Pister. Vel 3 da

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hari mikte

witolk 2

De sankomet to Nieroyork.

Velder asserv East is States Da un Si heer Regenboog, mylen Regenton cleverá en de 2 cul

het bearigen van de baza in onbeweezelyk m ut geworteld asm de groud. De v Vaker en Hoeder waren zeer berig en; too ale wooning tocker, de m alle ward too voldoend wile voorlooping hum verblig I we Gaterson, R.J. Even Klein Guttech Hotel dicht Hois . die vait day, we wanted taken; too a nordize huiseard kopen, huisvesting sedent Nous fondament of een fondamen day, Hei 23 de l verscheidene zake

sais river, wan daar of twee of drie dagen neemeden zig af art heer. En me weer en klein oft an an gaterson naar huie in First at oor Main ste, door Main St. Lot de brug over de gas behandeld, dat in twee of di van de duitsche gart heer. En door de streten van Paterson Van de hotel, door Market

worn, en de Stockt Kwaan east seen orghe to 1. Vadeyz. Moeder 6. Jan. 7. Hele huis. This de of ammeny town door de voor bew in de gang en havening deur zig zign t' huie. 1. 1. 2. Frieth, 4. Albert. 5. Johannes, 6. Jan van de noar verse over tot hat von het hu ziju alle that . tot de un done zijde est street en tot het Hendrik. - Ja, zy First.

groot veemed rand, gexond, ijverig, moedig en vertron in ordehent ven grote familie is Waar alle zijn gekom

ar Tueyork, wer vous week in Laters en het was een bezimming ulder the sammet ook Albert blecking en ververy weel; much het was That work to weden now me. at to zocken in zin vak a zin oudste zoon Pieter a in Joots mill een groot val. as beter dan nicte wel niet dient by de water en het loor Zij waren hetw

e wanide va vader een betru enigeins behind met Haage. De drie Anskeisen en gesprohen bij twee pensonen most toch niet slicht engle uitmaken. Albeit nam mitleg nam Sangeboden ale von de somer werd de vader aangeboden ale voorman in de electroplating disservan Hofg. North Attleboro. No see, met hoof kantoor en vir runregu en vivez in de morgen, Pader en Zoon, Evet naar de hooft kantoor in Newyork. had wat duitech gelend in het a been I hirmscheid im stowenhage, Lyn bevocg dheid to bungaen Himer -, Vader 4. me leerling. france geleered als leerling francohe meister Monsie Pader mout Hy had

hum respected Wij woun to may an vermaakte tiek in de zal van de fabriek orow. Wij wan wheid van de North Attleborow. gader en Loon

behaveamheder g geheele Veldere g minuter lopina intricklin, voor weeksam hersteller in de occhem de company te vreeden deed was werd voorgesteld 4: dichter by de naa weektijd beer dere gast her aleen loud, langharing zoontje volgende dag naa 't 'y alle drie naar 1. 1. 1 Attleboro. Mr. Explitan ritten; ma genoes; maar de r neer belangstelle Oplastet war an read presdent Beide vader en Albert uder opriett de priend in North Atte tida rden bekwas stasp Attleboro zittingen hiter. De passpieren Nor. Eagleton, die hu bekwaam in zijn werk en voor het wen, et weinig belwaamheid noodig. In de wond tijd bevonden zij zich in een klein hotel af koathuis stoo bevonden zij zich in een klein hotel af koathuis of en Geeneche man en versa raar zij du ballen e mijl, aan de buitenhant mask von ale or de van de tymi once oriend him was had een familie n de aan de zij plaat. eenige vielen abrief . Deac scatoffeede rond drasibere hooge levering durinde het wiet wogen daar plaste te I to veeden geweest is not word vande en in de nacht, en nacht gebruik ningetze rossen zij op hun gemak in eton war alzos gelukking zijn vrou ned in de imm het donker en trans ing ten minist en Albert in de zorg compa en em loopje van ongeweer een mijl waren ro en in de Wamesute Hotel. Het was tabriek, van de hotel het have te weer te zien, 't ontbijt in de personeel en grader tich in een klein hotel af koethe om den bij een Seensche man en was Alas de pijp y us in werden un trei Desitpla a zou fabrick waar Highocontik gemakkelijk en Ma t alle san de gasten war.
. Tui ale van ongeveer to m geweest is met vade muschen, be e sitplasteen zijn hier n was meest all wat h gemakkelijk Re staste war North Atteboro to kom reakti rig gemakkel te slasp. Tindelijk gen, hy was mer zij op hun i gelukking zijn vroum t zien, Vroeg in de morgen t zien de ontbrit kamer, loopten toelegen vregweer woor hum Indere in de "electe er was roons 2 /40 Nor Whiting de vader verandere lijk genoeg Albert na ma 18 teld a an Nor. Whiting gaster waren dagen een woning huslist von de gaan. De a of ris wat h naest elkaer en kuna of de ries man aroldoc or care zi at in hum kamer. est. naar gemakkelijk obulasty. the in his are dockappen stocker en ware

of de wig begone kun degelike te verworkten. Oplastet: mieskien was best een week en miskien was het twe werken meen het was in de middeg en bloet kijkte uit het venster aan het e van de werk plack- en droomde hij of was het worenlijk: mean daar stord zijn moeder en al de broeders en enster his was u reede in de fabrieks Kanton halver wige twaschen de j Vader was niet. I de broeders en suste abriek en het huiste te run;

alsos de ou date De volgende dag war de vader weer aan het week in o de andste zoon Pieter werd te week gezet in de zelvole Albert 13 acte. Vader was nu sen en ventez zann oud, Pieter 18. James and , Priter 16

with or vacantie over en de school werd weer geopend en I songste kinderen werden toe gelaten in de Amerikaanse eke school. I ohan, Jan, Helena, bornelia un Brudrik ere rijf Jonge Hollandere had den veel te leven, maar vroeg of in het midden van deptember, de school

zij waren leergierig en hadden geen tijd te verkwisten senoodige onzin. Hun vooreist gang in school wonnen zij de achting van beiden leerlingen. Dere Hollandeshe de goed, levlingen. mooldande ansordize onein. Hun vooruit Kennes van de le engelse taal. Apoedig beiden de onderwijzere en beiden school makkere werden van hum nog in school was met

sermand voor him buiter gewoonhied, wigene dat dere de eenste zijn van dat verende land van dijken en wind moline tijn van dat dere de eenste zijn van de zeer van tijn moeder toese kaant im toegen dan de zeer van tijn moeder tot fan; of hij zoor zijn hier te vertonen aan zijn moeder, die nog nooit een levendige Hellander gezien hier dan verndige toellander gezien verwelde dit klein verzoek omt pleining wienden te verzoen, verwelde dit klein verzoek omt pleining wienden dat de gear geen onderschied kon zien trochen een vering of gaar geen onderschied kon zien trochen een toelandsche of een brucikaanse jongen werd hij verindlijk bedankt. Hendrik werd somtigde verzocht bij de onderwijzer een tollande liedge te zingen tot zijn te school en aanste in de zilver fabriek. A Amerikaanse "cooking range" b de person ingende voor de geheele school en met reschikte bewegingen en met klare stem in '' Collandache taal een votheir saw't koken "Ver int zuiden light mign spange" af müschim Well nu: Vader, Dieter en Albert is aan't werk Men Kan seare familie heeft I od niet een van zijn beste: "O! generas! en bakken suge etc. de vijf jongste kinderen staande Zaterdag is het betaal dag Alle zijn gesend en gelukkig! neer wenschen en ook niet veel an haar nime asnit week en Moeder generaal, pardon, nieschiew Fiet Heim. danken

May 50 0.

Albert Hendrik Delden.

294 Delananna Ave.

Velawanna, T.J. United State of &

de Weldere Familie, Sat 3od

dingen; is myn

Waat 13-1954

Il don aller

Drs. R. A. D. RENTING ARCHIVARIS

Kenmerk 68/66
Onderwerp s.s. "Rotterdam"

Rotterdam, 15 januari 1968

17/1 feedarch.

Aan de Heer Mr. H.J.van Rossum, Jozef Israëlslaan 29, 's-Gravenhage.

Weledelgestrenge Heer,

Naar aanleiding van Uw brief van 10 januari j.l. kan ik U meedelen, dat het stoomschip "Rotterdam" toebehoorde aan de Nederlandsch Amerikaansche Stoomvaart-Maatschappij, de voorloper van de Holland-Amerika Lijn. Op 1 mei 1873 had deze maatschappij de "Rotterdam" overgenomen van de geliquideerde maatschappij Plate Reuchlin & Co. De op 3 mei 1873 aangevangen reis naar Amerika zal dus de eerste reis van de "Rotterdam" in dienst van de N.A.S.-M. geweest zijn. Gezagvoerder was inderdaad de heer J.Hus.

Op 26 september 1883 is de "Rotterdam", voor de 65e maal terugkerend van New York, gestrand op de Zeehondenplaat, voor de kust van Schouwen en geheel verloren gegaan. Passagiers en bemanning werden gered.

Bovenstaande gegevens zijn ontleend aan de jaarverslagen van de N.A.S.-M.

Van Uw aanbod om ons een zevental oude foto's van Rotterdam toe tezenden, om hiervan reproducties t.d.v. het Gemeentearchief te laten maken zou ik graag gebruik willen maken.

Met de meeste hoogachting, de Gemeentearchivaris,

Rotterdam
January 15, 1968

To Mr. H.J. van Rossum Jozef Israelslaan 29 's-Gravenhage

Highly Esteemed Mr. van Rossum:

In accordance with your letter of January 10, just passed, I can inform you that the steamship "Rotterdam" belonged to the Netherlands American Steamship Company, the forerunner of the Holland-American Line. On May 1, 1873, this company had taken over the "Rotterdam" from liquidated Plate Reuchlin and Co. The trip to America beginning on May 3, 1873, must therefore have been the first for the "Rotterdam" in the service of the N.A.S. Company. The Captain was in fact Mr. J. Hus.

On September 26, 1883, the "Rotterdam," returning for the 65th time from New York, was stranded on the Zeehondenplaat near the coast of Schouwen and was completely destroyed. The passengers and crew were saved.

The above is taken from the annual report of the N.A.S. Co.

I would gladly make use of your offer to send us seven old photos of Rotterdam, so that the Archive Center can make reporductions of them.

With highest regards, The City Archivist Letter from Mr. Peter Velders to his wife.

The Family of Peter Velders, his wife Cornelis Wilhelmina Hendrina and their seven children in the United States of America.

Chapter One

The departure from the Netherlands. The first four months in America.

The entire family of nine individuals: father, mother, five sons and two daughters emigrated from the Netherlands to the United States of America in the year 1873. Early in the morning of May 3 we said farewell to grandmother, grandfather and the rest of the relatives, and also to the city of their birth s'Gravenhage.

Mr. Karl Gravelotte, our neighbor and friend at Frederik St. 153, where they lived, accompanied them to Rotterdam. Somewhere in Rotterdam the entire party visited someone and then went to the ship "Rotterdam", with Captain Hus in command. The children had never seen such a large ship before. Larger than any turf-ship; yes, larger than any "pinkie" on the coast of Scheveningen. The family then said farewell to Mr. Gravelotte, boarded the ship, and went to the cabin. What a bed! With two levels! But we slept well; in ten minutes for the children

Upon awakening in the morning, and looking out of the small round window they were surprized to see only water and the sky. Yes, they had

left the Netherlands; but God will not leave their Netherlands, isn't that true?

They were now on the North Sea. Looking back in their thoughts, out of sight but not out of the heart, lay the Netherlands, relatives and friends, and probably also lovers, they would never see again. The thoughts were distressing.

Looking ahead in their thoughts the land of great expectations loomed in the distance: "the new world."

Eager, inquisitive: but the thoughts are those of faith. The trip by sea was of interest as a novelty, but they all longed to be on land. However, after the sea-sickness it was much more enjoyable, but not much in the way of the unusual took place. At times there were bad storms when the passengers could not be on deck. And often the sea was as calm as the pool in the Vyverberg in 's Gravenhage.

Once there was a little fire in the ship's hold. The ship stopped for a time, the crew became very busy and active, but there was no panic or commotion, and not all of the passengers knew what was happening.

In the English Channel we saw the chalk-mountains on the coast of England. Now and then we passed another ship on the ocean, or saw a school of flying fish.

Once something unusual happened (and this is not a little fish story, the author has seen it himself). It was on an unusually beautiful day, and most of the people were on deck. One of the officers was hunting and he shot a herring from the top of the mast and it was still alive when it fell on the deck. He was aiming at a bird which was resting on the mast; maybe

it was a sea-gull. He did not hit the bird which flew away but it dropped the herring on the deck. Poor herring but lucky sea-gull.

There were several young German male singers on the ship singing lustilly and cheerfully on the deck. Albert spent a great deal of time in their company. He had learned some German in the German school in the Bleidenburg in s'Gravenhage, so he joined them in their singing, and sometimes acted as their translator.

The arrival in New York.

Late in the evening of May 21 the ship reached the end of its trip, and the Velders family found itself in good health in the New York harbor, near the landing place. They looked toward land, in vain for it was still too dark. All they could see was a small light here and there. There was nothing to do now but wait patiently until the following morning. They had supper and slept on the ship for the last time. The next day was clear and very warm, but now it was possible to see very well; the ships from different countries and all kinds of vessels for various kinds of services. The white ferry-boats, with a large water-wheel in the middle on either side of the vessel and the little pilot house on the upper deck, at each end. there is no front or back to a ferry-boat. Both ends are the same. These vessels cross the Hudson River continually from New York to New Jersey.

In the afternoon of the next day everyone was transfered from the ship to a barge, and soon the immigrants stepped ashore at Castle Garden, in New York, United States of America. Here they were all registered for the census, etc., and after that waited until late in the afternoon for a guide, Mr. Regenboog, a Hollander, living in Paterson, their temporary home.

Finally the name Velders was announced and Mr. Regenboom made his appearance to whom the family was at once introduced and all at once they were on the streets of New York, once knows as New Amsterdam. A small procession of green Hollanders was now to be seen on the streets of New York, with a guide in the lead, marching through Bowling Green to West St., to Chamber St. and from there to cross the Hudson River to Jersey City, and from there to Erie Railroad station to go by train to Paterson, a short distance of about fifteen miles.

## In Paterson, New Jersey

The family stayed temporarily in a small German hotel near the Erie railroad station, the first home since May 3 which stood immovable upon a foundation rooted to the ground. The following day, May 23, the father and mother were very busy with various matters, such as looking for a home, buying the most necessary furnishings, taking care of the baggage from the ship, etc. This was all done so satisfactorily that in two or three days we took leave from our German host. And now another procession through the streets of Paterson to the home on First St. From the hotel, along Market St. to Main St., along Main St. to the bridge over the Passaic River, from there to the other side of the Passaic River and then to First St. and to the house. Here the procession came to a halt, to look at the outside of the house for the first time, and then through the front door, into the hall and left to the living room, and they were at home. 1. Father, 2. Mother, 3. Peter, 4. Albert, 5. Johannes, 6. Jan, 7. Helena, 8. Cornelia, 9. Hendrik. Yes, they are all present and well, and in their first home as a family in America. A large family in a large strange country, strangers and

unacquainted with the customs of the country. But they were all well, zealous, courageous and hoping for a good future.

While the father made daily trips to New York looking for a job in his trade as gilder, etc of metals, his eldest son Peter, and later Albert also found work in "Scot's mill" a large bleaching and dying plant in Paterson, near the water-fall. The work was quite hard and the wages were not high, but it was encouraging. It was better than nothing, and it was a beginning and they were satisfied at the time.

By the end of the summer the father was offered a position as foreman in the electroplating department of the factory of the Whiting Silverware Mfg. Co. in North Attleboro, Mass., with main offices and store in New York. Father had to make a trip to Attleboro at once to demonstrate his ability. Albert had to accompany him. He had learned some German in the German school with Mrs. Rhumscheid in s'Gravenhage. Father had learned some French as a student in the gilding plant with his teacher Mr. Minere and they were both somewhat familiar with the Hague. The three languages spoken by two individuals surely would not do too poorly in English.

Albert quit his job at the dye works. Early in the morning father and Son set out, first to the main office in New York. From here the head book-keeper of the factory was to accompany them to Attleboro. We arrived at the head office too early, so father and son entertained themselves in the large store by admiring the beauty of the many kinds of silver articles on display. While they were surprized by the variety and unusual shapes of knives, spoons and forks, Mr. Eegleton made his appearance. He was to accompany us on our trip to Attleboro, and soon we were on our way to the

Grand Central Station on 42nd St. and on time for the twelve o'clock train. Before the train started our friend showed us the beautiful parlor-car and we sat in the large upholstered, turntable high reclining seats, but they were afraid to take their places there. These seats were too comfortable and they would probably fall asleep and miss their station.

The regular coaches were nice and comfortable enough for them and they took their places there, Father and Albert next to each other and the friend across from us. The seats are comfortable enough there but the road-bed was quite rough.

Albert did not complain. He was travelling and was more interested in the ever-changing landscape. At last it was dark and there was no more to be seen outside. The passengers made themselves comfortable in their seats and a few fell asleep. Finally they reached Attleboro and after a short walk of about a mile they were in North Attleboro and in the Wamsute Hotel. It was about 12 o'clock at night and, as customary, after a little snack they were comfortably in their room.

## In North Attleboro

Mr. Eagleton was also happy to see his wife and blond long-haired little son again. Early the next morning after breakfast in the dining-room they all walked to the factory from the hotel, a distance of about a mile and a half, to the outskirts of the little city.

Both father and son were introduced to Mr. Whiting, the president of the company, and the father was introduced to the personnel in the electroplating department as their foreman. The father was soon found to be

qualified in his work and for the job. Albert did what ever required little ability.

In the evening after working hours they stayed in a small hotel or boarding-house nearer to the factory, owned by a Danish man and his wife. His name was Plat, who was also a plumber at the factory. That place was very satisfactory in every respect. Most of the guests worked at the factory.

Then as the company had been satisfied with father's ability and his work for two weeks, it was decided to have the entire Velders family come to Attleboro. The company had a house to rent, a couple of minutes walk from the factory, into which they could move, at least temporarily. In those days there was a scarcity of houses for rent. It was then Saturday.

Father went alone and left Albert in the care of Mr. Plat, the host. During the day, Albert went to work as usual and after the evening meal he went outside for an hour or so for a breath of fresh air in the vicinity of the house and went to bed early. After a few days he began to long for his family and expected them every day. At last, probably it was a week, or maybe two weeks, it was in the afternoon when Albert looked out of the window at the end of the building – and, was he dreaming or was it a reality? But there stood his mother an all of the brothers and sisters, half-way between the factory and the small house which was to be their home. Father was not to be seen. He was already in the factory office to pick up the key for the house.

The following day father was back at work and the eldest son Peter was also given a job in the same department. Father was then 41 years old, Peter 16, and Albert 13.

It was in early, or in the middle of September. The summer vacation had ended and the school was about to begin again and the five younger children were admitted to the American public school, Johan, Jan, Helena, Cornelia and Hendrik. These five young Hollanders had much to learn, but they were studious, and had no time to waste on uncalled-for nonsense. They made good progress in school in spite of their still scant knowledge of the English language. They soon gained the respect of both the teachers and pupils. The companions of these Dutch youngsters were warned about their unusualness because they were the first to come from the strange land of dikes and windmills and where the land is lower than the sea. In those days a Hollander was seldom if ever encountered in that part of the country. Once a little boy came with an invitation from his mother to Jan asking him to be kind enough to go home with him after school to show himself to his mother because she had never seen a living Hollander before. Jan, always willing to do a favor for a friend, accepted this little request with pleasure, and after the inquisitive mother had looked him over and could detect no difference between a Dutch and an American boy. He was heartily thanked.

Hendrik was sometimes asked by is teacher to sing a Dutch song to entertain the pupils. Then unembarrassed he stood on the platform, singing for the entire school, and in the Dutch language one of his best songs: "O generaal pardon" or "Ver in't zuiden light myn Spanje" or maybe "Piet Hein".

Well, now father, Peter and Albert are working and Mother is at home cooking and baking on her new American cooking range, etc. The five children are at school, and next Saturday it is pay-day at the silver factory. All are well and happy!

One could not ask for much more, nor expect much more, after only four months in a strange country. This family has many reasons to thank God for his care. May God always be merciful to they and may them always be thankful to Him for his blessings. Amen.

May this account, written for his relatives in the Netherlands, be found to be of some interest. That is the aim and the wish of the author.

Albert Hendrik Velders, Sr. 294 Delawanna Ave., Delawanna, N.J., United States of America.

May God always be with the Velders Family, and their protection and guide in all matters. That is my wish and prayer Amen.

March 13, 1938

This account was written by Albert Hendrik Velders. Born October 14, 1859 at s'Gravenhage. It was written for Hendrik Johannes var Rossum. Born July 20, 1914, who was related to the Velders family through his mother Hendrika Frederika Van Rossum-Velders, Born July 8, 1886.