

“At the Belle Videre where Do Drijsij houses stand, there are 4 [houses].”—De Sille List of 1660.

Early in 1652, the directors of the West India Company decided that it would be well to have a second minister in New Netherland, preferably one who could preach also in English. Fortunately, such a one was found sojourning at Leyden—whither he had come to escape the turbulent times in England—who was able to preach in the English tongue, as well as in the Dutch, “and if necessary even in French,” although we are told that he had been educated by German parents, and in the German tongue. This was the Reverend Samuel Driesch (Drisius), who had recently been preaching in England. At the time of his coming to New Amsterdam he was “a bachelor of about forty years . . . a very pious man and possessed of great gifts; . . . of a very peaceful disposition and agreeable conversation.” No wonder the directors at Amsterdam said of him that “he made his appearance” as if “sent by the Lord”!—*Eccles. Rec.*, I: 302, 303, 307.

Domine Drisius was sent to New Amsterdam August 12, 1652.—*Ibid.*, I: 311. His

sponsors gravely wrote: "as he is unmarried, we have thought it might not be inconvenient, if he boarded with Johan de la Montagnie; but we do not wish to press such an arrangement upon either, and propose it only from pure affection."—*Ibid.*, I: 307. Evidently, this suggestion was not carried into effect, for, on October 15, 1652, Hendrick van Dyck was ordered to vacate the Company's house, which he was occupying, by November 1st, as it was required for the Rev. Samuel Drisius, who had recently arrived.—*Cal. Hist. MSS., Dutch*, 129.

Late in 1653, Stuyvesant sent Drisius to Virginia to renew his former proposals to Governor Bennett, and to conclude a commercial treaty. This mission was completely successful.—*N. Y. Col. Docs.*, XIV: 241, 242; O'Callaghan's *Hist. of N. Neth.*, II: 235. Upon his return, he secured the grant of land behind the churchyard, and built the two houses shown on the Plan.

Having remained unmarried until he reached the mature age of forty-seven, Drisius appropriately secured a license on St. Valentine's Day, 1659 (*Marriages in Ref. Dutch Ch.*, 23) to wed Lysbeth Grevenraedt, widow of Elbert Elbertsen, who, "in trying to board the ship *Bontekoe* [Spotted Cow], was drowned in the North River," in 1655.—*Min. of Orph. Court*, I: 2.

Jointly with Domine Megapolensis, Drisius administered the affairs of the Reformed Dutch Church faithfully and acceptably. He was illiberal, even bigoted, in his attitude towards members of any other sect, having a special antipathy to Lutherans and Quakers. After the death of his colleague, he failed rapidly in health and mental strength (*Eccles. Rec.*, I: 607), and toward the end of his days received very material assistance from the Rev. Ægidius Luyck.—*Rec. N. Am.*, VI: 292. His death occurred on April 18, 1673.—*Eccles. Rec.*, I: 653.