

July 15, 1638, was called so in honor of his mother's father, and their daughter, Trijntje (Catrijna), baptized in the same church, on December 15, 1639, received the name of her father's mother, and Jacomijntje, baptized in the *Nieuwe-Kerk*, on February 10, 1646, that of her mother's mother.

While Tomys Swartwout was associated with his brothers at Amsterdam as a tobacco dealer, the tulip craze, "*Tulipomania*," phenomenally distempered for a time the minds of the stolid Netherlanders. A bulbous plant, called by the Turks *tulband*, from the resemblance of its flower to a turban, was brought from Constantinople, and was so finely cultivated in Holland that from the rare beauty of its flowers it began shortly to command exorbitant prices. In 1635 so enormous a sum as 100,000 florins (\$40,000) was recognized as the value of forty choice bulbs. A plant of the superb species called *Semper Augustus*, was sold, a year or two later, at Amsterdam, for 46,000 florins (\$1,840), a fine carriage, two high-priced horses, and a double set of handsome harness. "Large fortunes," an historian remarks, "were acquired by speculations on this article, which, in Amsterdam alone, involved, it is said, no less a sum than 10,000,000 of guilders. Persons of all ranks, sexes, and ages neglected their ordinary vocations to amuse themselves with this novel species of gambling; but as those who purchased were often of slender means and unable to fulfil their engagements, the speculation became so unsafe that men lost their confidence in it, and in course of time it died away of itself."¹

The commercial enterprise at that time of the merchants of Amsterdam was returning them great wealth. In 1638 the siege of Antwerp was about to be undertaken by Prince Fredrik Henrik, the stadtholder of the United Provinces. While preparations were making for beleaguering the Belgian city, Comte d'Estrades, the French ambassador, complained to the prince, as is related by Davies, "that the merchants of Amsterdam transmitted to Antwerp constant supplies of arms and ammunition. Fredrik-Henrik, having sent to inquire concerning the matter, one Beyland was brought before the magistrates of the town, accused of having freighted four fly-boats with powder, muskets, and pikes, for Antwerp. Beyland boldly confessed the fact, saying that the merchants of Amsterdam had a right to trade where they pleased, and there were a hundred commissioners from Antwerp in the town, of whom he was one; and he added, that 'if anything were to be gained by trading to hell, he would risk burning his sails.' The magistrates acquitted him, on the ground that he had done his duty to his employers; a decision which roused the prince into a transport of rage: 'You see,' said he to d'Estrades, 'what patience I must have with these brutes of merchants; I have no greater enemies than the town of Amsterdam; but if I once gain Antwerp, I will bring them so low

¹ History of Holland. Davies, vol. ii., p. 607.