

# **HOW THE DUTCH CAME TO MANHATTAN**

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How the Dutch Came to Manhattan by Blanche McManus

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**BLANCHE MCMANUS**

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## INTRODUCTION.

THE STORY OF THE DUTCH OF NEW AMSTERDAM has often been told in scholarly prose, but the picturesque feature of romantic fact has seldom, if ever, received the acknowledgment which it seems to deserve and require.

As a nation of sea-farers and traders, the Dutch acquired an enviable reputation, and for them to have so successfully founded a commercial colony was but to have been expected.

The history of the city of New York has been ably and exhaustively treated by many notable writers, and to them, as well as to other prolific sources, we are indebted for the verification of our facts.

The arrangement herein follows no previously conceived plan or outline, except that it supplements the first book of the series, "The Voyage of the Mayflower," but forms in itself a true chronicle of the events of the early Dutch occupation of Manhattan Island from its beginnings to its final reversion into English hands.

Personalities have been avoided, except so far as

has seemed necessary and advisable in order to retain the point and purpose of the text; namely, that it shall appear pleasing and attractive as well as truthful and correct; for the same reason generalities mostly have been dealt with, and a detailed statement only expressed where it commemorates some especially significant event.

Supplementing this, the drawings have been made with a like regard for fidelity and authenticity, and idealized only where deemed permissible and appropriate.

As is true of the other older cities in America, abundant evidence still exists in New York to remind one of the early days; the peculiar formation of the island has made any radical change in the laying out of the city impossible, hence any historical account must bespeak with praise in reference to the judgment and foresight of its founders and organizers.

"A noble tale well told, of valiant deeds well done," is an epigram from an ancient tome, which it is to be hoped will be merited in some measure by the contents of this book.

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