

# **CHRONICLE**

**BY**

**WILLEM GEORGE EMILE D'ARTILLAC BRILL**

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*Translation, notes, pictures and addendum*

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## **FIRST PART**

Some notes concerning the BRILL family

### **INTRODUCTION**

I wondered if it is worth the trouble, to collect the dates of a family that, to public society, was not of great importance. In these times people hardly care about the past and only want to live in the present and if possible, in the future. One looks at yesterday with indifference, what is of the present as imperfect and creates ideals for an apparently better future, so one forgets what has been lived right now and like in a race, wants to reach an unreachable goal.

Many, to me, will answer this question in the negative; however, it is a satisfaction to keep together the little I was able to collect about the family, at first for my own pleasure and second for my next of kin who will find a memory here and there that pleases them.

To the children and grandchildren it might be an honour to read that some family members elevated themselves in their circle and left a name that is known, known by good deeds and higher thoughts.

Dates, births, and death certificates meant for a more extensive family history, will be left out or just mentioned thriftily because I do not want to tell about historical facts but just simply sketch some traits that outline the family.

Herewith I stated the goal of my idea and I want to start the composition with the little I collected in my personal archive and of what lives on in my memory from my childhood.

## **ORIGIN OF THE FAMILY**

My grandfather Dr. W.G. Brill gave it as his opinion that the family originated in Germany. He came to this opinion because Jan Herman Brill, more details later, settled down in Emden, when he married a lady belonging to a family that fled from France. This opinion was corroborated since neither his birth record nor his death record could be found in the old records of Groningen.

My idea, from the start, has been that the family originated in England.

BRILL is namely: a village near London whilst "Brill" is also a variety of fish that is caught frequently on the English coast. Fish surnames appear frequently in the Netherlands, like "de Snoek's" and "Snoucks" just to give an example.

To the Germans there is NO German sound in the surname Brill at all but to the English it does have an English sound. During my many travels, they always considered me as being of English origin. The surname Brill appears frequently in England as well as in the U.S.A. This led me to the search of the origin of the family in England and led to a correspondence with consulates and persons (genealogists) in England.

An old English book led me even closer to my goal. This book contained a collection of old English signboards, devices and curiosities in the old English trade. From this book and the facts given to me by the Vice-Consul of the Netherlands in London, a diligent and conscientious genealogist, it could be established that the BRILL family lived in the neighbourhood of London and were well-known cloth weavers in about 1550 - as a sign-board they had a shield with 2 silver fish on a net - later on the coat of arms of this family.

Joan Brill, son of Joh. Brill, cloth weaver, was born in 1580. He did not want to follow the profession of his father and his parents. He chose a military career and, at the age of 22 in the year 1602, as a non-commissioned officer, he is a member of the troops, sent by Queen Elizabeth I of England to the Prince of Orange, in his fight for freedom against Spain.

We know this young man, whilst the English troops crossed the Channel again, stayed behind in the Netherlands and married a Dutch woman in 1624 in Antwerp. This woman seemed to have had fortune because Joan Brill settled down in Harlingen and with a ship, owned by him, conducted corn trade with England.

His son Johan, born in Harlingen, however gave up the corn trade and returned to England. Probably he was received into the cloth weaver company of his ancestors, but longing for the Netherlands, the country of his mother, he settled down in Groningen as a tradesman.

According to a note by Dr. W.G. Brill in a volume of sermons by clergyman Johannes Brill of Rijswijk, a volume an Amsterdam antiquarian (who sold it to me at my appointment in Caracas) bought at the sale of the library of this Utrecht University Professor, he married Aleida Evertsen.

The old church records are very inaccurate, full of gaps, no indexes and the fact that I was abroad, made it very difficult to do research for the Dutch family. On behalf of that, it was impossible for me to collect more information about this couple.

From chats with my grandfather, I remember however that the woman in question, Aleida Evertsen, was related to the famous Admiral Evertsen<sup>1</sup> of the Republiek der Zeven Verenigde Nederlanden.<sup>2</sup>

With his son Jan Herman BRILL, the history of the Brill family in a continuous line starts, producing men who knew to keep the family honour high.

Now I am following the chronicle that lies before me.

Jan Herman Brill saw first light in Groningen in the forever-famous year, the 2nd of February 1672<sup>3</sup>; at first, he followed the trade's profession but later settled down in Emden where he married Fransiena Catharina Duchemin, daughter of Jean Duchemin and Françoise Lethourgean, who, to evade the furious rage of persecution that erupted in 1684 by the superstition about the Reformation by Louis XIV fled with eight children from Dieppe in Normandy to Emden where they settled down as in a safe harbour.

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<sup>1</sup> Addendum: Cornelis Evertsen the Elder and the Younger.

<sup>2</sup> During the 80 years war against Spain, 1568-1648, the Netherlands were a Republic, called "De Republiek der Zeven Verenigde Nederlanden" (The Republic of the 7 United Netherlands). It was called this way because the Republic existed of seven provinces: Holland, Zeeland, Groningen, Utrecht, Friesland, Gelderland en Overijssel.

<sup>3</sup> The **rampjaar** (Disaster year) was the year 1672 in Dutch History. That year the United Provinces were attacked by England, France, Munster and Cologne. These invasions started the Franco-Dutch War. During the rampjaar William III of Orange was appointed Stadtholder and the brothers Johan de Witt and Cornelis de Witt were assassinated by a orange-loving crowd. William of Orange did not instigate it; he was away on business, though his absence certainly put Johann de Witt in danger. He was infuriated (according to Encyclopedia Britannica) by the act, but because of the number of guilty persons, and the difficulties of the war during 1672, he did not bring the murderers to justice. He was reconciled to de Witt before he left The Hague.

Child from this marriage was Johannes Brill, born in Emden the March 9th 1712.

During his youth, he was educated to be a tradesman, after the death of his parents in 1728; he followed that profession and in 1730 was chosen to be "Burger-Vaandrig" in Groningen.

### **HERE ENDS THE CHRONICLE**

Thirsty for knowledge and deeply religious it was his ideal to study theology. He became a student at theology faculty at the college in Groningen.

On the 16h of March 1734, he was examined and tested by the classis<sup>4</sup> of Groningen and admitted, with honours, in the sacred religious profession. He was called on in Oldsumergast January 12th 1735. For seven years, he was an evangelist there.

In 1735 he married Anna Winter, daughter of clergyman Abraham Winter in Middelbert; he succeeded him in 1742. For 22 years, he was clergyman in Middelbert where he died in 1764; buried near the church where he practised his profession so fruitfully.

The church in Middelbert, for the holy last supper, still uses a silver goblet dated 1643 (sic 1743), donated by him.

Johannes Brill was survived by five children.  
I will only mention two of them:

- Abraham Brill, born in 1737, who in 1764 in Groningen conferred his doctors degree on medicine with a dissertation called "De Immundicie corporis humani; vestimentorum etc", became a well-known professor at Groningen University; in the auditorium a painted portrait can be seen.

- Johannes Brill, born in 1740; after his study at Groningen University he was admitted to the church and installed as a clergyman in Scherpenzeel in 1763.

From here, I will follow the direct line and will just be working on Johannes Brill, born in Oldsumergast August 14th 1740 and deceased December 2nd 1801 in Rijswijk.

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<sup>4</sup> Classis: Part of a province of the church government (protestant churches).

He was a clergyman in Scherpenzeel in 1763, in Sliedrecht in 1775 and in Rijswijk in 1779.

He marries Lady (Jonkvrouw) Elisabeth de Marre in 1765. However, in the Netherlands the noble family de Marre has no descendants; they do in Belgium. (Crest: a silver hourglass on a black shield)

This Johannes Brill Johannesz. wrote a known book "De practijk van het Christendom" (The practice of Christianity), edited in 1778.

At court of Stadholder Prince William V<sup>5</sup>, he was much esteemed.

He was a true patriot and suffered deeply under the decay of our country in the last part of the 18th century.

Two of his lectures (1788) speak about it: "de keurende maar opgebeurde patriot, werkende aan de behoudenis van zijn vaderland (the examining but cheerful patriot working to preserve his country); in this lecture he criticises the then existing situation, without being "suspected" as he says, of detestable unchristian insight as it is, a teacher in church sowing dissension and without fanning discord.

In my possession is a crystal glass, given to him by the parish Rijswijk and bearing the year 1786 and also a portrait dated 1798.

During the years Johannes Brill was settled in Rijswijk, he embraced a new family crest (today's crest of the Brill family: seven silver stars separated in four and three by a silver bar). Device "Per Aspera ad Astra".

The brass engraved stamp, left behind by him, I still use today.

Of the children of this marriage with Lady de Marre, more in particular our interest goes to Johannes Brill<sup>6</sup>, member and chief of the firm S. and J.

Luchtmans, editors and book printers in Leiden.

He was born in Scherpenzeel November 3d 1767 and died June 21st 1859 in Twello.

In 1797, he married Jeanne Babut; she died January 12th 1807 in Leiden in the disaster caused by an exploding gunpowder ship<sup>7</sup>.

Next, he married Henriëtte van Lith.

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<sup>5</sup> Addendum: Stadholder Prince William V

<sup>6</sup> W.G.A. Brill writes Johannes Brill, but he meant his brother Evert Jan Brill, (note translator)

<sup>7</sup> On the 12th of January 1807 the accidental explosion of a ship, being tugged routinely through the main canal of Leiden by an inveterately careless crew, destroyed hundreds of houses and costed the lives of 151 people.

The child from this marriage is Willem Gerard Brill, born October 10th 1811 in Leiden.

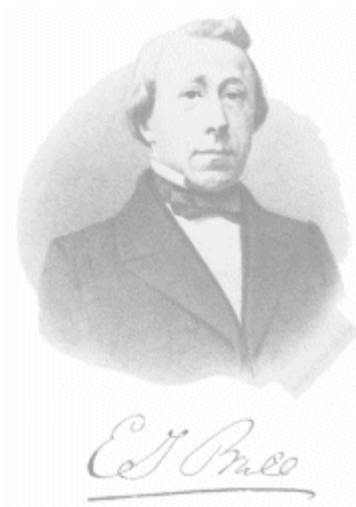
After his death, in the Royal Academy of Sciences, it was said: "His father Johannes Brill, son of the Rijswijk clergyman who was held in great respect by Stadholder Prince Willem V, during 40 years, for considerable time under supervision of Mr. Bodel Nijenhuis, was the skilful chief of the Luchtman's company."

The ones who knew Brill senior, describe him as a very curious man, full of dry humour, a bit embittered by the worries that weighted heavily upon many families in those days.

Our Brill took more after his pious mother Henriëtte van Lith, whom his father had married after he had become a widower in the disaster of Leiden.

Two brothers and a sister were also raised in the paternal home.

Of them E.J. Brill became the most noted one; noted for his renewal of the old editors firm that flew high under his management.



E.J. Brill took over Luchtmans in 1848.

At first, W.G. Brill was destined for the pulpit. In October 1834, he wrote the postulant exam in 's-Hertogenbosch and already he was qualified for Ellecom and 't Woud when he felt obliged to change to literature.

The given cause for this change was the judgement by van der Palm<sup>8</sup> and others, of his first sermon,  
He had explained in this sermon, totally philosophically and symbolically, the evangelic story of purification of the temple.

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<sup>8</sup> Addendum: Prof. Dr. J.H. van der Palm

Even his mother showed her concern about it because the simpletons would not comprehend and it might even evoke nuisance.



Willem Gerard Brill \* 1811 + 1896

Perhaps also his short figure contributed in a minor way to his unsuitability for the pulpit. However, to his fiancée Adriana Cornelia Petronella Hasebroek his decision was a huge disappointment, since she had to give up her ideal of a pleasant village vicarage. To him it was not.

He shrunk from the task and felt more at liberty outside the ecclesiastical atmosphere. To himself this change of career was no revolution of his convictions at all.

He remained a faithful Christian; his faith not shocked by his studies but rather confirmed, although he felt that the way he believed made him less suitable to be a clergyman.

June 24th 1837 he took his doctors degree in literature on a dissertation about Aristophanes (*questiones selectae de comoedia Aristophanea*).

After a couple of year's fruitful labour at Zutphen grammar school, in 1859 he was appointed as professor in Dutch literature and history at Utrecht University. During the many years he occupied this honourable post he published a few books, which today are still sources for literature and history study.

In particular his "stylistics in Dutch grammar" caught attention - but this is not the place nor do I have the capacities to commemorate this work.



I only want to give a notion of the person of Brill, the way others saw him, particularly for us, since he is the ancestor of the still living generation.



He was a scholar, but he did not withdraw from family- and social life.

By no means could one say he kept aloof or did not participate in what surrounded him; on the contrary he shared for better and for worse with true cordiality. However, he never was completely familiar with the view of daily life; he was too courtly to be truly companionable.

Being very polite, it kept him at a distance and excluded familiarity.

He was very particular about forms, decorum and social status and expressed all this in a more or less old-fashioned ceremonial manner.

Notwithstanding his painful diseases, Brill stayed clear-headed until great age; the same person he always had been.

In France, during the reign of Louis XIV, an era he knew very well, it was according to custom that many, having accomplished their aim in life, at old age secluded themselves from the world "pour faire leur salut".

Brill did not need that. His own personal life always had been separated from the world although he had worked energetically, so he did not need to separate from efforts and ideas, aimed at eternity.

Yet, a couple of months before he died, he read the classics.

Next to it, he had his hand in revision and restoring the profound bible contemplations; some of them published as his "clerical inheritance".

His devoutness was arranged to work and suffer.

He did not complain because "all our lamentations fall on God".

He finally was freed of his pains and weakness on January 29th 1896.

His funeral was just as his life had been not sensational, no loud resounding in every magazine and journal, but surrounded by respect and gratitude of those who knew and had not forgotten him.

With his person, he gave one of the most honourable types of the true scholar, unconcerned for eternal success, independent towards world trends.

From the many articles in newspapers and magazines, I only will quote a few points, sketching Brills person and the esteem he was held in.

Beets<sup>9</sup> wrote in his contribution: "He made himself unforgettable to great numbers of former and later students, not just by the sterling qualities of his

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<sup>9</sup> Addendum: Prof. Dr. Nicolaas Beets

teaching but also and in particular by the graciousness of his association and the cordiality with which he took an interest in their further career and promotion of their interests; those who were privileged to know him on intimate terms acknowledged him as an in every way an equal man with a n unfeigned devotion, true refinement, pleasant manners, even temper and good humour, an ornament to mankind and looked upon him with respect."

From an article by clergyman Welten just this: "Professor Brill had reached the age of 70 years and had, according to the law, to resign his professorship. The Vice-Chancellor gave a valedictory address that testified to his major appreciation and esteem.

After the Vice-Chancellor had finished Professor Brill was called upon.

He gave thanks to his fellow professors for their friendship and continued, "Do I still expect something of life? I will walk slowly to the end and fear not; what should I fear? To the Christian, death lies behind him."

The way he said this, calm and like something quite normal, made a deep impression.

In this very learned circle, two men of European celebrity stood next to each other: Professor Donders<sup>10</sup>, the famous ophthalmologist, and Professor Opzoomer<sup>11</sup>, well-known university professor in philosophy and father of modern theology in our country.

Then, Professor Brill, after his valedictory words, made a polite bow and left the Senate room<sup>12</sup>, Professor Opzoomer said to Professor Donders, "that little man leaving is greater than one of all of us!!"

From an article by Professor Gunning on Brills dying day, 25 years after his death: "Every time I open one of those papers packed with interesting thoughts or brilliant lectures, I still see this little, fine figure in the, then not yet restored but because of that still rather useful, Dom<sup>13</sup>: Ah if only I had thrown myself more humbly and more often at his feet! Because what a treasure of erudition and even more of rich wisdom of life has passed away with this silent scholar."

January 29th 1896 Professor Brill died and Nicolaas Beets commemorated the noble in these few significant words:

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<sup>10</sup> Addendum: Prof. Dr. F.C. Donders

<sup>11</sup> Addendum: Prof. Mr. C.W. Opzoomer

<sup>12</sup> Addendum: Senate room Utrecht University

<sup>13</sup> Addendum: The Dom Church in Utrecht

The powers and talents  
Of his elevated intellect  
Were rich and many  
Rich and many the yields.

Let still more gifted shine  
With more splendid wreath  
No splendour can touch  
His virtue and brilliancy.

Finally, a quotation from Beets' diary written during his youth and not kept up to date.

It is a comparison between Bakhuizen<sup>14</sup> and Brill.

He writes:

- Bakhuizen and Brill, both bright stars in the academic sky, are totally opposite creatures.
- Brill all mystical, Bakhuizen all rational.
- Brill stands on a high standpoint, but this does not make him forget the panorama he surveys between both indistinct and in a haze.
- Bakhuizen prefers to stay down and his keen insight sees through what he sees.
- Brill inundates in discourse with partly vague, partly obscure terms, in every way trying to hold his views on the matter.
- Bakhuizen possesses a clearness and also very admirable honesty and impartiality in disputing; everyone comes to an understanding with him and, even of different opinion, never will be hurt.
- Both hold poetry in high esteem.
- Brill looks, and finds more in it and sees it from a higher point of view; Bakhuizen has a better and clearer criterion.
- One tries to explain what he does not comprehend, the other disputes its truth.
- One sees thing apriori, the other imagines it and does not do anything else but discourse posteriori.
- No bigger contrast even external, than between Brill and, among us, "Bakkes".
- Brill, small of figure, fine carved face, kind blue eyes with penetrating look, a somewhat large mouth but fine lips, melodious voice, pleasant most decent speech, no unseemly word, soft extremely polite manners, erected posture, firm step and everything proper and neat.

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<sup>14</sup> Addendum Prof . R.C. Bakhuizen van den Brink

- Bakkes rather tall than small, bellied, fat, clumsy, rude, coffee-coloured face, beautiful sparkling brown eyes, but more or less impudent looks, broad snub nose, uncarved mouth, sharp voice, even sometimes a catch in it, informal in speech, unpleasant laugh, strongly spitting, left attitude, unsteady step, sloppy in his clothing, in a failure to attempt something beautiful.

Adriana Hasebroek, spouse of Dr. W.G. Brill, writes:

My cousin, Dr. Johan Hasebroek, University Professor in Bonn writes, partly in German, partly in Dutch:

In total, I reconstructed 9 generations, until 1600.

The oldest Hasebroek's were cloth weavers (peculiar coincidence with the Brill origin) who moved from Oedelen near Bruges to Leiden in 1630; they stayed in Leiden over 2 centuries.

Adriana Petronella Cornelia Hasebroek, born June 24th 1814 in Leiden, christened in de Marekerk, deceased October 7th 1865 in Utrecht and buried at the city cemetery.

Married with Dr. W.G. Brill July 18th 1839 in Leiden. Her parents were:

Johannes Hasebroek born in Oude Wetering September 15th 1778, deceased in Wijk bij Duurstede March 22nd 1857; he was pharmacist in Leiden.

May 30th 1810 in Leiden, he marries to Anna Maria Theresia Kleyn, born in Hooze Zwaluwe, March 20th 1789, christened April 5th 1789 and deceased in Wijk bij Duurstede January 15th 1865.

Crest of the Hasebroek family: In red, eight silvers diamonds, 4 by 4.

With some memories, I conclude this first part of my family history.

Evert Jan Brill born in Leiden November 4th 1812, deceased the 29th of November 1871 also in Leiden, I never knew him personally, but I knew his widow.

The widow E.J. Brill was English. She was member of a well-known noble Scottish family (not Irish) Olifant and not O'Lifant.

In this family they had, what Germans call a "stift", a foundation of family members that supported family members having financial difficulties or being alone at great age.

Although E.J. Brill raised his company to a high level, he did not leave a fortune, so his widow had to call on this foundation for help.

She lived in Rotterdam and as usual visited her brother in law in Utrecht a few times a year.

I remember her very well: an old slim lady with grey curls, speaking Dutch with an accent that amused the little boy I was.

E.J. Brill had specialised in editing works that did not exactly bring profit. His Assyrian and Sanskrit works, impossible to be printed anywhere else but in Leiden at that time, caught attention of scholars all over the world, gave a deficit in the company's cash.

A short synopsis of the firm's history can be found in Trübners Amer. Europ. Orient record 191-192.

An older brother, Henri Brill, as a student took part in the 10 days military expedition in 1831<sup>15</sup>. He stayed in the army for a while as administration officer but that was also the end of his career.

He lived in Woudenberg, province of Utrecht, and the mayor Mr de Beaufort whose children he taught and prepared for grammar school, highly esteemed him.

He was an eccentric and old-fashioned man who, with contempt, looked down upon the novelties of his time.

He refused to use a train and let a carriage take him to Utrecht for his visits; when he stayed, he spent the night in an old-fashioned hotel with stables to house his horses.

He had a special gift for painting aquarelles, the colours very striking. In those days already, he had ideas about ultra-modern painting.

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<sup>15</sup> In 1815 today's Netherlands and Belgium were united in a single state. Partly affected by the rising national consciousness, the Belgians revolted against this state of affairs in 1830. This meant that the old army was, in fact, split into two. In the north, the revolt led to a revival of nationalist and militarist emotions. Volunteer units mushroomed on both sides of the new border. They generally designed their own uniforms, which led to exaggeratedly colourful clothing.

There was a great deal of fighting at first. There were street fights in Brussels in 1830; in 1831 there were open battles during the ten-day expedition; in 1832 a Dutch garrison was besieged in the Antwerp citadel. However French intervention in favour of the Belgians led to a return to the previous state. King William I kept his army mobilised until 1839 in order to reinforce his negotiating powers. (Source: Armymuseum NL.)

He cared more about expression than sticking to standing shapes and colours.

Vaguely I remember the old generation: my grandmother Hasebroek's sisters. Elisabeth Johanna Hasebroek<sup>16</sup> was a famous writer circa 1850-60: today her novel "Te laat" (Too late) still can be found in libraries, and her sister, widow of Mr. van Beveren.

Both old ladies lived in Amersfoort.



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<sup>16</sup> Addendum Elisabeth Johanna Hasebroek

Further, as the most representative member of the Hasebroek family J.P. Hasebroek<sup>17</sup>, the well-known Jonathan (*pseudonym*) of "Waarheid en Dromen" (Truth and Dreams), clergyman in Amsterdam and a very valued poet in his days.



In shadowy and even vaguer memories a few persons entitled cousins and belonging to the Utrecht family circle Ockerse, Kleyn and de Jonquière.

My aunt, Anna d'Artillact Brill, I really should not forget: she was my foster-mother and surrounded me with care. I will come back to her later, when I will tell my own life's history.

Names, also belonging to the older generation are d'Ailly, married with a daughter of the Rijswijk clergyman Johannes Brill Johannesz. Van Torenberg and Martini, the female lineage of the family van Lith, the family Henriëtte van Lith, second wife of Johannes Brill and mother of Dr. W.G. Brill, descended of.

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<sup>17</sup> Addendum Johannes Petrus Hasebroek

## **SECOND PART**

Dr. W.G. Brill, the Utrecht University Professor and his spouse Adriana Cornelia Petronella Hasebroek had four children.

Jan Brill conferred his degree in old literature.

Willem Alexander Brill, after diligent study, conferred a doctor's degree, cum laude, in two branches of law at Utrecht University.

Adriaan C.P. Brill

Henriëtte Maria Brill.

Dr. Jan Brill during a cold winter caught a bad cold endangering his health and the physicians advised him to find a country with a milder climate.

Just then, a committee of three persons from South Africa stayed in the Netherlands. They studied Dutch teaching institutions and were looking for persons to conduct education in Transvaal, Orange Free State and the Cape Colony and they laid eyes on the young, but already famous doctor in literature J. Brill.

That is how J. Brill decided to leave the Netherlands and took up his task in South Africa as headmaster of Grey's College.



Brill-house at Grey's College, Bloemfontein

Meanwhile Dr. J. Brill had married his full cousin Anna de Beveren. Lodewijk de Beveren, Anna's father, came from a famous family.

The De Beverens belonged to a well-known family in Dordrecht; their portraits still are in city hall.



Several of them were ambassadors of the United Netherlands and King Louis XIV ennobled one of the direct ancestors of Anna de Beveren. Since the family bears in her crest, a golden beaver, the French lily of the Bourbons<sup>18</sup>.

Dr Jan Brill's eldest son, Lodewijk Brill, added his mothers surname, she was the last of her family, to his own surname and is since de Beveren Brill.

One daughter, Adriana, had to leave South Africa for showing an anti-English attitude after Transvaal and Orange Free State had lost their independence; back in the Netherlands, she married Esquire Pompe van Meerdervoort, town clerk of the city of Voorburg.

A widow now, she lives in Rhodesia with her children and practises agriculture at a farm the family bought.

The second son died young, whilst the second daughter married an Englishman, Captain of the mounted police.

Dr. J. Brill, after a well-spent life and lifting Grey to a higher level, died in Bloemfontein, shortly after followed by his wife.

During the difficult days of the war with England, the Netherlands needed a consular-envoy in the former Orange Free State and no one was better suited for it than Dr. Brill, loved in all strata of society, respected by the English who took the government of the country.

Dr. W.G. Brill's youngest son Adriaan Brill, unfit for university study, got a position with the administration of the State Railway Company in Utrecht; he lived in Utrecht until his fathers' death and he married in Utrecht Anna Hendriks, daughter of a painter<sup>19</sup>, some of his works famous enough to end in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

They both died in Den Haag.

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<sup>18</sup> Addendum: Family crest de Beveren

<sup>19</sup> Frederik Hendrik Hendriks 1805-1865



Frederik Hendrik Hendriks : Water mill

Henriëtte Maria Brill, the daughter, according to the stories told to me in my youth, with extreme beauty but independent character, fell in love with a German military doctor, George Fischer, and together they went to Indië.

Her father's house opposed the marriage. Fischer was a foreigner and his family not elevated enough for them to give him their daughter, the only daughter of the Brill family, as spouse.

However "the ladies of Brill do always their will", like my grandfather often said, laughing, so they married in Utrecht and the couple left immediately for Batavia.

The young woman, not matched for the tropical climate, died some years later, leaving behind two children, Louis and Jenny. Jenny later on married an Infantry major called Schröder.

Now I need to perform a task that would be dearer, had I more memories of my beloved parents; at the age of six we were separated and I only saw them again a couple of years later, just before they died.

The memories of a six year old child, what can they be?

A young, blond woman, gentle character, in her last days; a broken man, fine carved face, dark beard, blind and lost to society.

Willem Alexander Brill, after having finished his study in Utrecht successfully, felt it would be difficult to practice the profession of lawyer, because the Dutch universities threw many of them into public life.

He decided to go to Leiden University for another two years study of Indian languages; this would entitle him to a position in judicial court in Nederlands-Indië.

He passed through the degrees connected to his career in Protolinggo, Palembang and Batavia, lately as public prosecutor.

On the verge of being taken into the Court of Justice in the capital of our colonial kingdom, his health condition obliged him to ask for leave in the Netherlands.

He undertook many travels to seaside resorts in Europe; resulting in his wife catching a cold and weakened by the tropical climate, she died.

Just a few weeks later heart failure made him follow her in death.

Jane Sophia Amalia Meijer married Mr. W.A. Brill in Rembang where her father was the Resident.

Children from this marriage:

1. Willem George Emile Brill, later on d'Artillact Brill born December 3d 1874 in Probolinggo, married July 26th 1912 in Buenos-Aires Lila Cecilia Richelet daughter of Erneste Richelet and Juana Murato born in Rosario de Santa Fé April 12th 1880.
2. Henriëtte Amelia Brill, born May 2nd 1876 in Probolinggo, married, October 4th 1900 in Capelle, Johannes Ruijs, born August 18th 1869 in Oud-Beijerland, son of Josinus Johannes Ruijs and Cornelia van Tricht.  
From this marriage:

2.1. Jane Amalia Sophia Ruijs, born May 4th 1902 in Ouder-Amstel.

- 2.2. Clara Maria Ruijs, born July 24th 1905 in Ouder-Amstel.
  - 2.3. Twins, born July 29th 1907, deceased shortly after birth.
  - 2.4. Wilhelmina Alexandra Ruijs, born November 26th 1909 in Ouder-Amstel.
  - 2.5. Josinus Cornelius Joannes Ruijs, born December 9th 1913 in Ouder-Amstel.
  - 2.6. Adriaan Cornelis Pieter Ruijs, born June 17th 1915 in Ouder-Amstel.
- 
3. Jane Adrienne Brill, born May 1st 1879 in Palembang, married Frans Dirk Jansen, born May 16th 1876 in Den Haag.  
From this marriage:
    - 3.1. Hendrik Alexander Frits, born at sea in 1911.
    - 3.2. Frans Robert Johan, born in Enrekang, Celebes, in 1912.
- 
4. Jane Philippa Brill, born January 14th in Palembang, married to Master at Laws Gerben Nammen Bouma, born September 8th 1871 in Sneek.  
From this marriage:
    - 4.1. Jetze Gerben Bouma, born October 26th 1902 in Weltevrede.
    - 4.2. Jane Sophia Amelia Bouma, born November 17th 1904 in Padang.
    - 4.3. Maria Wilhelmina Catharina Bouma, born August 15th 1906 in Bodjonegoro.
    - 4.4. Grietje Sonja Bouma, born May 20th 1913 in Meester-Cornelis.
    - 4.5. Olga Laetitia Bouma, born March 6th 1916 in Medan.
- 
5. Jan Brill, born May 11th 1882 in Delft and married to Theodora Jeannette Barbe, born in Rotterdam, June 29th 1884.  
From this marriage:
    - 5.1. Willem Brill, born August 15th 1909 in Epe.

5.2. Jeanne Amy Brill, born December 17th 1911 in Epe.

5.3. Theodora Jeannette Brill, born October 14th 1922 in Zeist.

6. George Brill, born in Delft June 17th 1884. In Djember in 1910, he married Annita Virginia van Thienen, born in Riouw October 1884.  
From this first marriage:

6.1. George 28 years 19..

6.2. Robert twins 26 years 19..

6.3. Alexander twins 26 years 19..

6.4. Lady 23 years 19..

His first marriage ended in divorce and next, in Oosterbeek on March 2nd 1932 he married Dini Frederika Johanna Wolf, born November 2nd 1902 in Serooskerke.

From this second marriage:

6.5. Dini Elisabeth Jane, born January 27th 1933 in Pangkal-Pinang.

6.6. Elisabeth Sonja, born January 17th 1934 in Pangkal-Pinang.

To finish this second part, some notes:

Our mother's family is, from both sides, related to the old Scottish family Hamilton.

William Philip Levitt Blair married to Sophia Hamilton came to Java with Raffles via Bengkoelen to become Resident and maintained under Dutch Government (He was the father of grandmother Meijer-Blair)

Great-grandfather Meijer, his surname was Mayor in earlier days, also was married to a Lady Hamilton, daughter of Lord Hamilton, officer in Raffles' service.

First, she had been married to Count van Limburg Stirum. The old Count van Limburg Stirum in Surabaya and former Governor-General of Dutch East Indië descends from them.

The Residents of Rembang and Batavia, our grandfather and great-uncle, were stepbrothers of the first children of Count van Limburg Stirum.

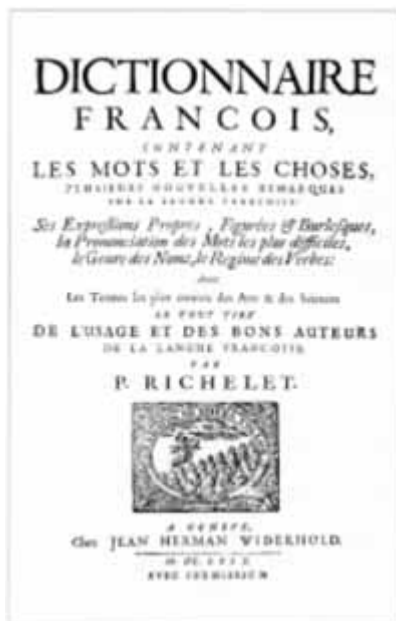
Governor-General Meier, cousin/nephew of our grandfather, belongs to the same family as Meijer.

In those days, one was not too particular in the spelling of surnames.

The Meijers, Meiers and Maijers in the Dutch East Indies, according to the Master of the Rolls in Batavia, all descend from the same English Mayer family.

The Meijers and Blairs also related to the Pool, Bernie and van Wattendorf families. More about them in the extensive family history.

Information about the Richelet family from the bibliothèque nationale, I obtained from the Vicomte de Vaut and the Dutch Consul General in Paris.



The family originates from Picardië; in the 15th century, her members already occupied creditable positions.

Two famous cousins' branches are de Bruslard-Richelet and de Guéron-Richelet.

The family branch my wife descends from, moved from Picardië to the Champagne.

César-Pierre Richelet, who called himself "le Richelet", was the most famous.

Larousse about him: "le sicografische français né à Cheminon la Ville (Marne) mort à Paris (1631-1698). Son oeuvre capitale est un dictionnaire français, fort

complet."

With the title Baron, he was raised to peerage. Thereafter the family used the surname "de Richelet".

The family crest can be found in the bibliothèque nationale in Paris; Gennillac, in his dictionnaire de la noblesse française, describes it: on a blue shield three golden barrels. Device: Auronon, sad virtute.

This device refers to the surname: in French dialect, it means "little rich man".

## **APPENDIX**

As said, Johannes Brill, son of the Rijkswijk clergyman, was first married to Jeanne Babut. Her mother was Jeanne de Bourgean d'Artillact.

Where does the name d'Artillact come from? While I was living in France, I tried to discover the origin of the family and did not succeed.

The keeper of the records in Rouen told me, d'Artillact is no surname but a reference to the origin of the family.

L'Artillac is a tributary of the Arize in the Department Ariège; Castelnau-Durban situated on the river, is called Castelnau-Durban sur l'Artillac.

From papers, my cousin Esq. L.M.A. van Schmid sent me, the family name is Bourgean, so the keeper of the rolls in Rouen was right.

Jeanne Babut died January 12th 1807 in the disaster of an exploding gunpowder ship in Leiden. Occasionally she uttered the wish for her sons to add the surname d'Artillact to the surname Brill, in honour of her mother.

They did this, as a reverence.

Although I am no direct descendant of Jeanne de Bourgean d'Artillact, but from Johannes Brill's second wife, in 1908 I requested, for my descendants, and me to add the surname d'Artillact.

This request was supported by my cousin Esq. Lodewijk von Schmid, General Infantry, whose mother was a d'Artillact Brill, and by my aunt and foster mother Anna d'Artillact Brill.

It was granted by Order in Council, as it proved there were no objections against it.

Since the t in the name d'Artillact, was a writing mistake, made by a clerical scribbler, the interested party requested to strike it out.

Order in council of 1935 authorized this.

## **ADDENDUM**

**by**

Carla F.Th. Moolhuizen Bagchus  
translator of the Chronicle

she writes: I added some notes to explain some, typical Dutch, things, and to make it a bit more attractive I added some pictures I found on the internet. You will find them in the text as well as in the addendum. Unfortunately she has not provide sources or acknowledgment for many of these additions. If anyone feels that acknowledgment is due to them or to a web site, please be so kind as to let us know by emailing [richard@eggsa.org](mailto:richard@eggsa.org)



Cornelis Evertsen the Elder  
1610-1666  
(picture courtesy of  
Stichting Admiraal de Ruyter)

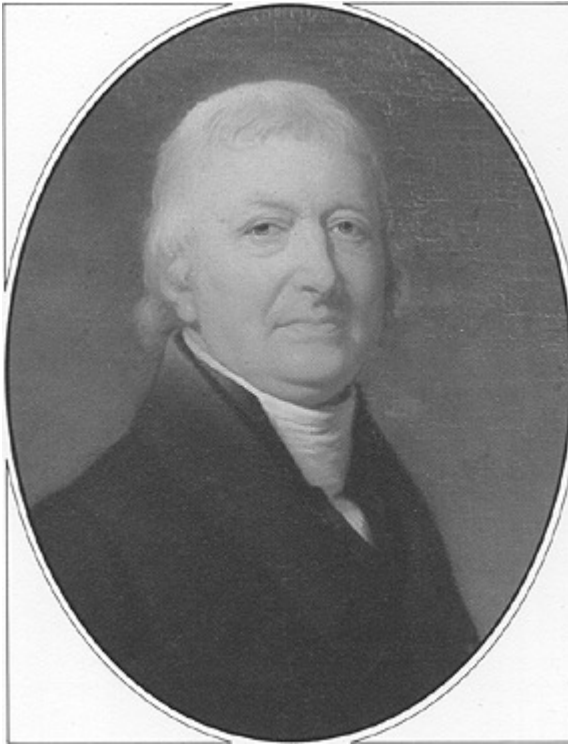


Cornelis Evertsen the  
Younger aka Keesje the  
Devil  
\* 16-11-162 +16-11-1706



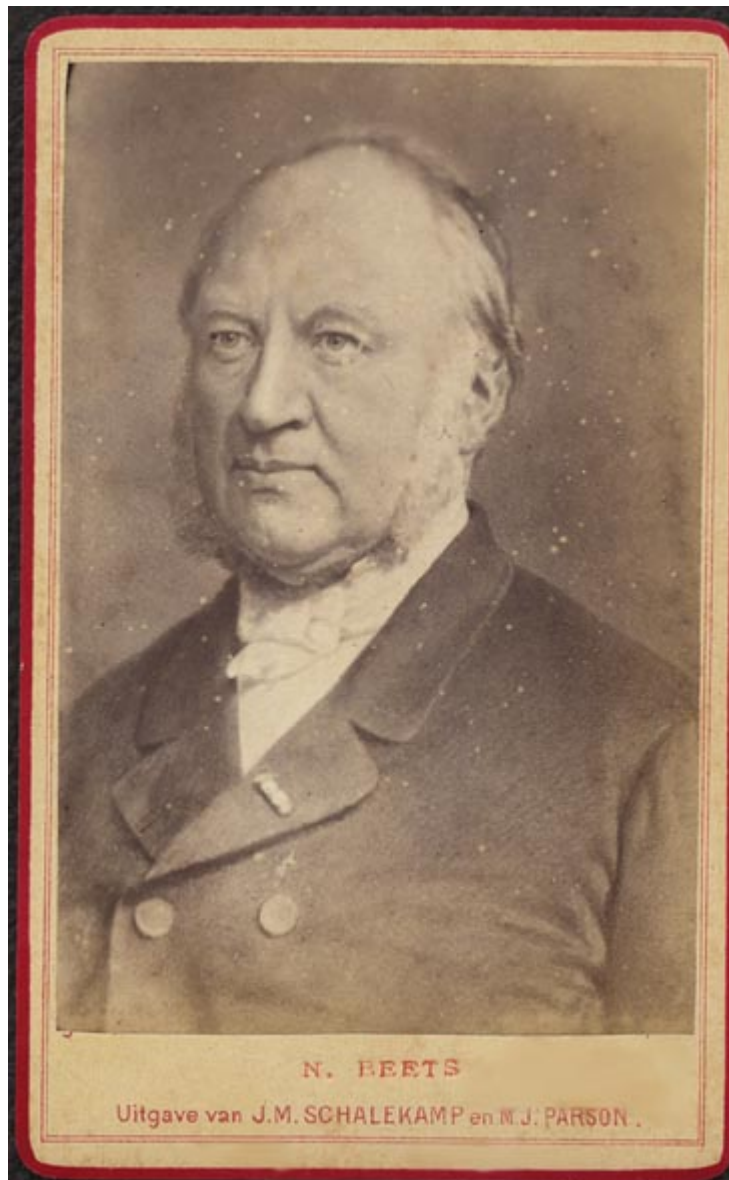


**Stadtholder Prince William V (1748-1806) was forty-one years old when  
Tischbein made this portrait in 1789  
(Source: Rijksmuseum Amsterdam)**



Dr. J.H. van der Palm \* 1763 - +1840

The golden age which beheld the Reformed Church and the Reformed theology of Holland at their prime, was not of long duration. As early as the middle of the seventeenth century, that period of objectivity and authority, the subject arose, and criticism began to stir. Rationalism and Pantheism, Cartesianism and Coccejanism, each in its own manner, endeavored to free man from the yoke of tradition. In vain did the State and the Church oppose their united power; the tide would not be stemmed; the eighteenth century was the age of subjectivity. Reformed theology gradually withdrew from public life into the more humble and secluded circles of the common people. Here it was to be saved from utter extinction, and from this retreat it was to come forward with new vigor in the present century. On the other hand, an ever-increasing number of the people yielded to the influence of English deism and French philosophy, thus inviting infidelity and revolution to our borders. Midway between these two, between the national Reformed faith and the neology intruding from without, towards the close of the century a moderate tendency appeared, known by the name of Supranaturalism, and extending far into the nineteenth century. Its chief representatives were: at Leiden, the Professors **Van Der Palm**, Van Voorst, Borger, Clarisse, Kist, Van Hengel. The dogmatic trend of this Supranaturalism may be known best, among other sources, from H. Muntinghe, *Pars Theologiæ Chrislianae Theoretica*, 1800.



Prof. Dr. Nicolaas Beets \* 1813 - + 1903

Dutch clergyman and author. He translated Byron into Dutch and was fairly well known as a poet when his *Camera Obscura* (1839), published under the pseudonym Hildebrand, won great popularity. This series of nostalgic sketches of everyday life reflected Beets's wide powers of observation.



Prof. Dr. Franciscus Cornelis Donders  
\*1818 - + 1889

**Franciscus Cornelis Donders** was born the 27th May, 1818, in Tilburg, a manufacturing town in North Brabant, the Netherlands (the same area where Vincent van Gogh was born 35 years later). He had eight older sisters - to have a son was a long deferred hope of his parents. Frans Donders went to seminaries in Tilburg and Boxmeer (some 25 km south of Nijmegen) and to Medical School in Utrecht. The rest of his academic career (from the age of 29 on), he was professor of physiology at the University of Utrecht. Donders was one of the pioneers of ophthalmology. His major contributions here were in the areas of refraction and astigmatism. In 1858 Donders established the first eye hospital in the Netherlands. In 1864, his influential work, the 635-page book "On the anomalies of accommodation and refraction of the eye with a preliminary essay on physiologic dioptrics" was published in English. It describes a complete doctrine, both as to theory and practice, of the employment and prescription of corrective glasses.



**Prof. Mr. Cornelis W. Opzoomer**  
\* 1821 - + 1892

Cornelis W. Opzoomer was Professor of Philosophy at Utrecht from 1846 to 1889. He was the first person ever to give his inaugural lecture in Dutch rather than in Latin. Besides being a prominent philosopher, he was also a jurist and a translator.



**The Senate room at Utrecht University**





De Dom in Utrecht about 1870



And today



**Prof. Reinier Cornelis Bakhuizen van den Brink**  
**\*1810 - + 1865**



**Elisabeth Johanna Hasebroek, born in Leiden April 4th 1811, pseudonym Elize, was a famous writer and translator of books. Her works:**

*De bedevaartgangers 1841*

*Elize 1839*

*Te laat. Eene schets uit den tegenwoordigen tijd. 1838*

*Twee vrouwen 1840*

*Verhalen en schetsen 1851*

*De vrouwen der Hervorming 1859*

**She died September 12th 1887 in Amersfoort**

In De Bilt in 1925, a road formerly called Mesdaglaan, was renamed to Hasebroeklaan, in memory of Johannes Petrus Hasebroek.



### **Hasebroeklaan (1924-1925)**

De huidige Hasebroeklaan heette bij aanleg Mesdaglaan en was volgens het besluit betreffende de naamgeving dd. 29 juli 1911 gelegen in het Ensahpark. In de brief van Burgemeester en Wethouders van de gemeente De Bilt dd. 30 juni 1925 werd melding gemaakt dat men de namen van de naar schilders genoemde straten, t.w. Marislaan, Mauvelaan en Mesdaglaan wilde veranderen. Men wilde deze lanen namen van dichters geven. Daardoor kwam er meer eenheid in de naamgeving van de verschillende wijken. De z.g. schilders-, dichters- en componistenwijken zouden na wijziging van de namen elk een afgerond geheel vormen. Het raadsbesluit waarbij de nieuwe naamgeving van kracht werd is gedateerd op 13 juli 1925. De Mesdaglaan werd toen Hasebroeklaan. Johannes Petrus Hasebroek was schrijver én predikant en leefde van 1812 tot 1896.





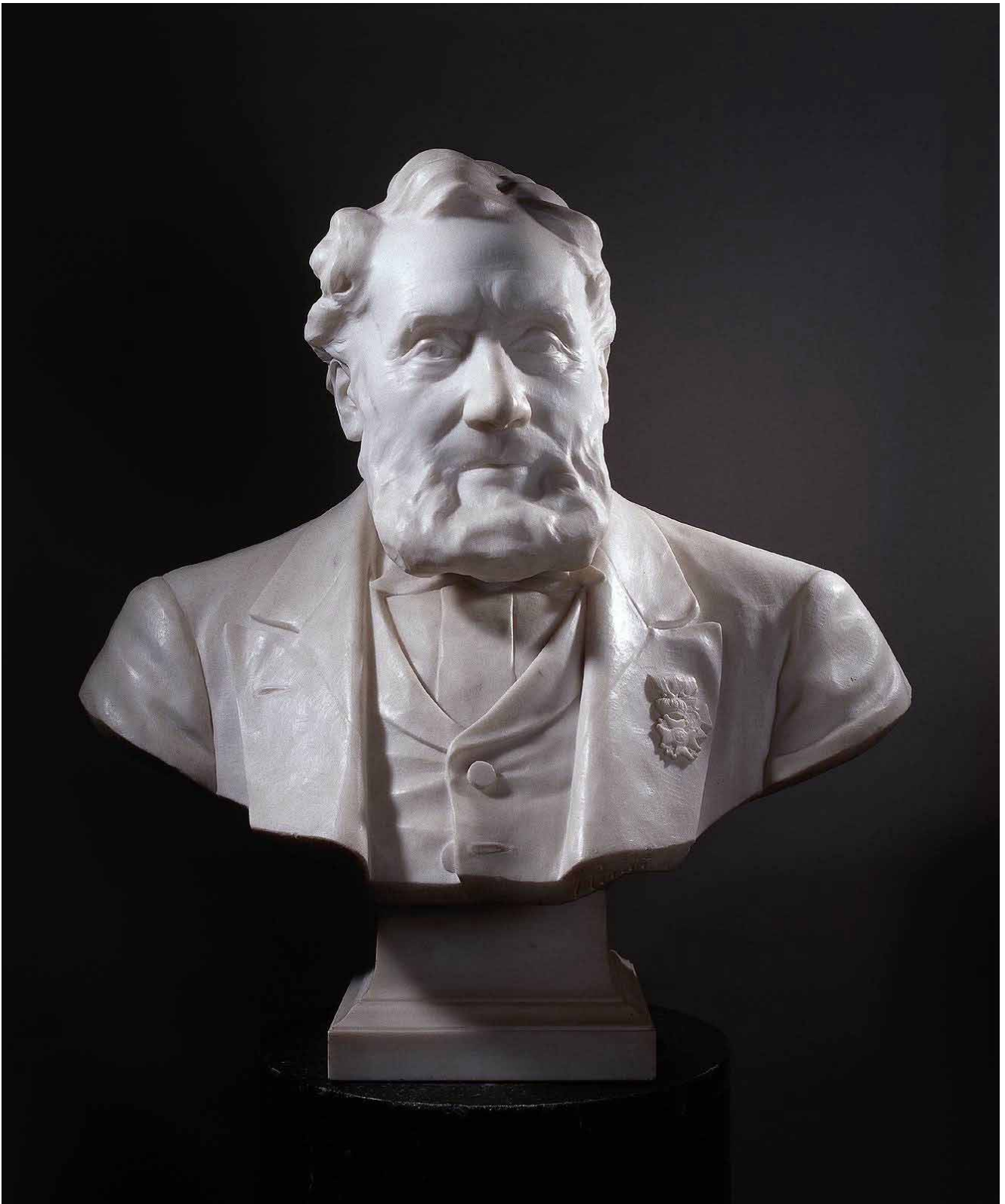


**The Witte Kerk today**

**Between 1836 and 1843, Johannes Petrus Hasebroek was clergyman in this Witte Kerk (White Church) in Heiloo.**



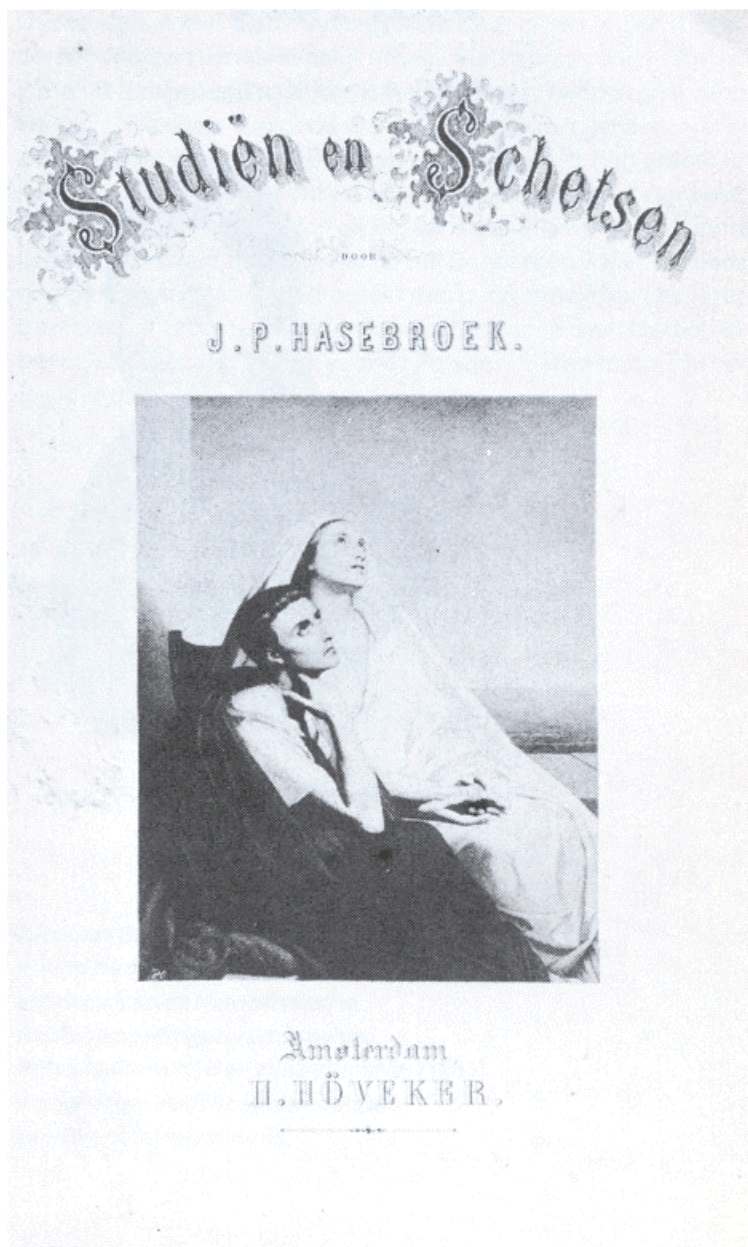
**The Witte Kerk in Heiloo , about 1850.**



Now generally forgotten, Johannes Petrus Hasebroek (\*6-11-1812, Leiden - + 29-3-1896, Amsterdam) was a popular writer, poet and preacher in the nineteenth century. Like his friends Beets and Ten Kate, Hasebroek was one of those nineteenth-century Dutch preachers. **Clergy**Preachers played a prominent role in Dutch public life in the mid-19th century. They saw



themselves as spokesmen for the community. At public celebrations, for example, it would frequently be a clergyman who gave the festive address. Faith, patriotism and the House of Orange were for many the key bywords. In numbers too, Protestant ministers formed a significant group. Each village had at least one. In the universities they formed the majority. In Utrecht, for example, half of all the undergraduates were theology students. for whom preaching and writing went hand in hand. Hasebroek's bust was placed in the Rijksmuseum in the author's own lifetime. Keller depicted his elderly subject realistically, with his head leaning slightly to the left. On his coat are two medals, one of which may be the cross of the Order of the Dutch Lion. (source: Rijksmuseum Amsterdam).



X  
Lieve Maeder!

Wat heb ik u gezegd?

Ik Roep nu om de laatste maal,

In mijn kalve Dienersstaal:

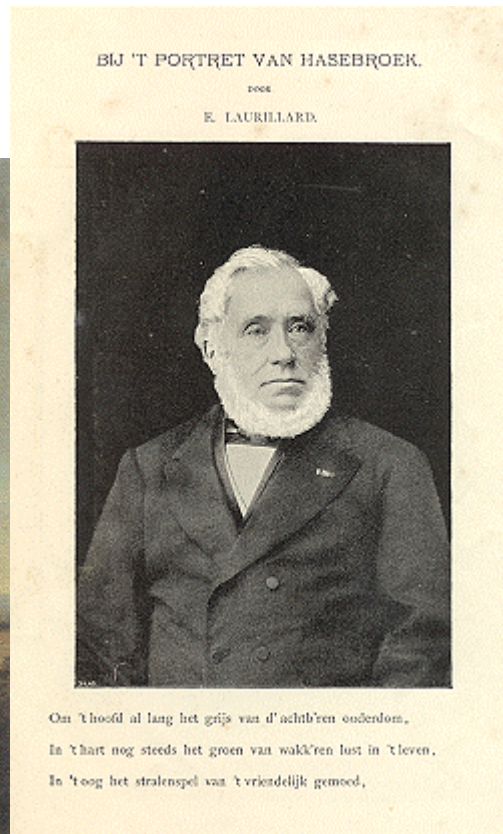
Eindlyk, eindlyk komt evenmaal!

Anders zoudt ghy daarop wel eens:  
"Maar niet voor my!" Nu is het  
ook voor u!

Nu wryft Jonathan Eyn Raack  
hoog in de lucht, en roept hoezee  
lunder dan misphien voor Eyn  
arme kranke keel dienstig is!

Maar behaeg ik u my den gansen  
dag, u my thans in allerlei ge-  
stalten te verbeelden. Even als  
een kind, dat een nieuwe pop  
gekregen heeft, en het aan alle  
kanten besiet! Nu zie ik u  
afgeleid zinnende van Rotterdam,  
dan intree-drends te Utrecht,  
nu in de collegeshamer op de  
kathedraal, dan in de akademische  
gehuuse met de, uhlensche





Some pictures of J.P. Hasebroek



**Cornelis van Beveren**, geb. Dordrecht 1591, overl. Dordrecht 1663, ridder, Heer van Strevelshoek, West-IJsselmonde en De Lindt. Hij was een kleinzoon van Cornelis Van Beveren en rechtskundige. In 1618 werd hij rentmeester-generaal van Zuid-Holland en later dijkgraaf van Hendrik-Ido-Ambacht, meermalen burgemeester van Dordrecht en gedeputeerde van de Staten van Holland en de Staten Generaal, lid van de gecommiteerde Raden van Holland en ambassadeur naar Denemarken, Hamburg, Engeland en Frankrijk.

In 1635 verhieft Koning Lodewijk XIII van Frankrijk hem in de ridderstand (Orde van St. Michael), waardoor zijn wapen, dat gelijk was aan dat van zijn grootvader, aangevuld werd met een schildhoek.

**Wapen:** In rood een dwarsbalk van zilver, beladen met een van goud gekroonde en genagelde bever van zwart, een schildhoek van blauw, beladen met een lelie van goud