

nine miles east of the Hudson River, his *bouwerij* was contiguous to the farms of Johannes Buys and Johannes Ter Bos, whose baptismal names were later incorporated in the designation Johnsville bestowed upon the small village near the Highlands, about a mile southeast of Brinckerhoffville. The fertile acres of his farm are now embraced in the two farms respectively owned by Stephen J. Snook and Francis Burroughs; the one lying about one-half and the other three-fourths of a mile east of Johnsville, and on the north side of the highway running from that place to the village of East Fishkill. On Sauthier's map of the province of New York, made in 1779 (see page 157), the locality is titled "Swartwouts."

"In the twelfth year of the reign of Queen Ann, on the twenty-third day of October, 1715," as remarked by T. van Wyck Brinckerhoff, in his historical sketch of the town of Fishkill, "an act was passed 'for Dutchess County to elect a supervisor, a treasurer, assessors, and collectors.' Up to this time no election had been held in Dutchess County. This arrangement continued in force until 1719, when the county was divided into three districts or wards, called the middle, northern, and southern wards, with power to choose a supervisor in each. In 1737, these wards were again subdivided into seven precincts, with power to elect a supervisor and town officers in each, and this provision was coupled with the act, 'that the wages of each supervisor shall not exceed three shillings for each day.'"¹ The precinct of Poughkeepsie embraced the territory of the manor of Poughkeepsie, and the Rombout or Fishkill precinct all that part of Rombout manor lying south of Wappinger's Creek.

The following transcripts of parts of the early records of Dutchess County of which there are none extant prior to the year 1718 may serve to enlighten the reader regarding those of the first settlers of Rombout manor who were invested with local offices: "At an Election held in Dutchess County in the South Ward, on the first Tuesday in April, it being the second day of said Month, 1722. These following are chosen for Dutchess County for the South Ward:—John Montross, Constable and Collector; Jacobus Swartwout, Supervisor; Peter Du Boys [Dubois], Assessor; Johannes Ter Boss [Ter Bos], jr., Assessor; Jan De Lange, Overseer of the King's Highway; Jacobus Terbos, Overseer of the Highway; Jan Buys, Surveyor of the fences; Garrit Van Vliet, Surveyor of the fences. Henry Vanderburg, Clerk."²

"The Inhabitants, Residents, and Frecholders of Dutchess County [in the South Ward] are rated and assessed by ye assessors for the same, the 16th day of Jan. Anno. Dom. 1623-4, * * * * John Montross, 14 [pounds];

¹ Historical sketch of the town of Fishkill, from its first settlement. By T. van Wyck Brinckerhoff. Fishkill Landing: Dean & Spaight, publishers. 1866, p. 57.

² Book of old miscellaneous records in the office of the clerk of Dutchess County, p. 1.