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request that the Rev. Classis might be authorized to call another minister in the place of Rev. Sullyns, at Breukelen in New Netherland. Their Honors gave for answer, that for the present, there was no opportunity to do this, on account of some difficulties with the English. They would, nevertheless, remember the matter favorably. The Rev. Deputati remain further charged therewith. vi. 337; xix. 111.

Acts of the Deputies.

1664, April 8th.

A letter from Rev. John Polhemus, pastor at Midwout in New Netherland, dated Sept. 11, 1663, was examined and read, by order of Classis, and found to contain two points: First, a complaint that no mutual correspondence was carried on among the churches there; second, a certain sad case of adultery committed by a married man, with the eldest daughter of Rev. Gideon Schaats, pastor at Fort Orange.

Resolved, that we confer with some of the Directors of the West India Company privately, (and request them) to furnish the Rev. Classis with the information which they have received. This will be done through Rev. President and clerk.

Since it was resolved on Nov. 6, 1663, to wait upon the Hon. Burgomasters in reference to sending a pastor to the South River, in New Netherland, the Rev. Classis has therefore, having obtained the consent of the Directors thereto, ordained, and sent, on Nov. 26, 1663, as pastor for that field, the Rev. Warnerus Hassinck (Hudson.) xxi. 13.

Correspondence from America.

1664, April 21st.

Rev. J. T. Polhemus to the Classis of Amsterdam. (Hardly decipherable.)

Reverend, Very Learned and Beloved Brethren in the Lord:—

With my respectful salutations, I find myself compelled, to open our wounds before your Reverences, in order, so far as I am concerned, to promote the desired cure.

1. There is no communication among us, in reference to the administration of divine services nor plans provided for propagating the Gospel among the savages and the English. We receive, indeed, our dues, etc., but in reference to a teacher, for them, we must bear the expense ourselves, or leave them uninstructed, and thus they grow up wild, more and more ignorant of God. The Quakers also are compelled to go before the court, and be put under oath; but such compulsion is displeasing to God.

2. As to ourselves, each goes his own way, without any correspondence between us. Those who are outside the church are hardly noticed, and in consequence of such inattention they follow any opinions and whims of the community, from which we obtain our bread with troubles.

3. The defects of the past are severely criticized, the principal ones are the old servants remain. They card wool, like those who have to earn their living by it, and not without remonstrance over the injustice. They who wield the sceptre here, do so without let or hindrance, only shorten it, to the contempt of the divine service and the name of the Lord. I hope, Reverend Brethren, that this information may be received in such a way, that I may remain unsuspected and not be troubled therefor. Thus acting, may God bless us all. Fare ye well in Christ.

Your Reverences obedient brother,

J. T. Polhemus.

21st of April, 1664.

Midwout in New Netherland.

THE SECRET INSTRUCTIONS AS TO RELIGION, TO COL. R. NICOLLS,
ETC., IN REFERENCE TO NEW ENGLAND; AND NEW NETHER-
LAND, IF CONQUERED.

1664, April 22.

Abstract.

1. The commissioners were to inform themselves of the true state of the colonies by "insinuating" themselves by "dexterous carriage into the good opinions of the principal persons there", that they might "lead" them "to desire to renew their charters and to make such alterations as will appear necessary for their own bene-