

led a company of forty-six soldiers, seven citizens, including Louis du Bois, two slaves, and eight horses, under the guidance of a captured Wappinger, with Christofful Davids, as interpreter, on their expedition. They arrived within sight of the fort, on the 5th, at about two o'clock in the afternoon. As they neared the fort, Louis du Bois pressed on too anxiously, and exposed himself to an Indian, who stood behind a tree, preparing to draw his bow, but from surprise, or fright, his hand trembled, and the arrow did not rest on the bow-string. Before he could shoot, Louis du Bois sprang forward and dispatched him with his sword, running him through with such force that the sword entered a log, and he was obliged to place his foot on the prostrate body, to withdraw it. As they approached nearer, their dogs ran on ahead, among the Indians, who raised the cry: "Swanekers and deers," "White man's dogs," and the soldiers were seen by a squaw, who gave a terrible scream, which thoroughly alarmed the Indians. When the rescuers found they were discovered, they instantly fell upon them. The Indians fought bravely, but not victoriously, and lost their chief, several warriors, women and children, and some were taken prisoners. Twenty-three captives were rescued, and but few of the rescuers were killed or wounded. When the rescuers arrived the Indians were preparing for the murder of the wife of Louis du Bois, who had been placed on a pile of wood, to be burned to death. For her consolation she sang Psalms, the music of which so interested the Indians that they urged her, by signs, to continue, and at the arrival of the rescuers, she was singing the one hundred and thirty-seventh, that of the Babylonish Captives. The rescuers arrived at Wildwyck on the 7th, about noon. The fine lands of the Wallkill Valley had favorably impressed Louis du Bois, and later he formed a company of twelve men, which, in May, 1677, bought from the Indians, a very large tract of land, including the beforementioned valley, the acreage of which has been variously estimated, one being ninety-two thousand one hundred and sixty acres. It extended ten miles on the west bank of the Hudson River, and from there to the Shawangunk Mountains, and included part of the present townships of New Paltz, Rosendale and Esopus, and the whole of Lloyd. "Paltz Rock," on the top of Shawangunk Mountain, was the southwest boundary. The purchase was confirmed by a patent deed from Governor Andross, on September 29th, of the same year. The "Twelve Patentees," as they have since been called, were: Louis du Bois, and his sons, Abraham and Isaac, Abra-