

ment of the Lord's Supper (*Avondmaal*): "On the incoming Easter (*Paaschdag*) at Menissinck; in June at Smithfield; in September at Machackemech, and on Christmas (*Kersdag*) at Walpeck." On the same day it was resolved that the four congregations should severally contribute yearly £17 10s, or collectively £70 for the minister's salary, and one hundred *schepels* (seventy-five bushels) of oats for his horse. Besides providing their pastor with a suitable dwelling-house, the churches, excepting that of Smithfield, were to provide him with a sufficient quantity of firewood every year. At a consistory meeting, held at Namenack, on March 31, 1746, the boundaries of the churches of Walpeck and Menissinck, were thus established: "On the Jersey side the church of Walpeck should extend to the house of Abram Kermers, and on the Pennsylvania side the church of Menissinck should extend to the house of Samuel Schammers."¹

Major Jacobus Swartwout, "upon a satisfactory confession of faith and life," was received, on April 16, 1747, a member of the Reformed Church at Machackemeck. On April 21, he was elected, and, on May 10, the same year, installed an elder of the society.

The prominent part taken by him in the controversies and contentions arising among the settlers of the valley of "the Minnessinck" respecting rights of tenure to lands claimed by them, although it obtained for him enviable distinction, was nevertheless hazardously won by indomitable persistency and a fearless disregard of many afflictive consequences.²

On July 8, 1755, he was commissioned a justice of the peace and thereby became an assistant judge in the inferior Court of Common Pleas.³ He made his last will and testament on October 4, 1754, and died, on August 21, 1756, on his farm, which bore the name of Sandeohquon, and to which his youngest son, Philip, ultimately fell heir.

The rivalry of the English and the French for the possession of North America, inaugurated, in 1754, the French and Indian War, which for nine years familiarized the people of the provinces with frightful scenes of bloodshed and barbarity. The disaffection of different tribes of Indians previously friendly to the settlers living along the frontiers of the colonies frequently manifested itself in murders and massacres of a most horrifying character.

The first intimation which the Minisink settlers had of the hostile spirit of the savages of that locality, as Stickney relates, "was the disappearance of the Indians from their neighborhood. Those of them who had been on the most

¹ Translation of the original records of the Reformed Dutch Church at Machackemech (Deerpark). By Rev. J. B. Ten Eyck. 1877, pp. 3, 4, 7, 8, 11.

² New York colonial manuscripts, in the General Library of the state of New York, vol. lxxii., p. 24; vol. lxxiii., pp. 108-111, 113; vol. lxxiv., p. 152; vol. lxxix., pp. 85-89; vol. lxxviii., p. 71; vol. lxxxvii., pp. 12, 141; vol. lxxxix., p. 69.

³ Record of commissions, liber iii., pp. 90, 91, in the General Library of the state of New York.