



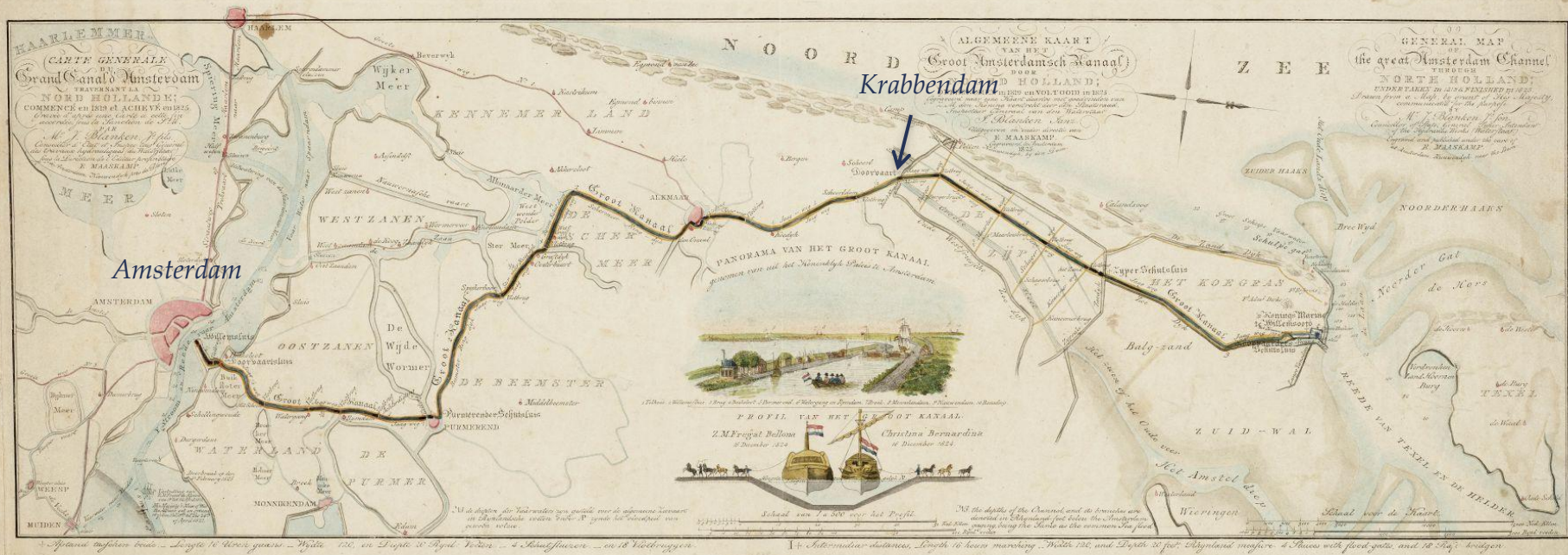
*The journey of Gerrit and
Jannetje Eenigenburg to
America*

Departure



On Monday 16th April 1849 Gerrit en Jannetje set out on their big adventure.

They went on board a Frisian *tjalk* at Krabbendam with their four children and twelve other families.



They sailed over the North Holland Canal, which had been completed in 1824, and formed a direct and fast connection from Den Helder to Amsterdam. They reached Amsterdam in less than a day and continued from there on to Rotterdam.



The harbour of Rotterdam looked like this in 1849. It must have been impressive for the families used to living in the quiet countryside of North Holland. In Rotterdam they boarded a coastal steamer that took them further south to Le Havre in France.



Die Hoffnung.



Concessionirte Deutsche Bureau
für

Auswanderung nach Amerika

J. M. Bielefeld

in
Mannheim

nächst dem Speisemarkte.

Tele. N. 136, H.

in
ROTTERDAM

Steengaten Wijk 1.

Nr. 112.

in
Le Havre

an Landungsplätze der Dampfschiffe,

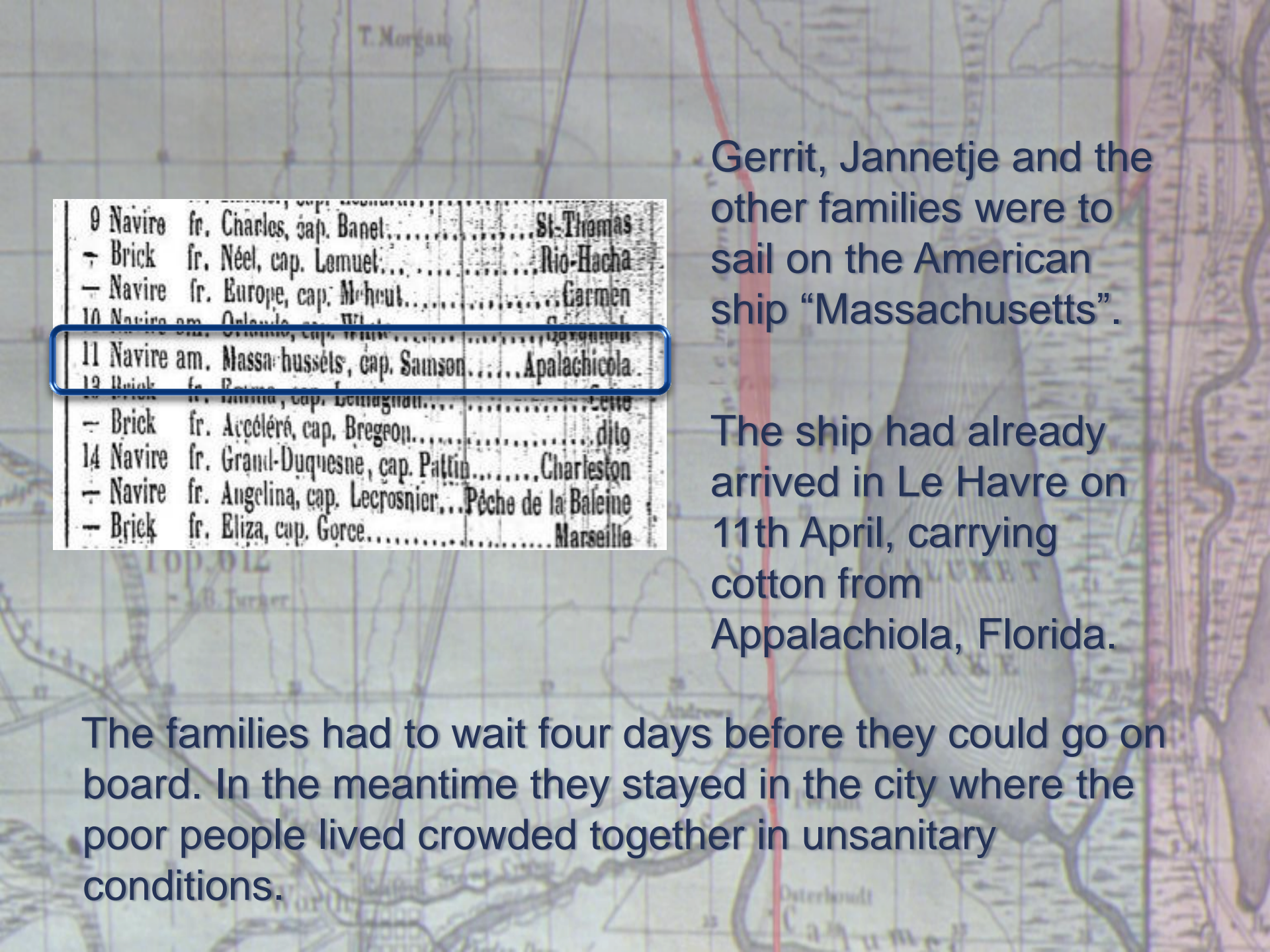
10. Quai des Casernes.

Regelmäßige Fahrt auf Passagierschiffen und geführten Dampfschiffen erster Klasse
von Rotterdam mit Havre nach New-York & New-Orleans.

Le Havre was an important port of departure for emigrants to America. Many Germans also emigrated via Le Havre and specialised emigration agencies such as 'Die Hoffnung' or 'The Hope' provided travel from Germany to Rotterdam, Le Havre and New York. Maybe Gerrit and Jannetje made their journey with an agency like this.

Le Havre.....





9	Navire	fr. Charles, cap. Banet.....	St-Thomas
—	Brick	fr. Néel, cap. Lemuel.....	Rio-Hacha
—	Navire	fr. Europe, cap. Meheut.....	Carmen
10	Navire	am. Orlando, cap. White.....	Santiago
11	Navire	am. Massachusetts, cap. Samson.....	Apalachicola
12	Brick	fr. Batna, cap. Lemagnan.....	Cette
—	Brick	fr. Accéléro, cap. Bregeon.....	dito
14	Navire	fr. Grand-Duquesne, cap. Pallin.....	Charleston
—	Navire	fr. Angelina, cap. Lecrosnier.....	Pêche de la Baleine
—	Brick	fr. Eliza, cap. Gorce.....	Marseille

Gerrit, Jannetje and the other families were to sail on the American ship “Massachusetts”.

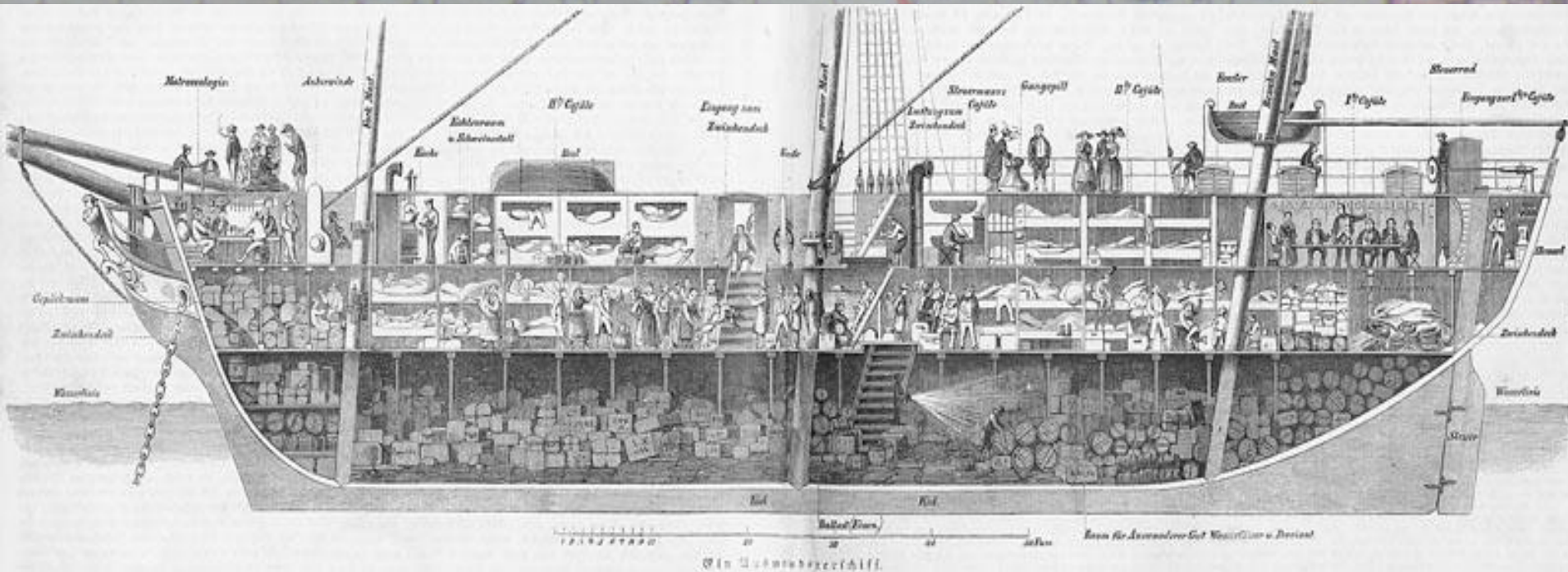
The ship had already arrived in Le Havre on 11th April, carrying cotton from Appalachiola, Florida.

The families had to wait four days before they could go on board. In the meantime they stayed in the city where the poor people lived crowded together in unsanitary conditions.

SORTIES		(25 AVRIL.)	Pour
Ch.-mar.fr.	Aimable-Hyacinthe,	cap. Baudet.....	Swansea
Ch.-mar.fr.	Aimable-Marie,	cap. Hardel.....	Bayonne
Brick fr.	Cassard,	cap. Gréquier.....	Bordeaux
Ch.-mar.fr.	Mançanarès,	cap. Calvé.....	dito
Ch.-mar.fr.	St-Joséph.	cap. Mahé.....	dito
Ch.-mar.fr.	Deux-Sœurs-Unies,	cap. Legohébel.....	dito
Ch.-mar.fr.	Elisa,	cap. Lebot.....	Blaye
Steamer fr.	Colibri,	cap. Douard.....	Cherbourg
		(26 AVRIL.)	
Navire am.	Massachussets,	cap. Samson, expéd.	
	MM. Courteville Wood et Paillette....		New-York
Navire fr.	Duchesse-Anne,	cap. Frenon, expéd.	
	MM. F. de Coninck et comp.....		Batavia
Nav. norw.	Anna,	cap. Pedersen.....	Frederickshald
Brick norw.	Monumentum,	cap. Bergh:	dito
Brick norw.	Gode-Hensight,	cap. Hendricksen.....	Sarpsborg
Steam. ang.	Courier,	cap. Goddrige.....	Southampton
Sloop fr.	Argus,	cap. Paquet.....	Dunkerque
Steamer fr.	Neustrie,	cap. Lefoulon.....	Caen
Steamer fr.	Commerce-de-Paris,	cap. Durand..	Rouen
Chaland fr.	Industrie,	cap. Dieppedalle.....	dito

On 26th April the “Massachusetts” finally set sail for New York with 169 passagiers. Along with the Eenigenburg families there were many other emigrants from Switzerland, Germany and France on board.

A typical emigrant ship



Only the wealthy passengers could go on deck in the fresh air. Other passengers, like our families, travelled below decks in the crowded and dark holds. The women and children slept on benches and the men slept on the floor.



In a galley there was a long iron stove where the women cooked the food they had brought with them. Conditions were unhygienic and illnesses soon broke out.

28 passengers died of Asian cholera, including Gerrit en Jannetje's three youngest children.



On June 8th 1849 the 'Massachusetts' arrived in New York, after 42 days at sea.



VIEW OF THE NEW YORK QUARANTINE, STATEN ISLAND.

CHOLERA!

Published by order of the Sanatory Committee, under the sanction of the Medical Counsel.

BE TEMPERATE IN EATING & DRINKING!

Avoid Raw Vegetables and Unripe Fruit !.

Abstain from COLD WATER, when heated, and above all from *Ardent Spirits*, and if habit have rendered them indispensable, take much less than usual.

SLEEP AND CLOTHE WARM !

DO NOT SLEEP OR SIT IN A DRAUGHT OF AIR,

Avoid getting Wet !

Attend immediately to all disorders of the Bowels.

TAKE NO MEDICINE WITHOUT ADVICE.

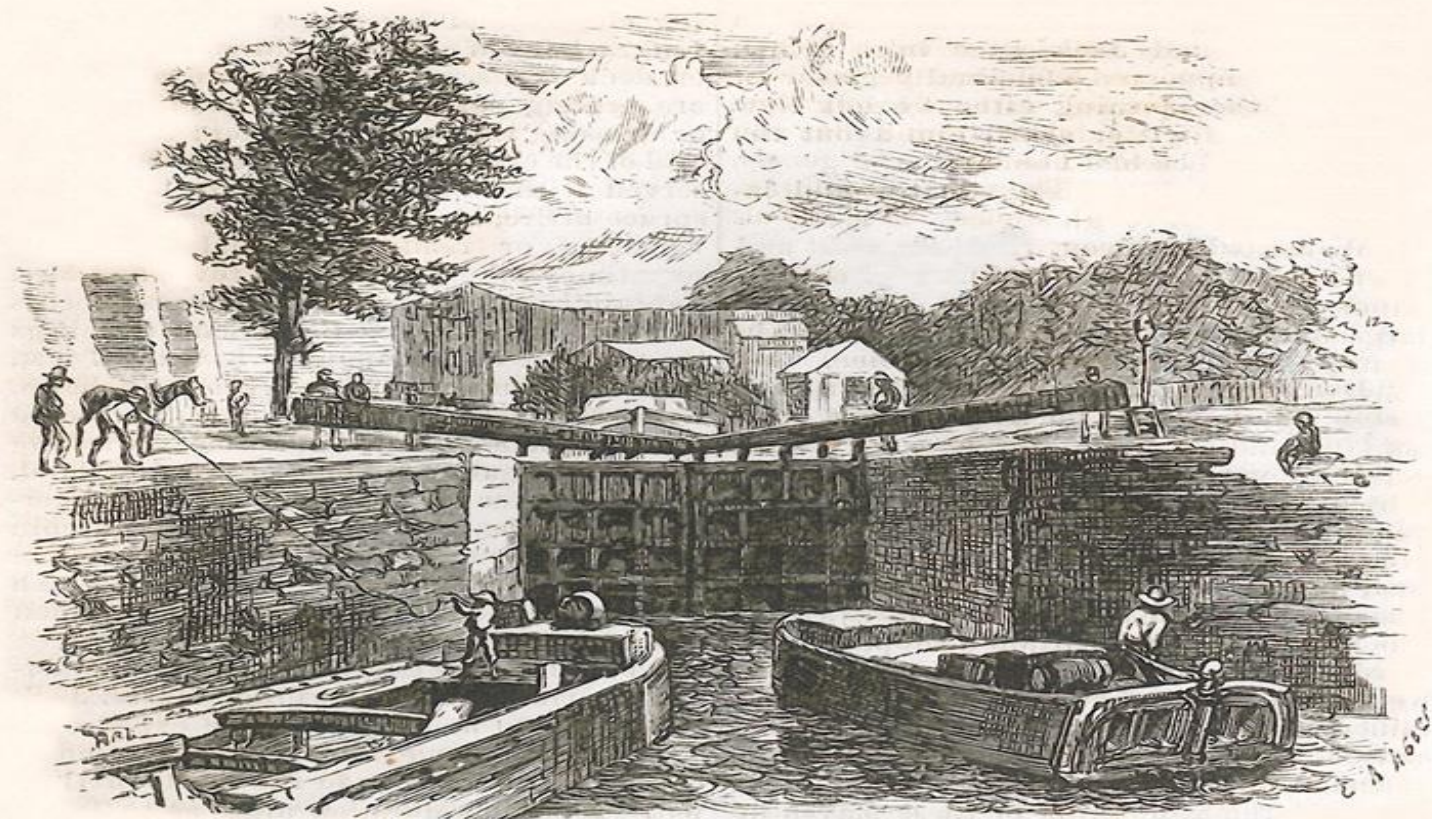
Medicine and Medical Advice can be had by the poor, at all hours of the day and night, by applying at the Station House in each Ward.

CALEB S. WOODHULL, *Mayor*
JAMES KELLY, *Chairman of Sanatory Committee.*

Sick passengers were not directly admitted on arrival but were placed in quarantine. Jannetje and her only surviving daughter Trijntje, had to stay in New York in quarantine, whilst the other families continued their journey. Jannetje and Trijntje recovered and six weeks later Gerrit and his family could leave New York to rejoin the others.

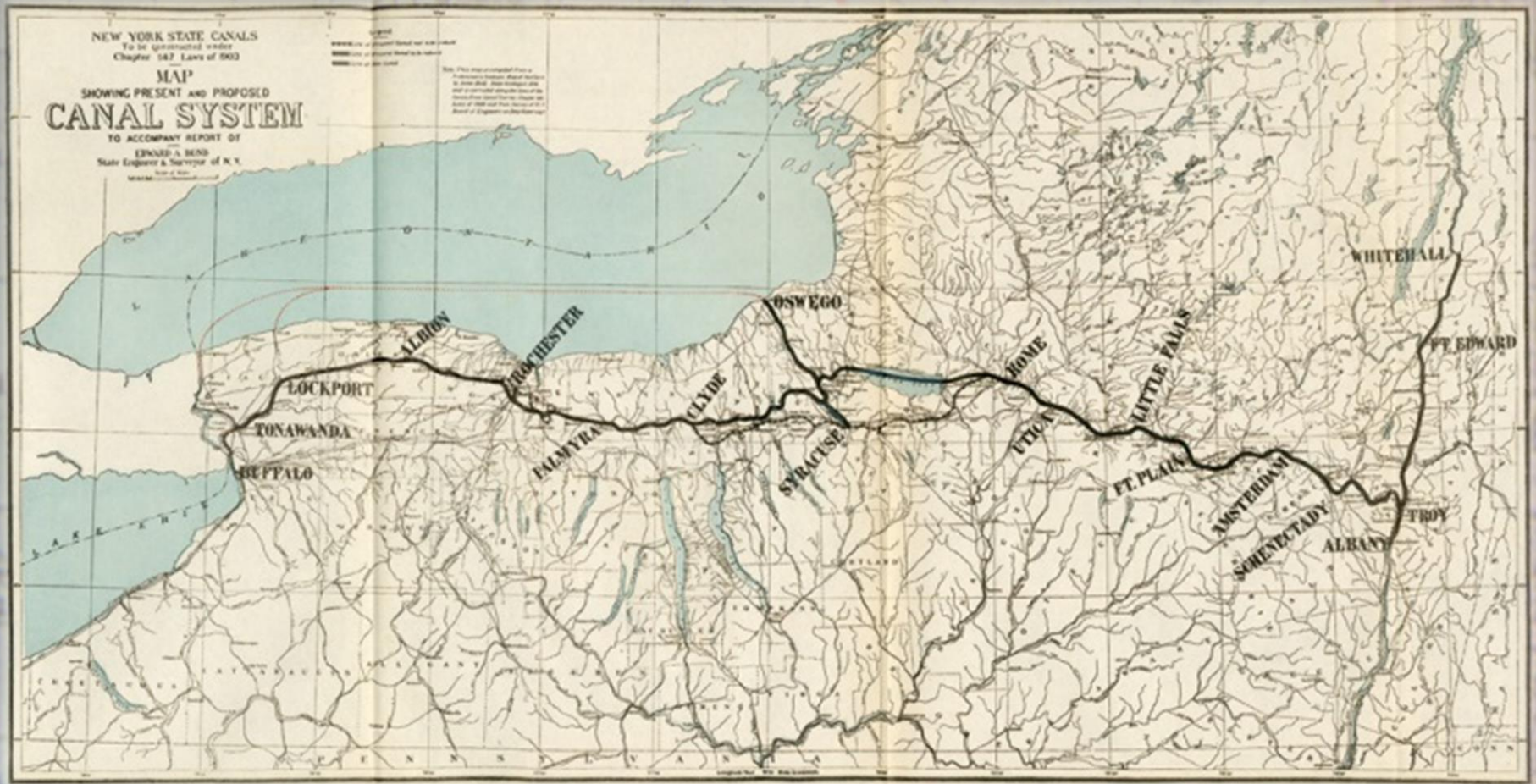


In the meantime the other families had travelled ahead. From New York they took a paddle steamer and travelled north up the Hudson River to Troy.

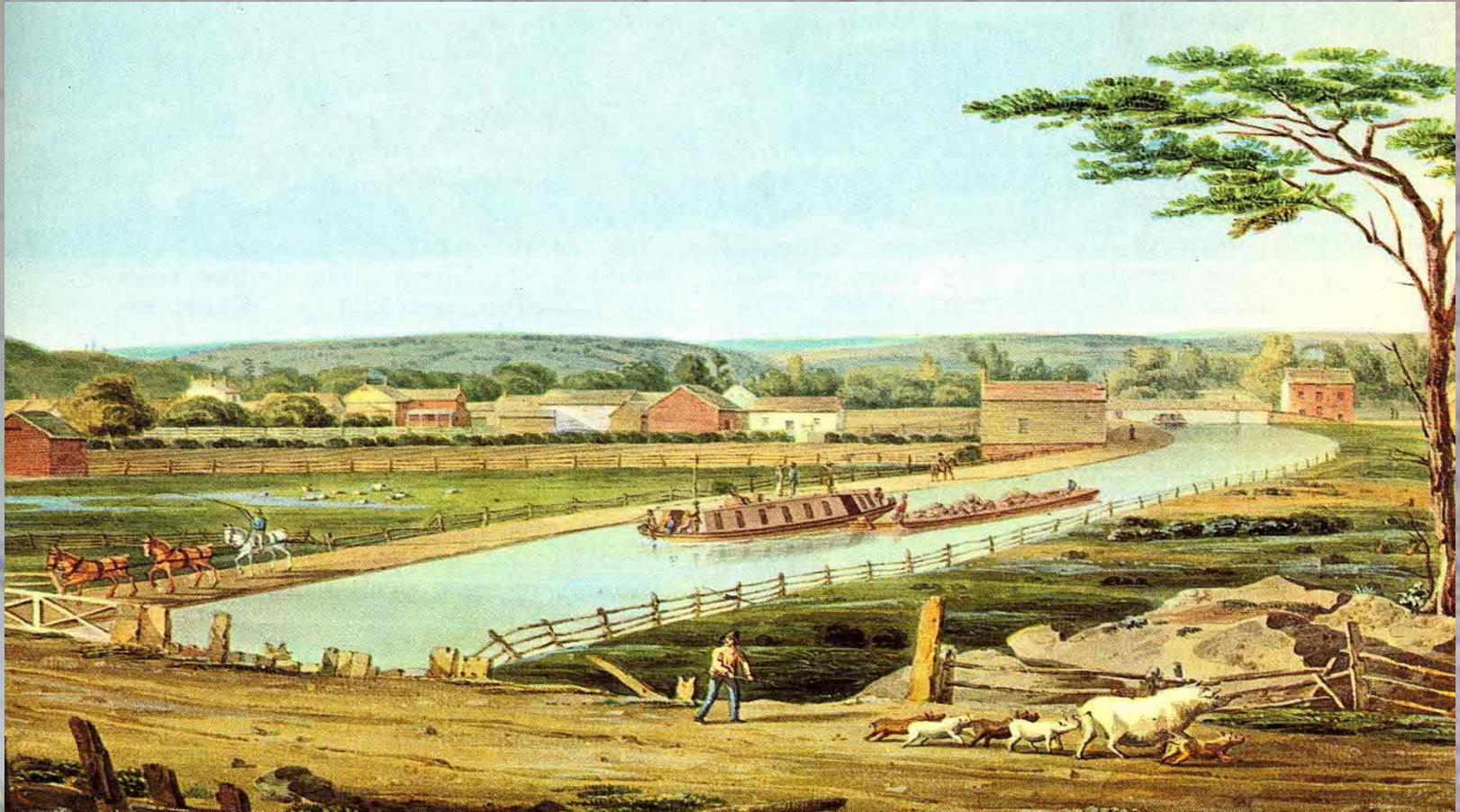


ENTRANCE TO THE ERIE CANAL AT TROY.

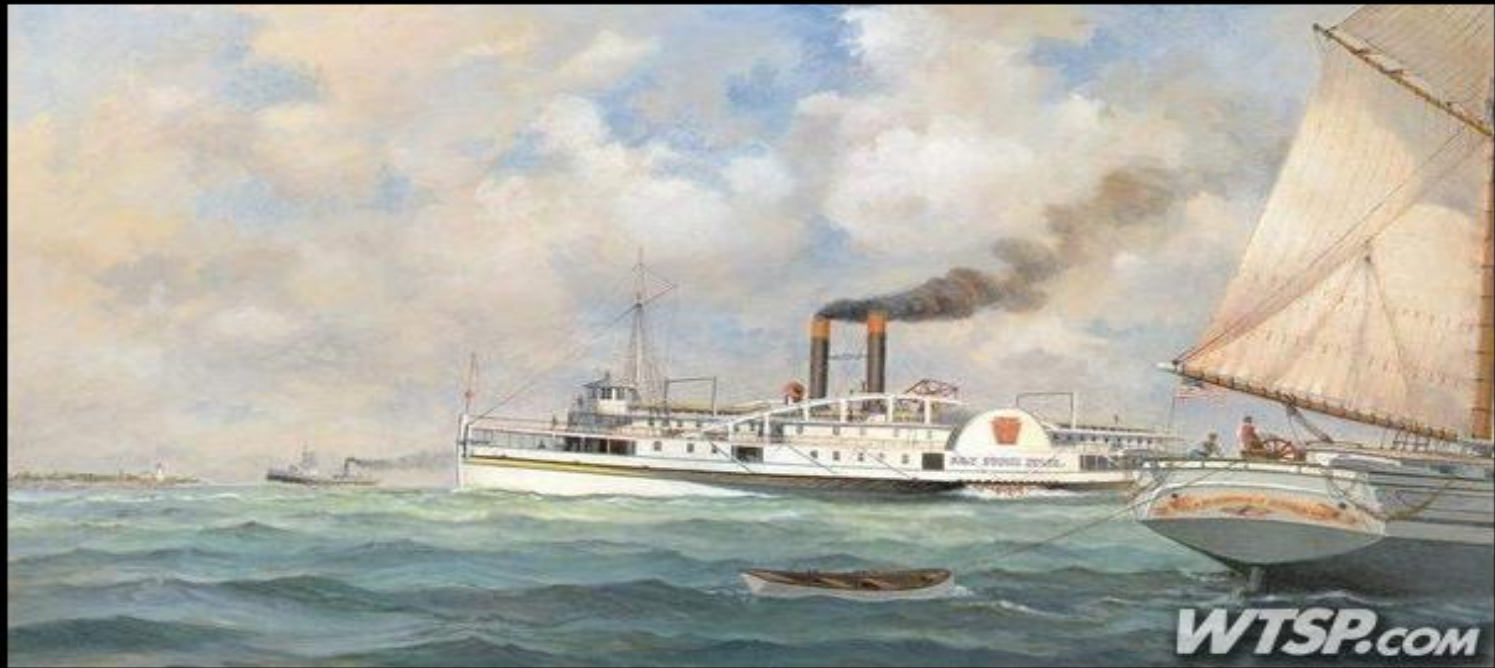
In Troy the families got on to a canal barge that would take them to Buffalo over the Erie Canal.



The Erie Canal had been opened in 1825 and formed an important connection between New York and cities in the Mid-West such as Chicago and Detroit.



The canal barges were drawn by horses just as they were in the Netherlands.



In Buffalo the travellers changed boats for the last time. This time they boarded the paddle steamer “The Keystone State” that took them over the Great Lakes to Chicago.



CHICAGO HARBOR, 1849

68 days after their departure from Krabbendam they reached Chicago. At last the families could start their new life in America!

R T H

Based on:

Marie K. Rowlands: Down an Indian Trail, 1949

With thanks to:

Scheepvaartmuseum Amsterdam (Diederick Wildeman)