frederick joined the Bergen Dutch Reformed Church 18 Apr. 1682. He owned property at Slotterdam on the east side of the Passaic River from Acquackanonk (Passaic, NJ) in 1692 but continued to live at Bergen. Catharina died 8 May 1716 and Frederick died 3 Nov. 1745. They were both buried at the Bergen burying ground.¹⁹ Their children:
 - 11. Andries Fredericksen, bp. 23 Aug. 1673 (New York); died young.
 - + 12. Thomas Fredericksen (see below)
 - + 13. Andries Fredericksen (see below)
 - 14. Christina Fredericksen, bp. 21 Aug. 1681 (Bergen); m. 1 July 1708 (Bergen) Adriaen Vermeule, widower of Dina Swarts.
 - 15. Marytje Fredericksen, bp. 1 Dec. 1684 (New York); m. 14 May 1709 (Bergen) Herman Juriaensen.
 - 16. Geertruy Fredericksen, bp. 27 Nov. 1687 (New York); m. 15 Apr. 1717 (New York) Hendrick Sickels.
- + 17. Dirck Fredericksen (see below)
- 18. Arie Fredericksen, bp. 28 Jan. 1694 (New York); died 1702.
- 2. Adriaen Thomasen, bp. 18 Sept. 1650 (New Amsterdam); m. 21 June 1686 (Bergen) Mayke Jacobusse, daughter of Jacobus Jans and Jannetje. She was the sister of Roelof, Brant and Garret Jacobusse, ancestors of the Jacobus family of northern New Jersey. Adriaen was living at Acquackanonk when he died 11 Oct. 1689. Mayke m. (2) 22 Apr. 1690 Frans Post. They had one known child:
 - 19. Marritje, bp. 1 Apr. 1688 (Bergen).
- 6. Cornelis Thomasen, bp. 15 Jan. 1659 (New Amsterdam); m. 8 Aug. 1696 (Hackensack) Marytje Coeymans from Albany.²⁰ Cornelis and his brother, Johannes bought land at Second River (Belleville, NJ) in 1695 and were living there four years later. Their children:
 - 20. Marritje Cornelisse, b. c. 1696; m. 25 Apr. 1713 (Hackensack) Ide Marselese.
 - 21. Ariaentje Cornelisse, b. c. 1700; m. 12 Apr. 1718 (Hackensack) Ide Sip.

8. Johannes Thomasen, b. c. 1666; m. 1 Jan. 1706 (Bergen) Marytje Van Deusen, widow of Tymen Van Valensyn and daughter of Melchert Van Deusen and Engeltje Rutgers van Schoenderwoert of Albany. They were living in Second River in 1699. Their children:

- + 22. Thomas (see below)
- + 23. Abraham (see below)
- + 24. Arien (see below)
- 25. Engeltje, b. 1 Sept. 1714, bp. at New York; m. 16 Aug. 1735 (Second River) Theunis Spier, son of Hendrick Spier and Rachel Pier.²¹

10. Thomas Thomasen, bp. 4 Feb. 1672 (New York); m. 17 Sept. 1701 (Bergen) Sara Van Deusen, daughter of Melchert Van Deusen and Engeltje Rutgers van Schoenderwoert of Albany. They lived near Second River. Thomas died c. 1753, his will dated 1 Dec. 1746 and proven 11 Sept. 1753. Their children:

- 26. Jannetje, b. 27 Aug. 1702, bp. at Bergen; m. (1) Marten Bruyn, prob. son of Hendrick Bruyn and Margrieta Lacomba; m. (2) c. 1730 Pieter Mead, son of Jan Pieterse Mead and Grietje Mandeville.
- 27. Marytje, b. c. 1705; m. 17 Oct. 1728 (Acquackanonk) Pieter Bras, son of Harmen Bras and Geertje Koeymans. Marytje must have died prior to 1738 for on 11 Nov. 1738 Pieter Bras m. Rachel Philips.

28. Annetje

29. Catharina, b. c. 1715; m. 1 Sept. 1736 (Second River) Evert Van Ness, son of Simon Van Ness and Hester DeLamater.²²

- + 30. Melchert (see below)
- 31. Margrietje, b. c. 1714; m. 29 June 1737 (Second River) Arie Jacobusse, son of Roelof Jacobusse and Geertruyt Buys.
- 32. Francyntje
- 33. Rachel, b. c. 1725; m. c. 1747 Pieter Jacobusse, son of Hendrick Jacobusse and his second wife, Aechie Paulusse.
- 34. Sarah, b. c. 1728; m. 13 May 1748 (Second River) Hendrick Spier, son of Hendrick Spier and Rachel Pier.²³

12. Thomas Fredericksen, bp. 27 Aug. 1675 (New York); m. 27 Apr. 1711 Marytje Vreeland, daughter of Hartman Vreeland and Marytje Braecke. They settled at Slotterdam on land purchased by his father in 1692. Their children:²⁴

- 35. Hartman, b. 10 Feb. 1714; m. 4 July 1739 (Acquackanonk) Lea Van Horn, daughter of Dirck Van Horn and Elizabeth Gerrits. Their children: Marritje and Dirck.

¹⁷ D.M. Riker, "Early Generations of The Cadmus Family," manuscript dated 1976.

¹⁸ *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, Vol. 1, pp. 54-62.

¹⁹ Bergen Records.

²⁰ "Hackensack Church Records, Collections of The Holland Society of New York," Vol. 1, Part 1, dated 1891.

²¹ Janet T. Riemer, "The Early Spier Family," *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, Vol. 55, p. 1 (hereafter called Spier family).

²² D.M. Riker, "The Ancestors and Descendants of Simon Van Ness and Hester DeLamater," Manuscript, dated 1984.

²³ Spier family.

²⁴ "Records of The Reformed Dutch Church at Acquackanonk," The Holland Society of New York Collections, Vol. VI, dated 1977.

36. Catharina, b. 16 Sept. 1716; m. 11 Nov. 1736 (Hackensack) Johannes Van Houten, son of Roelof Van Houten and Feitje Sickels.
37. Marytje, b. 29 Jan. 1717; m. 19 June 1740 (Hackensack) Johannes Van Horn, son of Dirck Van Horn and Elizabeth Gerrits.
38. Frederick, b. 28 Apr. 1719; m. 9 Dec. 1742 (Acquackanonk) Saartje Van Winkel, daughter of Jacob Walिंगse Van Winkel and Gertrude Brinkers.
39. Abraham, b. 29 Jan. 1721; m. (1) c. 1752 Lea Van Winkle, daughter of Simon Jacobse Van Winkel and Annatje Ariaense Sip; m. (2) c. 1777 Catharina Van Wagenen; died 1804. Their children: Marritje and Thomas.
40. Isaac, b. 29 Jan. 1721; m. 28 Sept. 1746 (Acquackanonk) Sara Kip. Their children: Antje and Marritje.
41. Jacob, b. 20 June 1729; bp. 6 July 1729 (Acquackanonk).
13. Andries Fredericksen, bp. 25 Jan. 1679 (New York); m. (1) 11 Apr. 1704 (Bergen) Priscilla Homs; m. (2) 23 May 1723 (Bergen) Geertje Claesen Kuyper. They settled at Sloterdam on land purchased by his father in 1692. Their children:
42. Lena, b. 21 Sept. 1704; bp. 3 Oct. 1704 (bergen); m. c. 1726 Daniel Hennion.
43. Catalyntje (prob.), b. c. 1710; m. 16 Aug. 1729 (Acquackanonk) Johannes Caveleer.
44. Klaesje (prob.), b. c. 1712; m. 2 Jan. 1730 Bernardus Mollen.
45. Johannes, b. c. 1720; m. 22 Nov. 1744 (Acquackanonk) Fytje Van Houten, daughter of Roelof Van Houten and Fytje Sickels. Their children: Priscilla, Andrew, Cornelia, Cornelius and Geertje.
17. Dirck Fredericksen Cadmus, bp. 4 April 1692 (Bergen); m. 10 July 1718 (New York) Jannetje Van Horn, daughter of Rutgers Van Horn and Neeltje Vechten. They lived at Constable Hook (Bayonne, NJ) just south of Bergen where Dirck died 5 Oct. 1746. Their children:²⁵
46. Frederick, bp. 11 Dec. 1720 (Port Richmond, Staten Island); died 12 Jan. 1753.
47. Rutgers, b. 19 Feb. 1724; bp. at Port Richmond; died 17 Sept. 1746.
48. Johannis, b. c. 1726; died 28 Sept. 1746.
- + 49. Joris (see below)
50. Cathrina, bp. 31 Oct. 1731 (Port Richmond); died 22 Oct. 1732.
51. Neeltje, bp. 23 June 1736 (Bergen); m. Cornelius Corsen.
52. Andries, b. 28 Oct. 1733; bp. at Port Richmond; m. (1) c. 1767 Phebe Van Tuyl, daughter of Abraham Van Tuyl and Metje Vreeland of Staten Island; m. (2) c. 1787 Deborah Bradt of Albany.
53. Cathrina, b. 27 May 1738; bp. 5 June 1738 (Bergen);
- m. 8 Dec. 1756 (Schraalenburgh) Cornelius Vreeland, son of Michael Vreeland and Jenneke Van Houten.
22. Thomas Cadmus, b. 7 May 1707; bp. 15 May 1707 (Bergen); m. 30 June 1733 (Second River) Cornelia Jeralemon.²⁶ They lived near Second River. Their children:
54. Johannes, b. 28 Apr. 1734; bp. 26 May 1734 (Second River); m. Aaltje Van Winkel, daughter of Jan Jacobse Van Winkel and Egie Paulesse.
55. Rachel, b. c. 1737, m. Helmich Jeralemon.
56. Pietertje, b. 15 June 1740; bp. 6 July 1740 (Second River); m. 29 June 1760 (Second River) Thomas Cadmus, son of Abraham.
57. Marytje, b. 4 May 1741; bp. 30 May 1741 (Second River); m. 21 Apr. 1739 (Second River) Cornelius Jeralemon.
23. Abraham Cadmus, b. 29 Sept. 1708; bp. New York; m. 4 Apr. 1733 (Acquackanonk) Geertje Bras, daughter of Harman Bras and Geertje Koeymans. Abraham was her third husband, she having m. (1) Abraham Spier and (2) Thomas Ager. They lived near Second River. Their children:
58. Marytje, b. 20 Dec. 1734; bp. 23 Feb. 1735 (Second River); m. 28 July 1757 (Second River) William King.
59. Thomas, bp. 16 Jan. 1736 (Second River); m. 29 June 1760 (Second River) Pietertje Cadmus, daughter of Thomas. Their children: Elizabeth, Johannes, Cornelia, Thomas, Harman, Abraham, Pieter, Maria and Geertje.
60. Pieter, b. 2 June 1739; bp. 10 June 1739 (Second River); m. 17 June 1754 (New York) Blandina Kip, daughter of Johannes Kip and Sarah Spier; died 30 June 1810. Their children: Johannes, Pieter, Geertje, Elizabeth and Thomas.
24. Arien Cadmus, b. 17 Dec. 1711; bp. at Bergen; m. 21 Dec. 1734 (Second River) Elizabeth Bruyn, widow of Johannes Mandeville and daughter of Hendrick Bruyn and Margrietje Lacomba. They moved west to Ganseगत (Fairfield, NJ). Their children:
61. Marytje, b. 6 Mar. 1736; bp. 11 Apr. 1736 (Second River); m. 17 Jan. 1753 (Second River) Jan Mead.
62. Anthony, b. 12 Dec. 1739; bp. 6 Jan. 1740 (Second River); m. c. 1767 Jannetje Vreeland, daughter of Cornelius Vreeland and Margrietje Van Winkle. Their children: Aaron, Pieter, Margaret, Elizabeth, Jane and Gilles.
63. Hendrick (prob.) b. c. 1742; m. Margritje Waters.
30. Melchert Cadmus, b. c. 1718; m. 4 Oct. 1741 (Second River) Elizabeth Allen. They lived near Second River. Their children:
64. Abraham, b. c. 1745; bp. at Second River.
65. Isaac, b. 10 Aug. 1751; bp. 4 Nov. 1751 (Second River); m. c. 1775 Aeffie Hustoon.
49. Joris (George) Cadmus, b. c. 1728; m. (1) c. 1752 Jannetje Vreeland, daughter of Michael Vreeland and Jenneke Van Houten; m. (2) c. 1767 Jannetje Pryer, daughter of Casparus Pryer and Sarah Adriaense. They lived at Constable Hook. Joris died 2 Apr. 1781, will proven 10 Apr. 1781. Their children:
66. Jenneke, b. 17 July 1753; bp. 9 Sept. 1753 (Bergen); m. Jacob Vreeland.

²⁵ Charles H. Winfield, "History of Hudson County," pp. 555-561, New York 1874.

²⁶ "Records of The Second River Dutch Reformed Church," *The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, Vol. 3.

(continued on page 21)

Genealogy of the Cadmus Family *(continued)*

67. Michael, b. 3 Dec. 1756; bp. 21 Mar. 1756 (Acquackanonk); died 3 Sept. 1772.
68. Jannetje, b. 7 Jan. 1758; bp. 5 Feb. 1758 (Bergen); died 15 May 1760.
69. Jannetje, b. 17 Mar. 1759; bp. 22 Apr. 1759 (Bergen); m. Garret Vreeland.
70. George, b. 10 Oct. 1761; bp. 22 Nov. 1761 (Bergen); m. 22 June 1799 Aegie Fielding. He died 1 May 1821. Their children: Jannetje, Aegie, George, Martha, Catrin-tje and Henry.
71. Metje, b. 22 Dec. 1764; bp. at Bergen; m. 9 Oct. 1781 John Garretson of Staten Island.
72. Dirck, b. 16 Mar. 1769; bp. 16 Apr. 1769 (Bergen); died young.
73. Casparus, b. 16 Aug. 1770; bp. 16 Sept. 1770 (Bergen); m. c. 1786 Catlyntje Dodd, daughter of John Dodd. He died 23 Sept. 1845. Their children: Saertje, George, John, Casparus, Jannetje, Seeltje, Martha, Michael, Richard, Catharine, Andrew and Eleanor.

²⁶ "Records of The Second River Dutch Reformed Church," *The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey*, Vol. 3.

Pages from Our Past *(continued)*

was a modest four-page leaflet. It became evident in 1948, when the Press and Publications Committee submitted their report to the officers and trustees, that the era of the Year Books was past. At that time the committee stated "the cost of resuming publication of the Year Books is prohibitive and the loss of ground could be partly overcome by including some of the material in the magazine." Accepting this recommendation, the Society concentrated on the improvement of both the content and format of *de Halve Maen*. One of these improvements was the addition of illustrations which were missing during the earlier years. Other changes brought about to a large degree when Amerman returned to the editor's chair in July 1958 included an increasing number of articles, both scholarly and non-scholarly in nature, expanded coverage of branch meetings together with more news pertaining to seminars, exhibits and conferences concerned with the Dutch Colonial era in America and personal items relating to individual members. The latter, Amerman noted

in his Editor's Corner in the January 1960 issue of the magazine, "are hard to come by." He recalled that "the earlier Year Books, for all their wealth of historical information, tell us hardly anything about members' contemporary activities, a regrettable omission" adding that "while the Branch Presidents can do a great deal to help, it is up to individuals in the news to provide the information."

Despite this communication gap (one which the present editor confesses he has been unable to bridge properly) *de Halve Maen* continues to strive to present a magazine of balance and interest for its members. The current editorial outlook is expressed in The Editor's Corner of *de Halve Maen* (December 1983): "We realize that some of our readers are deeply interested in genealogy while others have a passion for history. Dutch material culture is a growing interest on the part of many while there are odds and ends of material which others find fascinating. We hope that each issue contains something of interest to someone and that the remaining articles will be tempting enough to persuade him to have a look at them."

Pear Tree on Third Avenue

Benson John Lossing, the historian, whose two-volume history of the American Revolution was issued in the 1850s, once wrote of a pear tree that grew on Third Avenue, Manhattan, at the corner of East 13th Street. He recalled admiring it one spring when it was white with blossoms, "a patriarch 205 years old, standing in the midst of strangers, crowned with the hoary honors of age." This was among some trees brought to America from Holland by Peter Stuyvesant, and planted on his estate. When it became 200 years old, in May of 1847, one of the poets of that time, Henry Dunshee, wrote of it:

*Famed relic of the ancient time, as on thy form I gaze,
My mind reverts to former scenes, to spirit-stirring days,
Guarding their sacred memories as ashes in an urn.
I muse upon those good old times, and sigh for their return.*

Considering the normal perils of city life, this pear tree managed to survive another twenty years. Then it was destroyed one day early in the winter of 1867, when two vehicles collided on that corner—smashing a landmark protected with an iron railing around it which failed to save its life.