

David Ketelhuyn, their brother, was in 1690 a member of Captain Abraham Schuyler's company of provincial militia. As has been related, the descent of the French and allied Indians from Canada upon Schenectady, on the night of the eighth of February, that year, and the consequent massacre of many of its inhabitants and the carrying away of others into captivity, greatly terrified the people of Albany and its vicinity. Aware that the French purposed making a descent upon Albany, the commissioners sent there by acting Lieutenant-Governor Jacob Leisler, and the municipal officers and the justices of the peace of the city and county of Albany, having resolved in convention and ordered, on March 26, Captain Jacobus de Warm to proceed to Crown Point with a small body of militia and Schaghticoke Indians and learn and report any movement southward of French forces and Canadian Indians, the same body of commissioners, municipal officers, and justices of the peace, placed in the hands of Captain Abraham Schuyler the following written instructions:

"You are hereby ordered in his majesty's [King William's] name to take hence forthwith under your command nine men and march with Jannetje or Laurence the Mohawk Indian and his party of savages with some Schagtkooks Indians upward about seven miles beyond the Crown-point unto Otter creek, or some other better place or rendezvous which you may consider more suitable, safer, and more advantageous - where you shall remain and keep good watch day and night, and send out especially good scouts and spies every day till sundown, and you shall correspond daily with Captain Jacobus de Warm and his soldiers who are sent to the aforesaid Crown-point, and mutually communicate to each other all remarkable occurrences, and should you perceive or meet any French Canada Indians, you must endeavor to despoil, plunder and do them all injury as enemies conformably to the custom of war: And the aforesaid nine men are hereby strictly charged to obey their officers in all things.

"And the officers shall in all things advise with the aforesaid Indian Jannetje, as to what concerns his majesty's interest and this undertaken expedition. You shall likewise remain at the aforesaid Otter creek, or at the place you may think fit as above, for the time of one month, except you really and truly perceive the approach of a powerful enemy's force, which you cannot resist, then you must *cito* [speedily] send a messenger hither, and the remainder of your company must return immediately here to the city.

"But if there be any volunteers, either Christians or Indians, who will proceed from the aforesaid Otter kill to Canada as spies to reconnoiter or to take prisoners they have permission so to do, provided the post at the Otter kill or your sojourn shall always remain fully established. Meanwhile you shall manufacture some bark canoes which you can use according to circumstances.