

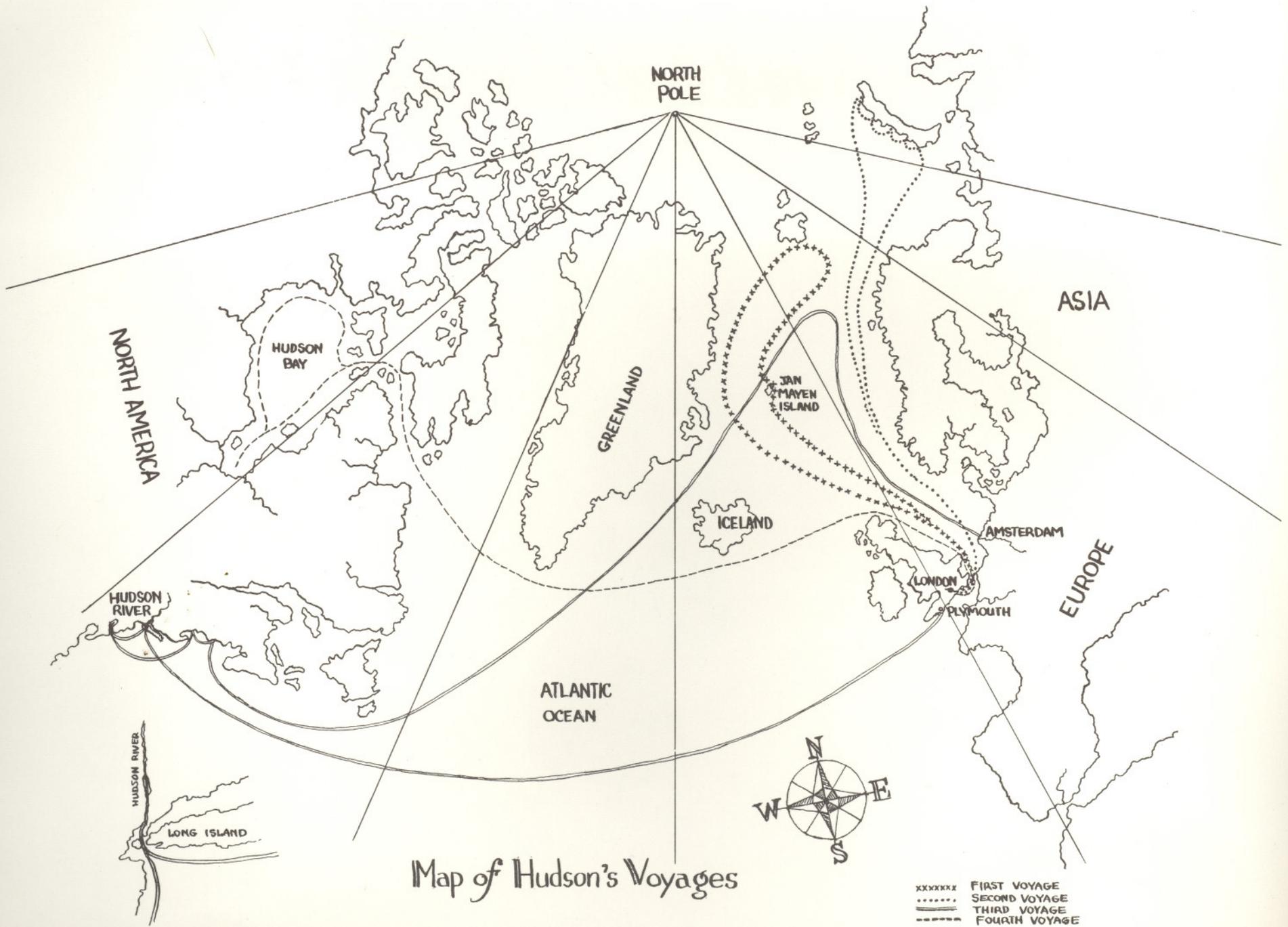
# *Colonial Kingston*

## Coloring Book



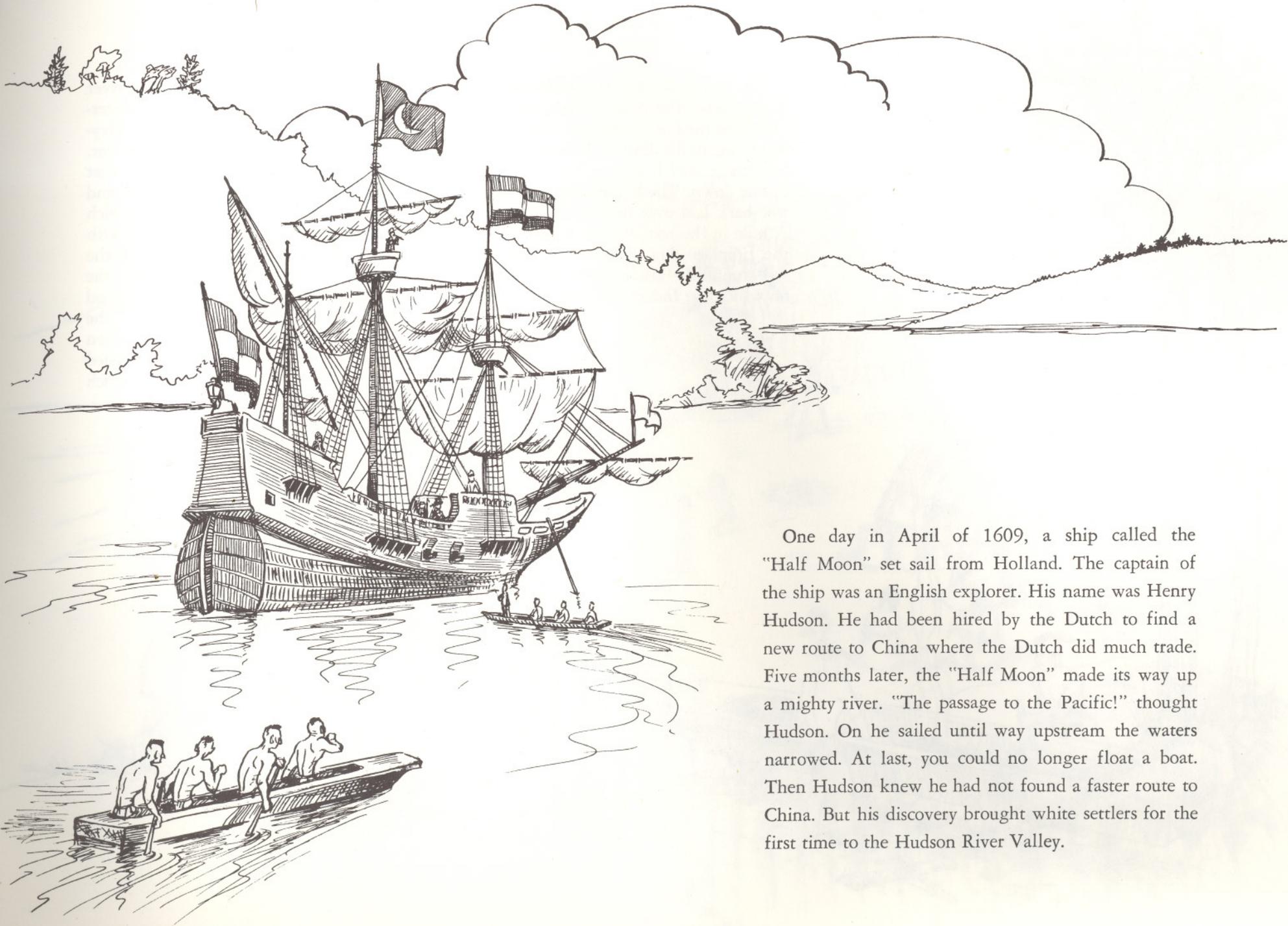
Text by Pat Murphy

Illustrated by  
Peg Brown



Map of Hudson's Voyages

xxxxxx FIRST VOYAGE  
 ..... SECOND VOYAGE  
 ----- THIRD VOYAGE  
 - . - . - . FOURTH VOYAGE

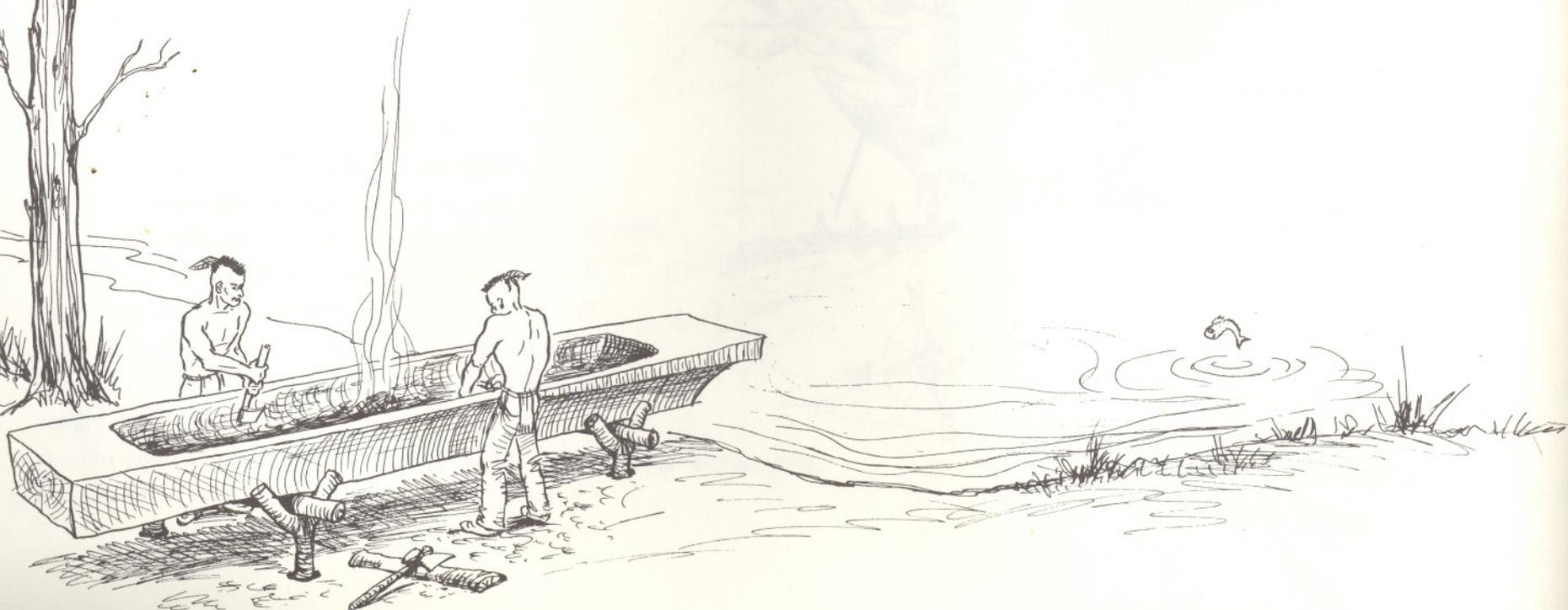


One day in April of 1609, a ship called the "Half Moon" set sail from Holland. The captain of the ship was an English explorer. His name was Henry Hudson. He had been hired by the Dutch to find a new route to China where the Dutch did much trade. Five months later, the "Half Moon" made its way up a mighty river. "The passage to the Pacific!" thought Hudson. On he sailed until way upstream the waters narrowed. At last, you could no longer float a boat. Then Hudson knew he had not found a faster route to China. But his discovery brought white settlers for the first time to the Hudson River Valley.



For hundreds of years Indians lived in this land. The band at Kingston belonged to the big Algonkian tribe. They were called the Esopus Indians. Their villages looked like large bowls turned upside down. The houses were made of tree bark laid over bent wooden poles. A hole in the roof let out smoke from the fireplace dug deep in the ground. All around the inside wall was a bench on which the Indians sat and also slept.

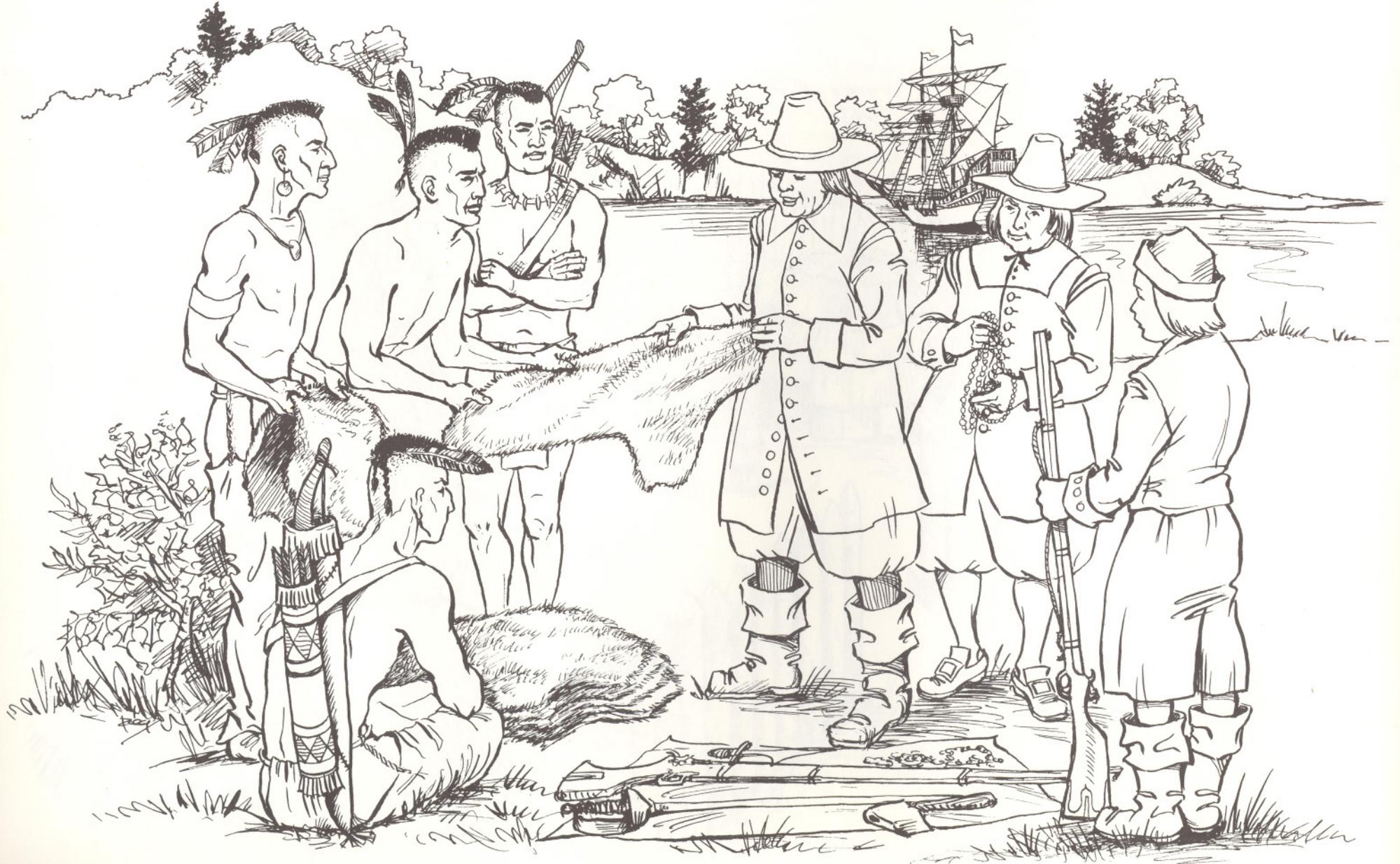
Life was happy alongside the river which the Indians called the "water-that-flows-two-ways". The Indians played and swam like otters in the water. They built boats from big trees that they hollowed out by burning and scraping. They fished, farmed the rich soil and hunted the forests alive with game. To their gods who lived in the "land of the sky" high above the Catskills, they prayed for rain and good harvests. Gentle and friendly, the Esopus Indians went to war only when cheated or cruelly treated. They called their homeland "Atharhacton" which means "lovely land".

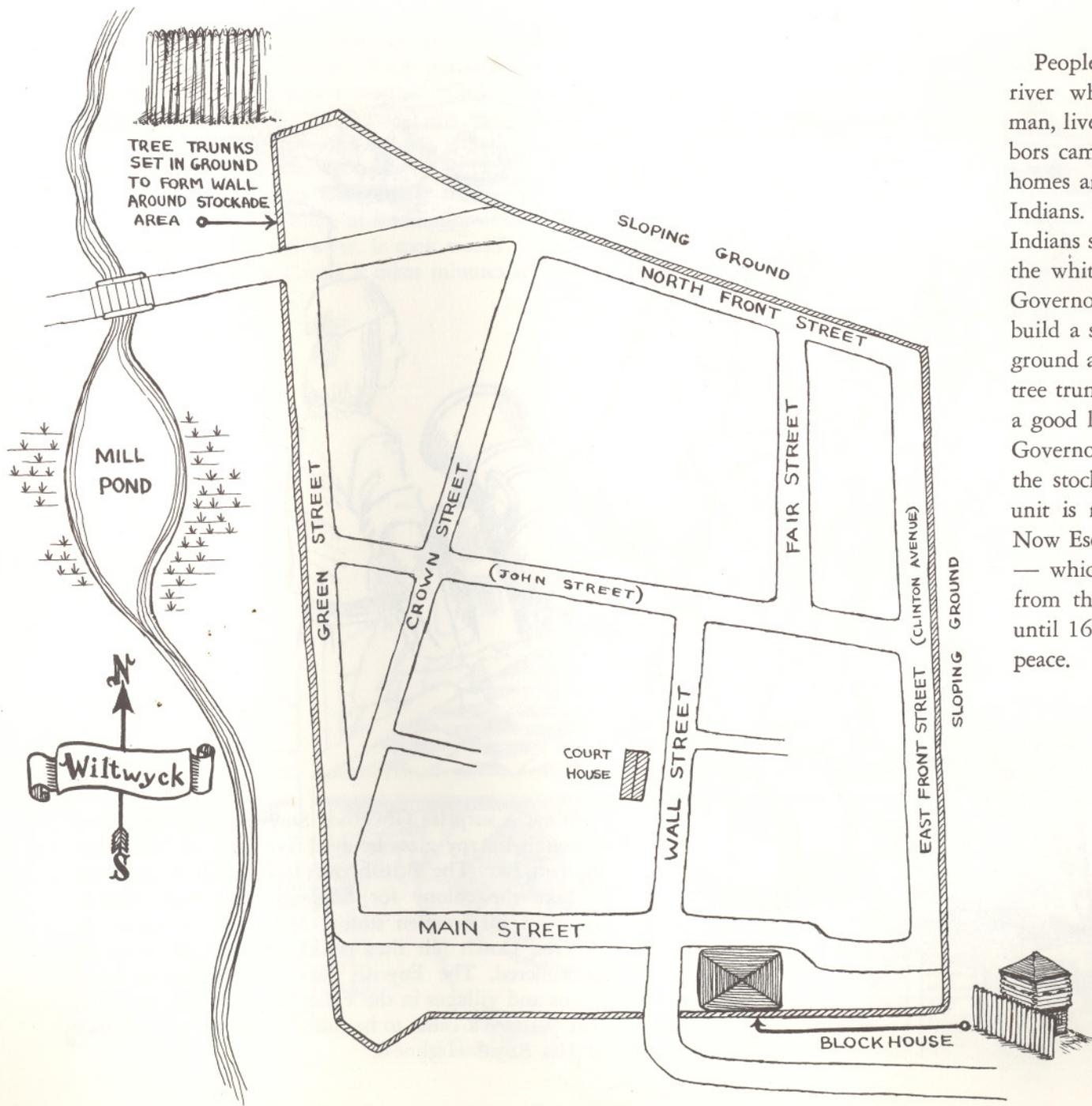




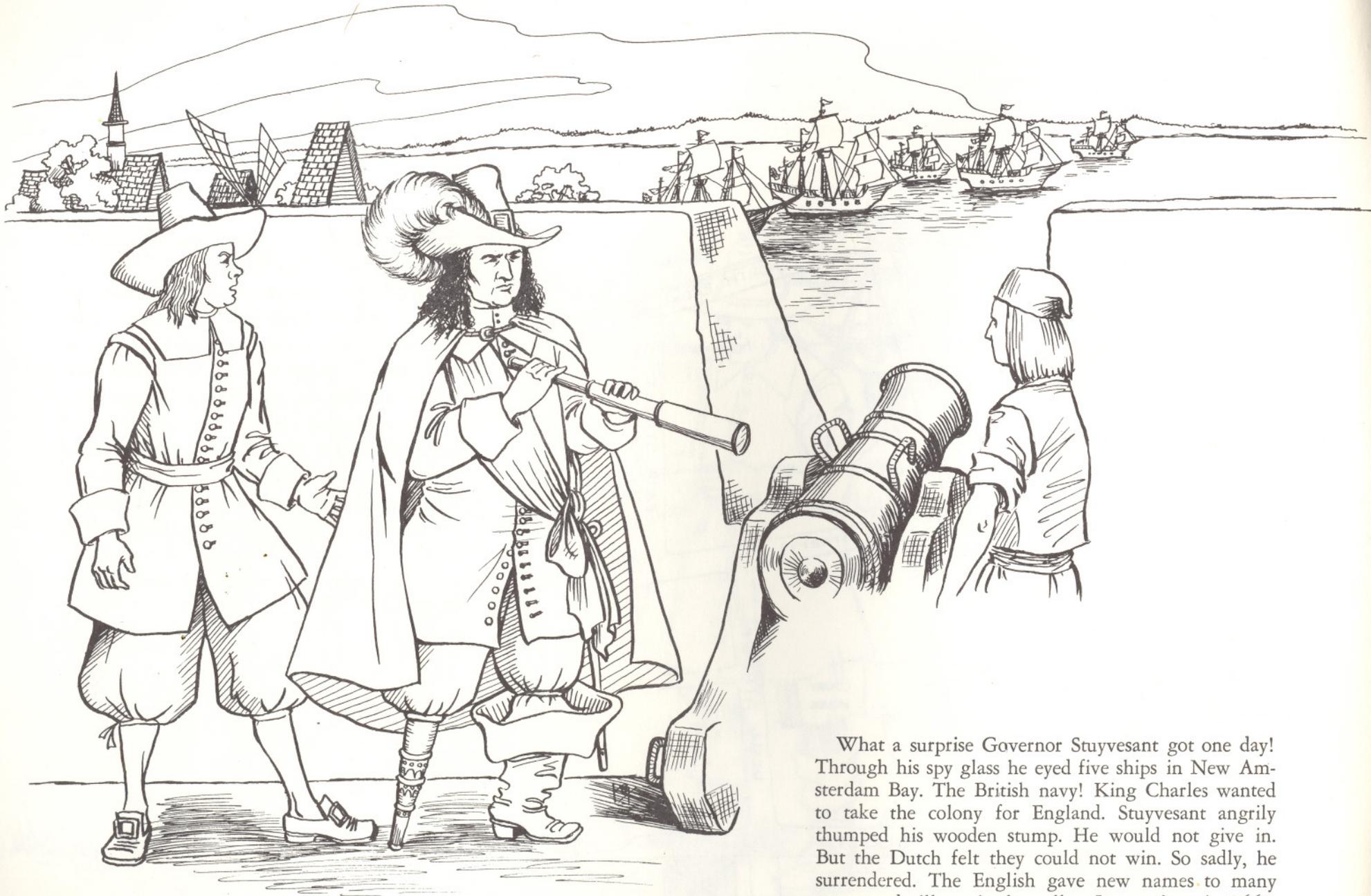
Would you trade a fur coat for a cake? Soon after Henry Hudson came, the Dutch set up trading posts at places along the river. One of these places was Kingston which the Dutch called Esopus then. White

men and Indians liked to trade with one another. The white man wanted beaver skins most. They were worth much money. The Indians often swapped them for a treat of sweet Dutch cookies and cakes!



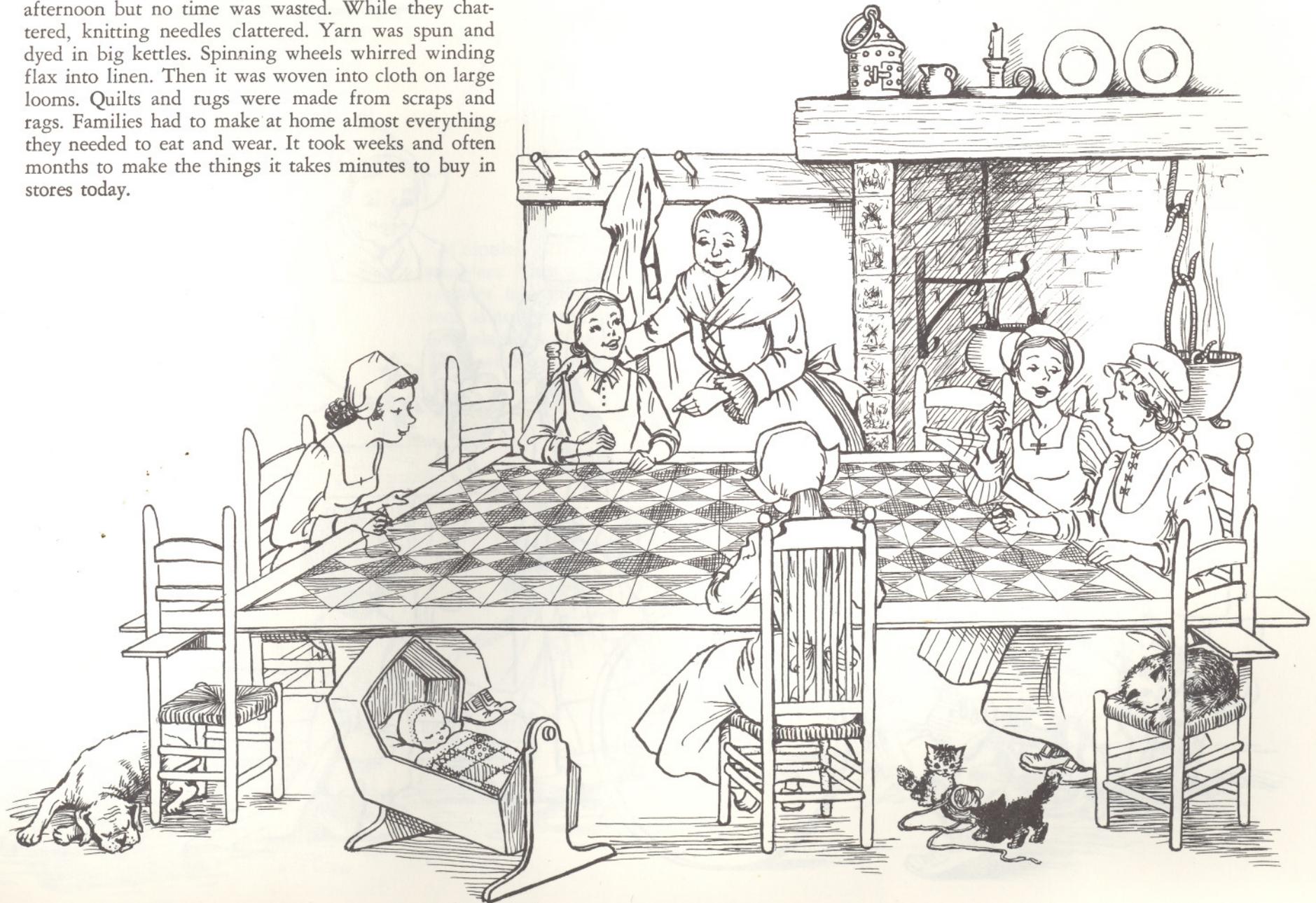


People were quarreling in the patroon up-river where Thomas Chambers, an Englishman, lived. In 1652, he and some of his neighbors came to Esopus seeking peace. They built homes and farmed on land given them by the Indians. The new settlement quickly grew. The Indians saw that they were losing their land to the white man. They began to war. In 1658, Governor Peter Stuyvesant told the settlers to build a stockade. They picked a place on high ground and, all around, they pounded a wall of tree trunks in. Steep banks on three sides gave a good look-out for spotting the Indians. The Governor ordered a group of soldiers to guard the stockade. Do you know that this military unit is now the oldest in the United States? Now Esopus sadly came to be called Wiltwyck — which is a Dutch word meaning “refuge from the savages”. There was much fighting until 1664 when the Indians and settlers made peace.

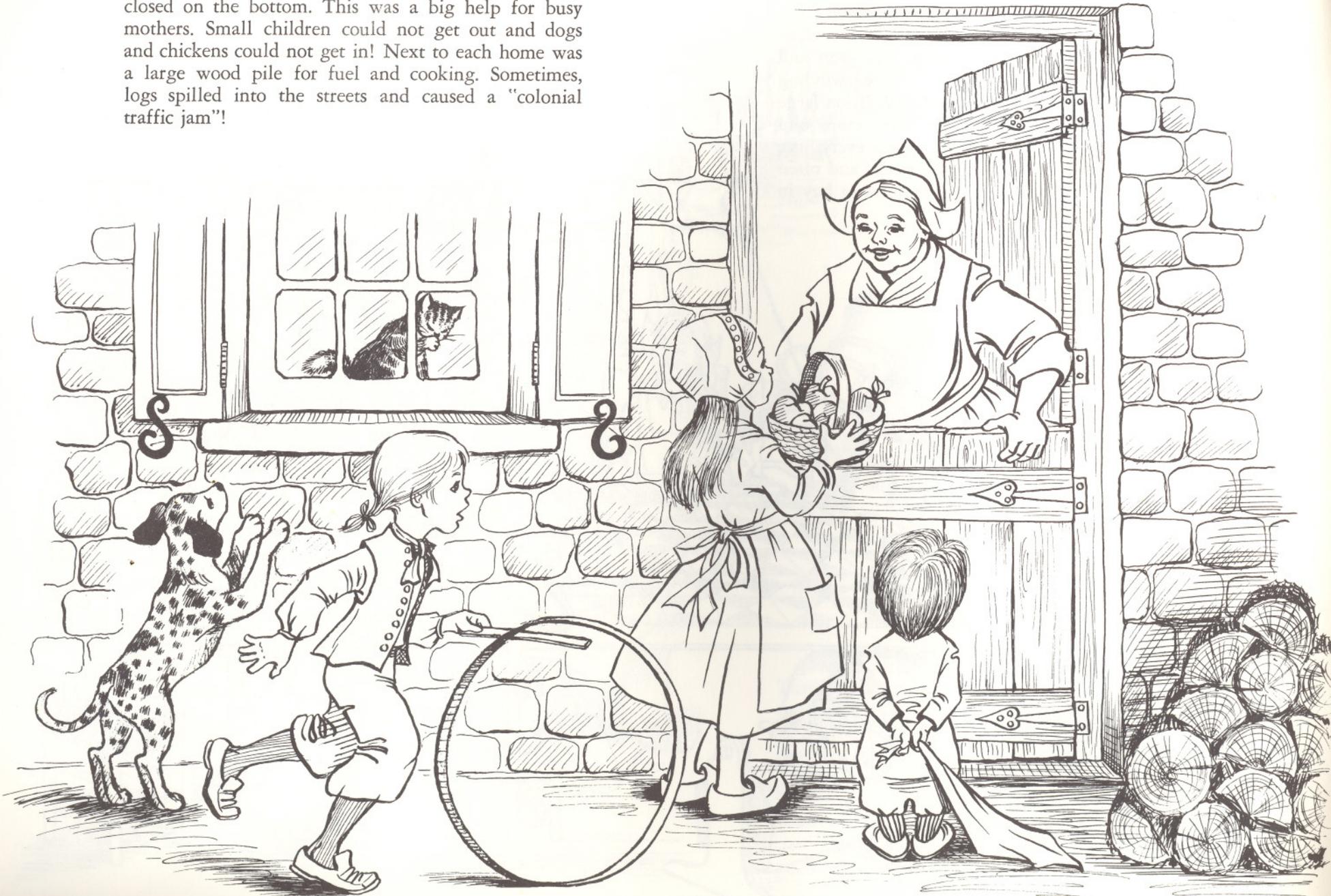


What a surprise Governor Stuyvesant got one day! Through his spy glass he eyed five ships in New Amsterdam Bay. The British navy! King Charles wanted to take the colony for England. Stuyvesant angrily thumped his wooden stump. He would not give in. But the Dutch felt they could not win. So sadly, he surrendered. The English gave new names to many towns and villages in the valley. It was then, in 1667, that Wiltwyck came to be called Kingston — in honor of His Royal Highness!

The Dutch kept their language and their customs. Dutch wives liked to gossip. They got together every afternoon but no time was wasted. While they chattered, knitting needles clattered. Yarn was spun and dyed in big kettles. Spinning wheels whirred winding flax into linen. Then it was woven into cloth on large looms. Quilts and rugs were made from scraps and rags. Families had to make at home almost everything they needed to eat and wear. It took weeks and often months to make the things it takes minutes to buy in stores today.

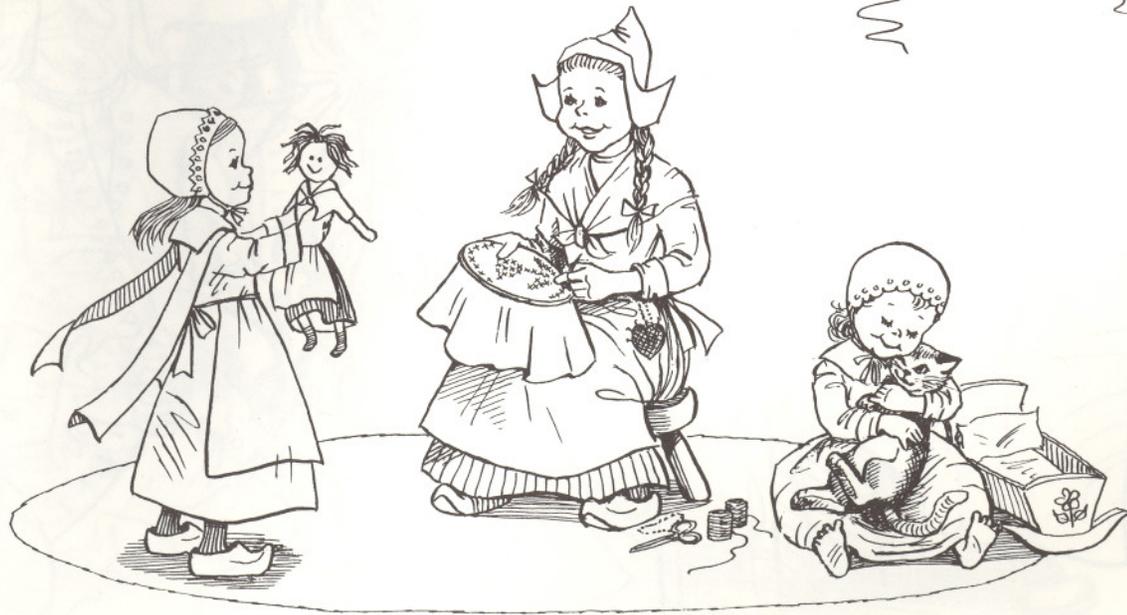


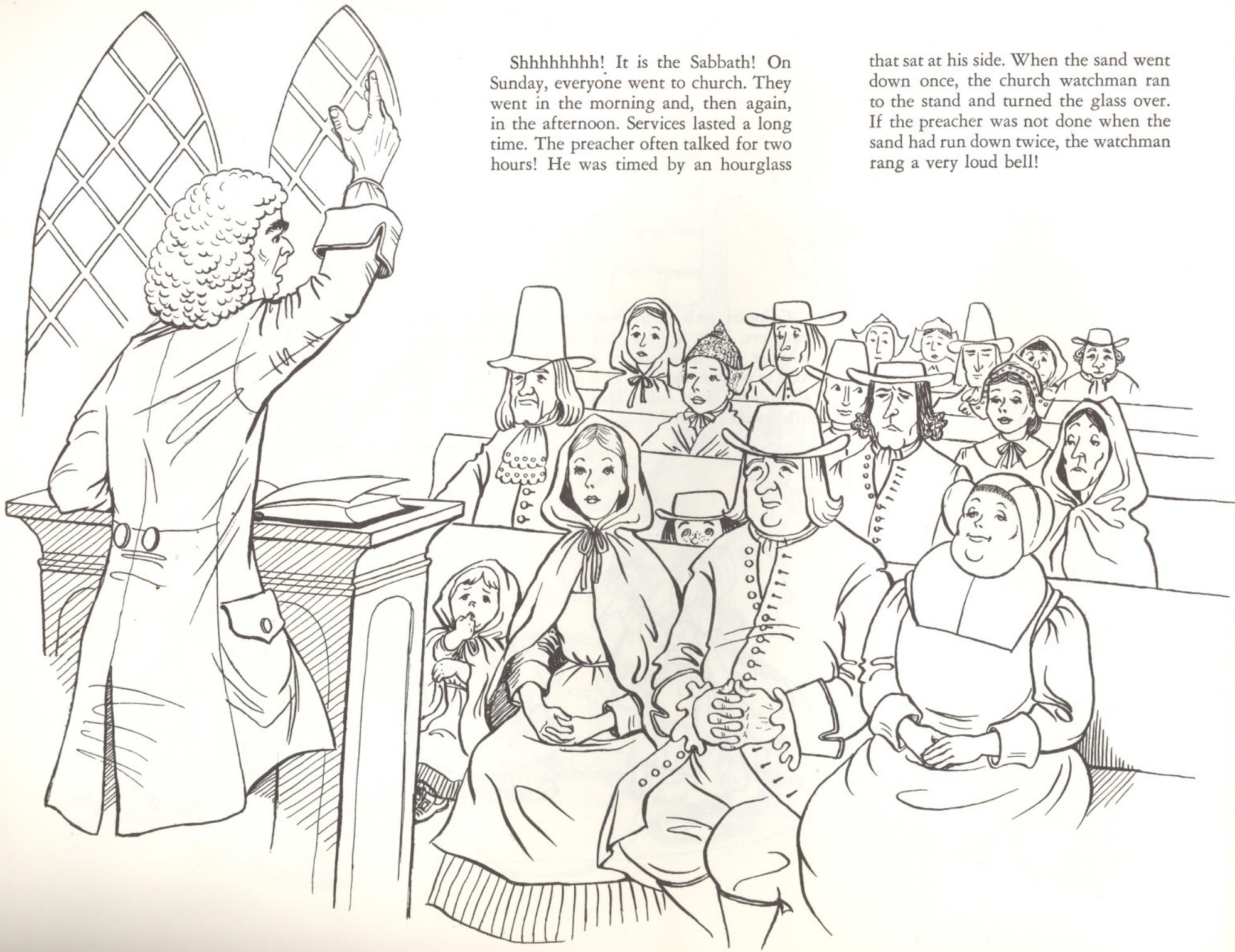
A Dutch door could be opened on top and kept closed on the bottom. This was a big help for busy mothers. Small children could not get out and dogs and chickens could not get in! Next to each home was a large wood pile for fuel and cooking. Sometimes, logs spilled into the streets and caused a "colonial traffic jam"!



Dutch boys and girls were good skaters. When the wind blows, this boy's britches balloon like boat sails and off he goes! Winter was a time for sledding too — but you could not do it on Sunday. In spring and summer, boys liked to fish. It was fun to fly kites and roll hoops too.

Colonial girls made pretty cloth pictures called samplers. This is how they learned to sew. Each sampler had hundreds of tiny stitches. It had to look as neat on the back as it did on the front. Girls also played with dolls. They were made from rags filled with cornhusks.





Shhhhhhh! It is the Sabbath! On Sunday, everyone went to church. They went in the morning and, then again, in the afternoon. Services lasted a long time. The preacher often talked for two hours! He was timed by an hourglass

that sat at his side. When the sand went down once, the church watchman ran to the stand and turned the glass over. If the preacher was not done when the sand had run down twice, the watchman rang a very loud bell!

The watchman had a pole with a bag on the end. Inside the bag was a bell. When people put money in the bag, the bell rang. Then everyone knew who gave — and who did not! The church had no heat. People brought a stove — or their dog — to warm their feet. When church was done, everyone sat at home keeping very, very quiet. Noisy people were put in the stocks. You could not work — or even play on Sunday!



The Dutch Reformed Church of Kingston is as old as the city itself. The first church of wood stood in the Stockade. The stone building that stands today is over a century old and is famous for its beauty.



Children went to school like you. In Dutch towns, it did not matter if you had money. Poor children went too. Even girls got to go! The schoolhouse had only one room. The children sat on hard benches with no backs. The teacher was often the preacher. He had a paddle called a "plak" to spank with. Each boy and girl had one schoolbook. It was filled with gloom and doom!



For many years, Kingston Academy was the finest school in New York State. It was founded in 1774 and many famous men went there. Part of the school fee was paid in firewood. Twice a year the students were tested out loud in front of everyone in town. After, there were big dinners and dances.