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The earliest generations of the Goetbloet *alias* Bloetgoet family

by John Blythe Dobson

In 1917, Mrs. Annie Bloodgood Parker published a brief account of the parentage of the New Netherland immigrant Frans Janszen Bloetgoet.¹ Considering the very limited material then accessible, this article accomplished its purpose quite well, and apart from a few minor misprints is essentially not in need of correction. As Parker notes, the Gouda baptismal register for 1575-1625 is unfortunately lost; and indeed, her sole source is the marriage register of the Dutch Reformed Church of Gouda. For those records, I have tentatively accepted her readings, although there is one small point of doubt (discussed below) which should be cleared up if it has not been already.² I cannot claim to have made a thorough search of the existing literature on this family, and were there any likelihood of my finding time to do so in the foreseeable future I should never have considered publishing these remarks in so rough a state. The purpose of this note is merely to supplement Parker's account with material from some recently-indexed records, and to suggest some possibilities for further research.

Before proceeding with a revision of Parker's account, I should like to point out that the name Bloetgoet is extremely rare, and before the end of the seventeenth century, at least, seems to have been confined almost exclusively to the provinces of North and South Holland. In fact, the only instance I have found with no known connection to the present family is the rather late one of a Jan Bloetgoet who had a child baptized in 1697 at Amsterdam.³ I have long suspected that the explanation for the rarity of the name — or indeed, for the notable deficits in its occurrence — is that it was formed from the somewhat commoner name Goetbloet by a process of metathesis. I think there is now sufficient evidence available to substantiate this theory, and to warrant the aliased form of the name which has been adopted in the title of this note. Indeed, until the name Bloetgoet became well-established in New Netherland, it was clearly unfamiliar to the local clerks, and was quite prone to being switched to the commoner form, as occurs for example in a 1660 lawsuit,⁴ in the 1672 baptismal record of Jan, son of Frans Janszen Bloetgoet and Lysbeth Jans, and in the 1675 baptismal record of

¹ Annie Bloodgood Parker, "Captain Frans Bloodgood of Flushing, Long Island, and some of his descendants," *Publications of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania* 6 (1917): 229-241. A death notice of the author appeared in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, 86 (1932): 223.

² I have not seen George M. Bloodgood *et al.*, *Ancestors and Descendants of Captain Frans Janse Bloetgoet*, 2 vols. (privately published, 1966), or the 2nd ed., 2 vols. (1980, 1982).

³ Marritje, daughter of Jan Bloetgoet and Greitie Statlander, was bapt. 31 March 1697 in the Nieuwe kerk, Amsterdam (Amsterdam DTB 46:358), per the online index to Amsterdam baptisms at <http://gemeentearchief.amsterdam.nl/>. This is probably the same couple who as Jan "Goetbloet" and Grietie Claas had a daughter Marritie, bapt. 20 Aug. 1698 in the Zuider Kerk, Amsterdam (Amsterdam DTB 99:191), from the same source.

⁴ *The Records of New Amsterdam from 1653 to 1674*, ed. Berthold Fernow, 7 vols. (New York, 1897), 3:100.

their daughter Lysbeth.⁵ Several more such examples will be noted in the cumulative name index of the *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, under the spellings Goetbloet and Goodblood.

The name Goetbloet (now usually spelled Goedbloed) is itself quite uncommon, and neither it nor Bloetgoet are to be found in the *Nederlands Familienamen Databank*.⁶ A Willem Goetbloet is listed in the Gouda city accounts (*Stadsrekening*) of 1489.⁷ The name Goetbloet is found from 1476 onward at Hasselt in Overijssel,⁸ and of this family was presumably Martinus Goetbloet *alias* van Hasselt (b. ca. 1532), a refugee from the Spanish invasion of Brabant, who came in 1574 to Middelburg in Zeeland,⁹ where the name is subsequently found into at least the nineteenth century.¹⁰ One other early Goetbloet line of the first half of the sixteenth century has been touched on in the literature, but with quite inconclusive results.¹¹ There are also some rather vaguely-described family papers in the collection of the Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie at 's-Gravenhage, which may relate to a later period than that with which we are concerned.¹²

Despite the fact that Parker says that the first known ancestor in the present Bloetgoet line, Jan Heyndrickse, was of Amsterdam, the name does not occur at so early a date in the baptismal registers of any of the Amsterdam churches, in any form whatsoever.¹³ Nor does it occur in the index to

⁵ *Baptisms from 1639 to 1730 in the Reformed Dutch Church, New York* (Collections of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, vol. 2, 1901), 107, 118 (where the name appears as Goedtbloedt and Goetbloet, respectively).

⁶ Leendert Brouwer (ed.), *Nederlands Familienamen Databank*, hosted by the Meertens Instituut at <http://www.meertens.knaw.nl/nfd/>.

⁷ Groenhart Archieven, bron ACI, Stadsrekening - Diversen Gouda 1489, inventarisnummer 1153, bladzijde 22, as indexed at <http://www.groenhartarchieven.nl/>.

⁸ Paul van Baelen, "Genealogische en Heraldische Gedenkenissen op het Oude Kerkhof te Hasselt," *Vlaamse Stam* 35 (1999): 176-190, at p. 187.

⁹ *Nieuw Nederlandsch Biografisch Woordenboek*, 10 vols. (Leiden, 1911-1937), 6: cols. 594-595.

¹⁰ Evidence for their continued residence there will be found in the indexes available on the website of the Zeeuws Archief, at <http://www.zeeuwengezocht.nl/SISIS.DLL/>

¹¹ "Grafzerk van Elisabeth v. Roon" (unsigned), *De Navorscher* 33 (1883): 415-19, at p. 419, which attempts to identify the Goetbloet who was maternal grandmother to Carel van der Nitzen (d. 1569), of Franeker, President of the Court of Friesland, husband of the woman of the title. A few additional details are given in J. Wenning Yz, "Wapenborden in de St. Martini-kerk te Franeker (1678)," pt. 2, *De Nederlandsche Leeuw* 4 (1886): 44-45, at p. 45.

¹² Available through their website at <http://www.cbg.nl/>.

¹³ Gemeente Archief Amsterdam, Doopregisters namen database [1564-1811], available online at <http://gemeentearchief.amsterdam.nl/>.

Amsterdam property transfers (*Kwijtscheldingen*).¹⁴ Possibly Parker was influenced in this opinion by a statement in Riker's *Harlem*, which has no known documentary basis.¹⁵



JAN HEYNDRICKSE GOETBLOET *alias* BLOETGOET, of Gouda in South Holland, b. say 1580, d. probably in 1633-1649. He is said by Parker to have been *of* Amsterdam in North Holland, although her subsequent discussion suggests that she really meant that he is designated as *from* Amsterdam in his marriage record, so that it would be desirable to have clarification on this point. And even if the record does state that he was *from* Amsterdam, it would only prove some prior residence there, not that it was the place of his birth. An index to the records of the Gouda Orphans' Chamber (*Weeskamer*) for 1633-1649 lists a Jan Heyndricksz "Goetbloet," and if our subject died before 1644 he would quite certainly have had at least one minor son.¹⁶ He m. 28 Oct. 1612 at Gouda, in South Holland, GEERTGEN THOMAS, probably still alive in 1638. Parker actually calls her "Geertgen Thomas van der Gouda," but as she does not quote the exact phraseology of the marriage record and there does not appear to be any other documentary support of "van der Gouda" as the surname of this woman, this inference may be without sufficient justification. Probably she was the Geertge Thomas who served as a baptismal sponsor for her granddaughter Judick, daughter of Cornelis Jansz Bloetgoet, on 22 Aug. 1638 in the Sint-Janskerk, Gouda (see below). Known issue (order inferential):

- i. Cornelis Jansz. Bloetgoet, b say 1613-18, alive in 1638. He m. by 1637, Ibel Jans. This son was unknown to Parker, probably because his only recorded child was baptized in a Roman Catholic church. Interestingly, the names of his wife and daughter, Ibel and Judith, recur amongst those of the children of his brother Frans.¹⁷ Only known child:
 - a. Judick Bloetgoet, bapt. 22 Aug. 1638 in the Sint-Janskerk, Gouda, as a child of Cornelis Jansz Bloetgoet and Ibel Jans, with witnesses Thomas Jansz [the father's brother?] and Geertge Thomas [the father's mother?].¹⁸
- ii. Thomas Jansz(en) Bloetgoet, b. say 1615-20, alive in 1649. At the time of his marriage he was an unmarried man, living on the Tiendewech, Gouda. He was still alive on 1 Feb. 1649,

¹⁴ Gemeente Archief Amsterdam, Kwijtscheldingen database [1563-1811], available online at <http://gemeentearchief.amsterdam.nl/archieven/genealogie/kwijtscheldingen/index.nl.html>.

¹⁵ James Riker, *Harlem ... its Origin and Early Annals* (New York, 1881), 562 n., *Revised History of Harlem* (New York, 1904), 698 n., stating in both editions: "Capt. Frans Jansen Bloodgood ... was from Amsterdam ... whither he was accompanied by his wife, Lysbeth Jans ... and an infant, Geertie."

¹⁶ Groenehart Archieven, bron AC3, Registratie Weeskamer Gouda 1633-1649, inventarisnummer 7, bladzijde 141, as indexed at <http://www.groenehartarchieven.nl/>. Clearly this record should be checked, but so far as we can discern, there is currently no provision for ordering a copy.

¹⁷ *Baptisms from 1639 to 1730 in the Reformed Dutch Church, New York*, as above, 66, 79.

¹⁸ Groenehart Archieven, Doopboek St.-Janskerk, Gouda, as indexed at <http://www.groenehartarchieven.nl/>.

- when he was renting a house at Gouda from Heindrick Dircksz Spille.¹⁹ He m. 6 Dec. 1637, Margrieta Coverts van Meuwen, of Gouda, unmarried woman, also living on the Tiendewech. Although the baptism of their daughter Geertruijt in 1641 took place at Rotterdam, in South Holland, it is not clear from the available evidence whether they were then living there. Only known child:
- a. Geertruijt Bloetgoet, bapt. 28 Feb. 1641 at Rotterdam as a child of Thomas Janse Bloetgoet and Marijtje Govers van Meuwen, with sponsor Sijbert Jansen.²⁰
- iii. Capt. Frans Janszen Bloetgoet, the immigrant to Flushing, Long Island, b. say 1623,²¹ d. between 29 Dec. 1676 and 13 Jan. 1676/7.²² At the time of his marriage he was an unmarried man, living on the Corten Tiendewech, Gouda. He m. (as her first husband, following betrothal at Gouda) 18 Feb. 1645 at Reeuwijk,²³ near Gouda and also in South Holland, Lysbeth Jans, of Gouda, unmarried woman, living on the Zevestraet. Nothing whatever seems to be known of her ancestry. As Parker notes, this couple left the Netherlands almost immediately after their marriage. Her record of their offspring is generally reliable, save that the daughter Adriaentje, wife of Hendrick Hegeman, was not of New Jersey but rather of Flatbush and New Lots, Kings Co., Long Island,²⁴ and the daughter Lysbeth, who is assigned no husband, was the wife of Stephen Barentse Ryder, of Flatbush.²⁵

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¹⁹ Groenehart Archieven, Kamerboek Politiemeesters Gouda 1649, inventarisnummer 284, bladzijde 7v, as calendared at <http://www.groenehartarchieven.nl/>.

²⁰ DTB Rotterdam inv. 1, Doop gereformeerd, index nummer 239, as indexed at Digitale Stamboom Rotterdam, <http://rotterdam.digitalestamboom.nl/>. This baptism is in the IGI with an incorrect date.

²¹ A summary of George M. Bloodgood's book published in *NNC* 1 (1996): 64 states that Frans was aged 21 years at the time of his marriage; and if his marriage record actually says this, then by calculation the most probable year of his birth would be 1623.

²² In Parker's article, p. 231, the second of these dates is wrongly given as 13 Jan. 1676.

²³ The name of this place is misprinted "Reenwyck" in Parker's article.

²⁴ John Blythe Dobson, "Some descendants of Hendrick Hegeman, of Flatbush and New Lots, Kings County, Long Island, New York," available online at <http://cybrary.uwinnipeg.ca/people/dobson/genealogy/ff/Hegeman-Hendrick.cfm>.

²⁵ Although there does not appear to be any surviving record of this marriage, and Lysbeth's maiden surname is not given in the baptismal records of her children, her affiliations are clearly indicated by the presence of Hendrickus and Adriaentie [Bloetgoet] Hegeman as sponsors to her second child, Maria, on 27 June 1704, and of Marston relations of her much older sister Geertje's husband as sponsors to her second child, Stephen, on 21 March 1710, both baptisms being in the Dutch Church of Jamaica, Long Island. For the identification of these Marstens see John Reynolds Totten, "Marston Notes," *NYGBR* 60 (1929): 274-78.