The Deaconry of New Amsterdam (the Deacons of the Reformed Dutch Church) bought the lot from Paulus van der Beeck, March 22, 1653, and on it they built this house.— Liber HH: 24 (Albany). The records have been carefully searched, but nothing has been found to tell just what use they put it to. Most probably, it was the first poorhouse. By 1700, the building on Broad Street (No. 37), the second poorhouse, had been in use for some time as an almshouse, and was about to be superseded. Site: Part of Nos. 21 and 23 Beaver Street.