

On the first day of March, 1655, Jan Rutgersen petitioned for leave "to sell beer by the pot in the City Hall (where the little sail loft was given him to dwell in)." The petition was refused, but he was allowed "to lodge in the City Hall for one month, as his house was burnt down in the winter, at the expiration of which time petitioner shall depart; meanwhile he can look out for another dwelling."—*Rec. N. Am.*, I: 292.

Jan Rutgersen's plight is thus succinctly told in a few words of the record. His house, the location of which has not been ascertained, had been destroyed by fire; he lost no time finding another dwelling. On the 7th of April, 1655, he bought Abraham Rycken's house on the Heere Gracht; ten days later he requested, "inasmuch as he is sorely impoverished by the fire, and an old inhabitant, that he may have leave to sell, with others, a few trifles, and a can of beer and wine, and to receive lodgers," which was allowed.—*Ibid.*, I: 308. His tavern was of the meanest; soldiers and negroes frequented it, and petty brawls often occurred there.

In 1658, Rutgersen still owed a balance of fl. 242 on the house: on the third of June, at Rycken's request, the court ordered him "to remain in the City Hall until the monies are paid or to give security for the payment within six days."—*Rec. N. Am.*, II: 389, 397, 399. Thereupon, he raised the money (\$96.80), and had his deed recorded, June 7, 1658.—*Liber Deeds*, A: 132.

Jan did not prosper, and his health failed. In 1663, his house was sold under execution, to Thomas Jansen Mingael.—*Rec. N. Am.*, IV: 104, 167, 182, 207. Soon after he had lost his home, Jan Rutgersen Moreau, as he was then called, died.—*Ibid.*, V: 74.

James Alexander, father of the Earl of Stirling, bought the site in March, 1734.—*Liber Deeds*, XXXII: 97. It formed part of the plot upon which the latter built his mansion house, which, in December, 1766, was "in the tenure or occupancy of His Excellency General Gage . . .," as an old mortgage declares.—*Liber Mortgages*, II: 223.

Jan Rutgersen's house (formerly No. 69 Broad Street) is now included in the building of the Consolidated Exchange.