

addition, the Huygen-Stuyvesant agreement called for a quasi-independent Swedish and Finnish Nation, subject to oversight by the Dutch, having its own court, its own militia and its own churches, with jurisdiction over the area north of the Christina River. On 1 July 1656, Huygen agreed to pay 750 guilders as duty for the cargo on the *Mercurius*, then anchored at New Amsterdam. On 4 August 1656, the officials of the new "Swedish nation" appeared at Fort Casimir to be sworn in. The initial appointments were Gregorius van Dyck as sheriff; Olof Petersson Stille, Mats Hansson (from Borgå, Finland), Peter Larsson Cock and Peter Gunnarsson Rambo as magistrates; Sven Skute as captain of the militia; Anders Larsson Dalbo as lieutenant; and Jacob Svensson as ensign.

Meanwhile, the *Mercurius* was sailing back to Sweden with its cargo of tobacco, arriving in Göteborg on 6 September 1656.

The agreement reached between Hendrick Huygen, representing the Swedish nation, and Peter Stuyvesant would not have been possible without the arrival of the *Mercurius* passengers, which swelled the Swedish and Finnish population to about 400 persons, far outnumbering the Dutch residents of the South River. In his official report to the Dutch West India Company, Stuyvesant explained his actions in these words:

"We have thought the most suitable would be a lenient method of governing them and proceeding with them, to win their hearts and direct their thoughts from a hard and tyrannical form of government and considering this we granted to the Swedish nation, at their request, some officers, that in time of necessity, against the savages and other enemies, in case of defense, they might keep order, but we gave them no written document or commission, much less were any arms distributed among them. If Your Honorable Worships should not consider this advisable, we shall according to your Honorable Worships' orders correct and abolish it as far as possible agreeable to circumstances and occasion." Stuyvesant's superiors found his actions acceptable.

Confirmed Passengers on the *Mercurius* Veterans and Swedes

1. **Hendrick Huygen**, Commissary for the voyage, was making his third trip to New Sweden. He remained among the Swedes on the Delaware until December 1664, when he returned to his native city, Cleves, in Germany.

2. **Johan Papegoja**, who had returned to Sweden on the *Eagle* in 1654, was also making his third trip to New Sweden. He did not stay. Returning with the *Mercurius* to Manhattan, he had a falling-out with Huygen and left on a Dutch vessel on 13 June 1656, landing in Amsterdam about the first of August. His wife Armegard Printz and children remained at Printzhof, Tinicum Island.

3. **Johan Rising, Jr.**, younger brother of Governor Johan Claesson Risingh, was aboard the *Mercurius*, accompanying some goods consigned to his brother. He resided for a time in Manhattan and returned to Sweden.

4. **Peter Meyer**, who had served as a soldier in New Sweden from 1643 to 1653, accompanied by his new wife, was aboard the *Mercurius* as assistant commissary. He moved to Maryland in 1661 and then returned to Sweden with his family in 1663.

5. **Israel Åkesson Helm**, a soldier, had returned to Sweden on the *Eagle* in 1654. This was his second of three voyages to America. He later became a justice on the Upland Court. He lived the final years of his life on Clonmell Creek in Gloucester County,

where he died in the winter of 1701/2, survived by sons Hermanus and Åkemus and daughters Maria, Helena, Ingeborg and Helena.

6. **Jonas Nilsson**, a soldier, had also returned to Sweden on the *Eagle* in 1654. On his return, he rejoined his wife Gertrude, daughter of Sven Gunnarsson. They made their home in Kingsessing (West Philadelphia), where Jonas died in 1693, survived by six sons who used the patronymic Jonasson (later Jones) – Nils, Måns, Anders, John, Jonas and Jonathan – and four daughters, Judith, Gunilla, Christina and Brigitta.

7. **Pål Jönsson**, a soldier from Jämtland, had returned to Sweden with Governor Printz in 1653. He did not rejoin the Swedish community, but instead obtained employment as a sergeant and gunner in the Dutch service.

8. **Hendrick Olsson**, a Finn, had served as a soldier in New Sweden from 1646 until he returned on the *Eagle* in 1654. He was engaged as an interpreter by Papegoja, who did not understand the Finnish language.

9. **Anders Svensson Bonde**, had served in New Sweden from 1640 until he returned to Sweden on the *Eagle* in 1654. This was his second trip to America. Soon after he returned he married the sister of magistrate Matts Hansson from Borgå. The two families were the first settlers on Minquas Island, near Kingsessing, an island which became known as Boon's Island after Hansson's death. Anders Bonde died there in 1696, survived by sons Swan, Peter, Hans, Nils, Olof and Anders Boon and daughters Catharina, Margaret, Brigitta and Ambora.

10. **Peter Andersson**, classified by Anckarhjelm as a tobacco worker, had been in New Sweden from 1640 to 1653. This was also his second trip. He was accompanied by his new bride and later settled in Kingsessing, where he died c. 1678, survived by his widow Gunilla and a son Anders Petersson who took the surname of Longacre.

The above accounts for the "9 officers and old servants" enumerated by Huygen (who apparently did not count himself) and probably the "2 Swedish women." The "2 Swedish maidens" mentioned by Huygen have not been identified. They may have been servants for the officers on board.

Two other Swedes, not on Anckarhjelm's list or shown in the accounts of the New Sweden Company, were also on board. (Huygen may have classified them as Finns.)

11. **Jöns Gustafsson**, a watchman, had entered the game preserve at Omberg, where he shot a doe and her fawn. After being arrested and convicted, he was sentenced by the Swedish Privy Council to be transported on the *Mercurius* to New Sweden for punishment. Soon after his arrival, he married a daughter of Knut Mårtensson and shared his father-in-law's land at Marcus Hook. In 1673 he moved with his family to Raccoon Creek, where he died after 1698, survived by two sons who sometimes used the surname of Quist (twig in Swedish), but later adopted Justison, Justice or Justis as their surname.

12. **Anders Bengtsson** from Hanström farm in Fuxerna Parish, northeast of Göteborg, was born in 1640 and was a lad with some education. In 1668, he married Brita Rambo, daughter of Peter Rambo, and established residence at Moyamensing. From 1681 until 1703, he served as a justice on the Philadelphia County court. He also was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1683, 1686 and 1698, and served as lay reader and church warden for the Swedes' church at Wicaco. He suffered an accidental death, drowning in the Delaware River, and was buried 14 September