

had broken the law, and would cheerfully submit to the penalty. On the day appointed for their punishment, he shouldered his long gun, put on his powder-horn and bullet-pouch, and accompanied his brethren to Sheffield; and when they were committed to the stocks, he made a loud and solemn declaration, that the first one who should offer them the least insult while they were in the stocks, should pay dearly for his temerity.

Their punishment being ended, they all agreed that in future they would be good men and true, and attend meeting as often as the law required; which they did for a while, till, at length, on one Sunday, as Isaac Van Deusen was seated in his pew near the pulpit, performing his legal duties in attending public worship, the minister, in the course of his sermon, indignantly looked down from the pulpit upon him, and pointing at him, exclaimed: '*Every Sunday you are not here, you are in hell!*' He was filled with horror and amazement at this rude onset, and went home resolving to make an effort to secure the privilege of worshipping God according to the dictates of his own conscience.

The Dutch people generally, being constantly harrassed and irritated, determined to seek relief. Accordingly they sent to Lunenburg, in the State of New York, to the Rev. Stoffle Barkmire, a Dutch clergyman, to come and preach to them on every fourth Sunday for a certain length of time; which he did, and with whom they enjoyed all the comfort of religion. At the expiration of his time, they sent to Kinderhook, to the Rev. Dr. Knoll, another Dutch clergyman, who came, and gave great satisfaction.

In the meantime they were taxed to support the Presbyterian minister. They requested that the amount assessed upon them for this purpose might be relinquished to them to pay their own clergyman, as they did not attend upon the preaching of the English minister; but their request was rejected. Within this time, there was a town meeting, whose warrant contained an article to raise money for the support of preaching. One of the members of the Presbyterian society remarked at the meeting, that he thought it not best to raise the full amount of the minister's salary by tax, but only in part, and make up the rest by subscription, as there were several in town who did not like the minister's doctrine. The minister being present, made this reply: '*Whosoever does not like my doctrine, may pull up stakes, and be gone.*'