

were originally of French descent, Willen being a son of Simon La Blare (or La Blant or La Blaut). Willen lived in Holland for some years, then on Long Island. Another account states the Simonsons sprang from a Dutch merchant named Simon Brook (AN 5:98, 117). But then, there was Barent Simonson who died leaving his widow, Tryntje Claes, who afterwards married in 1644, Juriaen Blanck, Sr. Barent left a son, Symon Barentzen, who married Wyntje Arents in 1661 (PR 147). One Wyntje Symonse "b. of Flush" married Janaton Braht Sept. 20, 1692 at the Flatbush Dutch Church. Aert Simonson took the oath of allegiance Sept. 30, 1687, and settled on Staten Island. Barent settled there also, upon land on North side of Fresh Kills on Feb. 15, 1700 (RD B:384). The Simonson homestead land at Karles Neck came into the possession of the family between 1677 and 1702 (PR 147). Barent Simonson, 32 years of age, Isaac, 29 years, and Aert, 26 years, appear in the Staten Island census of 1706 (SHGM 1:149). One Aert obtained a land Grant from Queen Anne in 1721 for 160 acres at Carls Neck (SIP 2:953; 3:228; 4:406; 5:177).

Obviously there were two contemporaries named Wyntje Simons, since the one had a child by Johannes Wimmer, baptised in Mar. 1726 (SI 32), and the other had a child by Johannes Huysman baptised in September of the same year (SI 33). Barent Simonson had a daughter, Wyntje, baptised Mar. 25, 1701 (SI 10) but no proof has been found to show whether she married Wimmer or Huysman. Wimmer does not appear any further in the Staten Island records. Wintje who married Wimmer could have been a daughter of Aert and died before the latter made his will. Barent and his wife were, however, witnesses at the Wimmer baptism, while Aert Symons and his wife, Margaret Daniels, were witnesses at the baptism of Peter, the eldest son of Johannes and Wyntje Huysman. The census of 1706 shows two named Wyntje, apparently in Aert's group, one an adult and the other a child.

Altho the ancestry of Wyntje (Huysman) has not been definitely established, it seems plausible that she was not the daughter of Aert, because, the living, she was not named in his will (WNYHS 4:424), unless perchance they regarded the name Wyntje as meaning Catharina. Other names, by inference, she was the daughter of Barent, whose baptism is recorded. Yet some of her children bore the names Aert and Margareta. In any case, her own existence as wife and prolific mother is fully established.

1. C. The children of Johannes and his wife, Wyntje, were:
 2. Anna, baptised Sept. 4, 1726 at Staten Island, witnesses Harm Bouwman and Neeltje Staats (GMNJ 25:27). She probably died before her father made his will because she is not named therein.
 - x3. Peter, baptised May 26, 1728, eldest son.
 - x4. Aert or Aert, baptised May 24, 1729/30, who it probably was that married Elizabeth Marschalk on May 14, 1760 at New York. His will is dated Dec. 3, 1795, proved July 10, 1800 (WNYHS 15:227).
 5. Margareta, baptised Jan. 1, 1731/2.
 - x6. Johannes (John), baptised Jan. 13, 1733/4; d. 1800.
 - x7. Dirk (Richard), baptised Feb. 29, 1735-6; d. July 29, 1807 (AN 5:138; RD 0:171).
 - x8. Maria, baptised Jan. 1, 1737/8.
 - x9. Abraham, baptised Dec. 9, 1739; d. 1813.
 10. Elizabet, baptised Oct. 11 or 18, 1743, married Edward Blake on Mar. 2, 1764 (SIP 2:866).
 11. Catharina, baptised Apr. 22, 1746.
 12. Jemynna (or Jemima), baptised July 19, 1748.
 13. Sarah (named in will).

Johannes Huysman died "during the Revolution" (WNYHS 6:411), and on May 10, 1777, his son, Peter Huysman, was appointed administrator of his estate.

3. Peter Housman, son of Johannes, baptised May 26, 1728, was likewise a wheelwright. On Oct. 11, 1760 he bought of Thomas Dongan, 46 acres in the Manor of Castle Town (RD D:599). His home is shown on the French map (SIH 7:17,21) and on Mr. Loring McMillan's composite map. The exact date of construction of the house, a stone house, is not known. We have seen that Johannes sold his land at Northfield in 1756, and that Peter bought 46 acres in Castle Town in 1760. (The latter's deed mentions John Housman, probably his father or his brother, as an adjoining owner.) It was Peter who lived in the stone house, said to have been built about

the year 1700 (HOS 101; and note c), before he was born, or in 1730 (SIH 9:23), on the North side of Watchogue Road West of the present Manor Road "just below Gerrit Martling's" (AN 5:82 & 97; SIH 13:18; SIH 8:1). Watchogue Road was, of course, an old road travelled by stage coaches in their day. Miss Ida Dudley Dale wrote, "About 1917, Mr. Lot Alston passed by to his home 'Pine Court,' and told quaint story of stage coach days. Due to the dangerous bend in front of #40, the driver paused there, to blow horn, notifying driver of east-bound stage to wait at the J. Housman homestead." Garret Martling's son, Joseph Baker Holmes Martling (b. at #40 in 1823) married Charity Alston (note k). If the house was built in 1700, or even as late as 1730, it does not readily appear that it was built by the Housmans. Walter Dongan claimed that he was born there (in 1763) (AN 5:11, 12 note; SIP 2:890).

"A horse in the house itself was not a strange sight, for the strong animal proved far more capable than man to drag the great logs of wood in to the house to the open fireplace. In through the front door the animal walked after the tree had been cut down, and when he brought the log to its right place, he continued on his journey out the back door" (note d).

The model of a house and its surroundings in the possession of the Staten Island Historical Society, erroneously said to be Peter Housman's home (SIH 6:29), is clearly the home of George Housman at Graniteville.

In 1853, Mr. Anthon had a conversation with Mr. Isaac Housman, then 78 years of age, who said his father Peter, had been "killed in his own house by a party from Jersey (AN 5:77). The house is still standing near the 4 Corners just below Gerrit Martling's. There were nine of these Jersey men and all had their faces blacked. Housman was in the habit of barring his doors just at sundown and the party came just at that time so as to anticipate him." Mr. Isaac Housman "had two brothers, who were grown men, but they were not in the house. *** They killed Peter Housman by striking him over the head with a club. They probably said nothing to him." Isaac was in the house, "but a mere child, and the negro slaves hurried him and the other children into the kitchen and barred the door. It was all done in a very few moments. They could not find Housman's money. There was a good deal of plate about, but they were afraid to take it, for fear of its being identified. On examining Housman's papers, it was found that his money was concealed in the stone wall in the cellar" (AN 5:82, 97).

In 1851, Mr. Anthon talked with John Tyson who said that Jacob Housman "accused Robins of being one of those who killed his father.*** The elder Housman had a great deal of money. He had two sets of sons. Just about evening they were as usual barring the windows and doors. As they were about to fasten the door the robbers came, all having their faces blacked, and shoved it open. The father was at the time sick in bed. If the sons had barred the door after the first robber had got in, they might have conquered him, but instead of doing this, they took to their heels. One of the robbers struck the old man and broke his jaw" (AN 5:82, 97). Mrs. Alice Marie Kennedy (note e) said to the writer, in 1933, respecting his death that the "father of Judge Housman hid gold and silver coins under a hoghead, that soldiers or brigands tortured him with hot irons, but he would not tell the hiding place. He died a few days later. His descendants hid the money in the wall and later recovered most of it. Most of the house is now destroyed, but the kitchen is standing." On Mar. 2, 1932, Mrs. Kennedy related to the late Ida Dudley Dale that "Judge Housman's father was persecuted because he favored the Patriot cause in the Revolution" (Note f).

Peter married (1st) Johannah, born about 1740 who died Apr. 6, 1771, leaving children mentioned below, and she was buried in the Fort Richmond Dutch Church Yard. She is mentioned in the will of Benjamin Kilsey of Richmond County, dated Oct. 16, 1764 (WNYHS 6:411). This may be a form altho it indicates that the wife of the testator was named Hannah. Peter and his wife named children, Benjamin and Joanna. The able genealogist, Rosalie F. Bailey, states that Peter's wife was the daughter of Benjamin Kilsey (PR 148). The census of 1790, page 158, shows that Hannah Kelsey was a widow and that another "free white female" lived with her.

Peter married (2nd) Lena Kruse, a widow (NJA 34:291; WNYHS 7:426), who already had a daughter, Nancy Kruse (NYW 37:269; WNYHS 13:40), the

