

**MINUTES OF THE ORPHANMASTERS COURT OF
NEW AMSTERDAM, 1655-1663; MINUTES OF
THE EXECUTIVE BOARDS OF THE
BURGOMASTERS OF NEW AMSERDAM AND
THE RECORDS OF WALEWYN
VAN DER VEEN, NOTARY PUBLIC, 1662-1664.
PUBLICATIONS, NO. 2**

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BERTHOLD FERNOW

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PUBLICATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HISTORY
AND TRADITION OF THE COLONIAL DAMES
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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1655-1663

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AND
THE RECORDS OF WALEWYN VAN DER
VEEN, NOTARY PUBLIC
1662-1664

TRANSLATED AND EDITED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
COMMITTEE ON HISTORY AND TRADITION OF THE
COLONIAL DAMES OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

BY
BERTHOLD FERNOW

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THE COMMITTEE ON
HISTORY AND TRADITION
OF THE
Colonial Dames of the State of N. Y.

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PREFACE.

THE rules and laws, governing the actions of the Burgomasters of New Amsterdam, are probably laid down in *Rooseboom* "Receuil Van Weeten en Kostumen der Staden Amsterdam, 1656" (Collection of Laws and Customs of the City of Amsterdam) and in the *Schout Roll* van Amsterdam, not printed. Of the first named the late Dr. E. B. O'Callaghan (died 1880) had a copy, apparently the only one in the United States, and after his death it went into undiscoverable hands. Of the second the writer procured a copy from the city authorities of Amsterdam, when in charge of the manuscripts in the State Library at Albany, N. Y.; he placed this copy with others procured by him in the State Library, but it cannot be found again.

The text of the volume, now laid before the public, tells us, that considering the smallness of the place the duties of the Burgomasters were as diversified, as they are to-day, with the difference, that then their two worships had to do, what now the Mayor of New York mostly does by Commissions.

The appearance in this volume of the records of Walewyn van der Veen, a Notary Public, requires an explanation. Under Roman Law and its modifi-