WOMEN OF COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY TIMES; CATHERINE SCHUYLER

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649414604

Women of Colonial and Revolutionary Times; Catherine Schuyler by Mary Gay Humphreys

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

MARY GAY HUMPHREYS

WOMEN OF COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY TIMES; CATHERINE SCHUYLER





WOMEN OF COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY TIMES

CATHERINE SCHUYLER BY MARY GAY HUMPHREYS



WITH PORTRAIT



CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
NEW YORK MDCCCXCVII

2.7

PREFACE

The period embraced within the years of Catherine Schuyler's life is the most exciting in American history. In its military aspect it comprehends the French and Indian War and the Revolution. In its political aspect it includes the life of the Colony and the beginnings of the Nation.

Through the position of her own family and as the wife of General Philip Schuyler, she is a representative figure among the women of the Dutch Colony and the matrons of the Revolution. At the same time, in her own character she was so domestic, retiring, and unobtrusive that many of the details of her life can only be discovered indirectly and with difficulty. The impression which a study extending over a considerable period of all the authorities has left will be discovered in this volume.

319849

PREFACE

The authorities mainly responsible are the records of the Van Rensselaer family; Lossing's Biography of General Philip Schuyler and Field Book of the Revolution; Schuyler's Colonial New York; Munsell's Annals of Albany; the Correspondence of John Jay; the Letters of Abigail Adams; the Diary of Tench Tilghman; the Rutherford Papers; The Story of an Old Farm; Mrs. Lamb's History of the City of New York; the Life of Sir William Johnson, by William L. Stone; The Republican Court; Marshall's Washington; the Travels of de Chasteleux, Brissot de Warville, and de Rochefoucauld-Liancourt; The Sexagenary; Thacher's Military Journal; Autobiography of John Trumbull; the Correspondence of Baron Steuben, General Gates, and General Charles Lee, in the Historical Society Library of New York City; the newspapers of that period, and more particularly The Memoirs of an American Lady, by Mrs. Grant of Laggan.

The thanks of the author are due to the generous co-operation of Miss Fanny Schuyler, through the papers of her brother, John Schuyler, of the elder branch; to Miss Georgina Schuyler,

PREFACE

Mrs. Howard Townsend, Miss Cornelia Cruger, Mrs. Sydney Morse, General John Cochran; and to Mr. Philip Schuyler for the opportunity of examining the Correspondence of General Philip Schuyler.

vii



CONTENTS

-COURTSHIP AT ALBANY	AGE
Marriage in the Dutch Colony — Amusements of the Young People — Education of Girls and Boys — Com- parison between the Women of the English and Dutch Settlements — Social Position of Catherine Van Rensselaer	
II—A SOLDIER'S WIFE	
Opening of the Seven Years' War — The Tragedy of Maria Keith — The Commissioners at Albany — Philip Schuyler and his Family — Jealousy between the Provincial and Royal Troops — The Battle of Lake George — Marriage of Catherine Van Rensselser and Philip Schuyler — Wedding Ceremonies and Wedding Finery of the Dutch Colonists .	14
III—THE YOUNG MISTRESS	
The Mother of Philip Schuyler — Madame Schuyler of The Flatta — Description of her Household — Entertain- ment of Guests — Slavery at Albany — Executive Abil- ity of Dutch Housewives — Aon Eliza Bleeker as a Literary Woman	29
IV—YOUNG MARRIED LIFE	
The Theatre at Albany — Rev. Theodore Frelinghuysen and his Fate — Lord Howe and the Schuylers — The Defeat at Oswago — The "Indian Field" and its History — The Schuyler Barn — Charles Lee and Madame Schuyler — The Defeat at Ticonderoga — Burial of Lord Howe — The Mariage of Gertrade Schuyler i.	**