

Table of contents

Acknowledgments	3
List of illustrations	4
Foreword	10
<i>Westerlo and a culture of change in New York State</i>	
as a research topic	10
The function of the appendices	11
The methods used	11
Chapter 1. Introduction	13
The situation in the colony and state of New York	
in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	13
The arrival of Westerlo in North America	16
Chapter 2. Living a religious life in the eighteenth century	21
Introduction	21
The formative years: October 1738 – September 1760	22
The <i>Coetus-Conferentie</i> controversy	31
Finding his place in the New World:	
September 1760 – July 1775	37
The War years, 1775-1783	49
The final years: rebuilding the Church, 1783-1790	52
What became of the name <i>Westerlo</i> in America?	55
Conclusion	57
Chapter 3. April 20, 1768: rebirth	59
Introduction	59
Pietism and regeneration in the eighteenth century	60
Regeneration	60
Converting people to Christianity	62
Other regeneration conversions	62
Theodorus Jacobus Frelinghuysen	67
George Whitefield	70
John Henry Livingston	73
Eilardus Westerlo's conversion experience	76
Thomas Boston and his <i>Human Nature</i>	84
<i>Human Nature in Its Fourfold State</i>	85
Conclusion	87

Chapter 4. A Pietist with Dutch and German intellectual origins	88
Introduction	88
Pietism in Eighteenth-Century Europe	90
The Pietist Westerlo	92
<i>Experiential</i>	92
<i>Perfectionistic</i>	93
<i>Biblical</i>	98
<i>Oppositive</i>	98
Westerlo and his <i>Memoirs</i>	99
The difficulties of identifying Pietists	100
Verschuir and Westerlo's Pietism	101
Van Lodenstein	101
Doubts about eighteenth-century Pietists	101
Westerlo on the piety of Gerdes and Bertling	102
Westerlo's Pietistic upbringing	103
Cocceian-Voetian controversy	104
Daniel Gerdes as Westerlo's mentor	107
Did Westerlo manifest himself as a Cocceian or a Voetian?	112
Conclusion	115
Chapter 5. Westerlo's role in the adaptation of the Church Order of Dort to the circumstances in North America	116
Introduction	116
The issues decided in Dordrecht in 1618/1619	116
<i>The theological issue</i>	116
<i>The political issue</i>	117
The Church Order established in Dordrecht in 1619	119
Westerlo's learning about the Synod of Dort	120
1. Assisting Hermanus Meijer in his conflict with his consistory in Kingston	120
2. Joining the Union of the Churches in New York and New Jersey	121
<i>Correspondence</i>	123
<i>Westerlo's January 5, 1774 letter to his congregation</i>	124
<i>Memoirs</i>	126
3. Settling an argument in The Boght	127
4. Approval for the translation of one of his great-uncle's books	128
The Church Order of Dort as basis for the North American Reformed Church	128
"All are one in Christ"	135
Westerlo's attitude towards slavery	138
Conclusion	140

Chapter 6. Evidences of Westerlo’s religious creed	141
Introduction	141
Alberthoma’s <i>Uittreksel van de Leere der Waarheid</i>	141
The <i>Memoirs</i>	147
Correspondence	149
The Church Records of the Albany consistory	152
A Frelinghuysen connection	154
Westerlo and the Frelinghuysens	161
A possible explanation	163
Common ground between Frelinghuysen and Westerlo	164
Collaboration with the Presbyterians	164
Converting others	169
<i>Psalm 25</i>	171
Family connections	172
Conclusion	173
Chapter 7. John Henry Livingston: father of the Reformed Church in America?	174
Introduction	174
The situation of the Dutch Reformed Church in America in the 1760s	175
John Henry’s path to the ministry	177
Eilardus and John Henry	180
John Henry Livingston and the <i>Plan of Union</i>	181
Why did Livingston bring the <i>Plan of Union</i> to America?	182
The <i>Plan</i> of 1768	184
Justification for naming Livingston “father of the Reformed Church in America”	187
Nineteenth-century view of the struggles of the Dutch Reformed Church	195
Conclusion	196
Chapter 8. Westerlo’s sermon of June 27, 1782	197
Introduction	197
The political context	197
Westerlo’s inspiration	200
The importance of the sermon	206
Westerlo’s sermon compared with sermons by Lampe and Gerdes	210
The structure of the June 27, 1782 sermon	212
Washington’s <i>Circular Letter</i> of June 1783	215
Westerlo and Washington	218
Romans 13:1	220
Conclusion	221

Chapter 9. Conclusion	222
Westerlo in fiction	223
Westerlo's tenure in Albany	226
Westerlo in a changing world	229
Bibliography	231
Samenvatting	274
Index of Names	280

Appendices	
Introduction	2
Appendix 1: <i>Memoirs of Eilardus Westerlo</i>	5
Appendix 2: Books in Westerlo's collection	239
Appendix 3: Manuscript sources	287
Appendix 4: Eilardus Westerlo's will of September 1, 1775; genealogy drawn up before May 6, 1776	293
Appendix 5: The <i>Remonstrance</i> of September 17, 1773, and Westerlo's <i>Preface</i> and <i>Addendum</i> to it	298
Appendix 6: Letter by Eilardus Westerlo to his Congregation, January 5, 1774	315
Appendix 7: Employment situation of Dutch Reformed Churches in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, in 1760; Dutch Reformed Churches in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, first organized between 1760-1800	328
Appendix 8: Partial Livingston family tree	340
Appendix 9: Index of Scripture mentioned in Westerlo's <i>Memoirs</i>	344
Appendix 10: Eilardus Westerlo's June 27, 1782 Sermon, with General George Washington in attendance, in Albany, NY	353