No. 11

Next door to the Church, to the eastward, Pieter Lourenssen had secured a plot, on ground-brief from Director Kieft, in 1647.—Liber GG: 202 (Albany). Later in the same year, he deeded the little piece of land, which faced the Brugh Straet and did not extend through to the Strand, as did the other lots in this block, to Hendrick Jansen Smith. At the time, and for some years afterward, Smith resided "opposite Flushing on Long Island."—Powers of Attorney, trans. by O'Callaghan, 128–9.

Smith's small house was built on the site of No. 32 Bridge Street. Here he kept a tavern, and a not too orderly one, for Schout Tonneman brought him at various times before the magistrates for entertaining a crowd of townsfolk on Sunday, tapping during sermon, or tapping after ten o'clock at night, his customers amusing themselves by "noisy singing and chanting."—*Rec. N. Am.*, V: 48 64. This was an infraction of the placard or ordinance of April 11, 1641.—*Laws & Ord.*, N. Neth., 25.

The business does not seem to have prospered. Smith was sued by the curators or administrators of the estate of Anna Cornelis, deceased, for debt. He was, apparently, unable to pay (*Rec. N. Am.*, V: 88), and, whether for this or other reasons, committed suicide, in July, 1664.

Officer Pieter Tonneman concludes, as Hendrick Jansen Smitt has hanged himself and destroyed his life on the branch of a tree at the *Kalckhoeck* on this side of the Fresh Water, that his goods shall be forfeit, the corpse drawn on a hurdle as an example and terror to others, and brought to the place, where it was found hanging and there shoved under the earth; further that a stake, pole or post shall be set there in token of an accursed deed.

The court, however, was more merciful, and adjudged that:

(whereas Hendrick Jansen Smitt has been an old Burgher here, of whom no bad behavior was ever heard, and as his next neighbours, eight in number, entering, have requested a decent burial,) that the body shall be interred in a corner of the Church yard in the evening after the ringing of the nine o'clock bell.—*Ibid.*, V: 93.

Hendrick's widow, Annetje Gerrits, survived him.