

= The Little Hero of Holland =

The Little Hero of Holland is a 1910 American silent short drama produced by the Thanhouser Company . It is an adaptation of the short fictional story popularized in Hans Brinker , or The Silver Skates , about a boy who plugs a leaking dike with his finger to prevent it from bursting . The role of the boy was played by Marie Eline , but little else is known about the production and cast of the film . The director may have been Barry O 'Neil and the writer may have been Lloyd Lonergan . Parts of the film were shot on Glen Park Island in New Rochelle , New York . The film was released on June 17 , 1910 and saw a wide release , including the United Kingdom . The film is presumed lost .

= = Plot = =

Though the film is presumed lost , a synopsis of the film was published in The Moving Picture World on June 18 , 1910 . It states : " Hans is a little Dutch boy , the son of a poor fisherman . He , like all children of Holland , is early impressed with the fact that the safety of the whole community depends on the strength of the dike . He is sent upon an errand to his aunt late one evening . Walking along the foot of the dike , he discovers a tiny hole , through which the water is pouring . Realizing that if left to flow through even this small aperture , the water would soon break down the dike and flood the village , he sticks his tiny finger in the hole , and waits for someone to come to his assistance . Night comes on . His family decided he has stayed with his aunt , and do not worry about him . In the morning he is found almost unconscious from fatigue and exposure , by his little sister who has been searching for him . She runs back and notifies the villagers , who come to his assistance , repair the dike , and carry the little hero back to the village in triumph . He is received by the burgomaster and praised by the minister . By his night 's heroism he has made himself a place in history , and will always be known as ' the little hero of Holland . ' "

= = Production = =

The writer of the scenario is unknown , but it was most likely Lloyd Lonergan . Lonergan was an experienced newspaperman employed by The New York Evening World while writing scripts for the Thanhouser productions . He was the most important script writer for Thanhouser , averaging 200 scripts a year from 1910 to 1915 . The film was an adaptation of the fictional story that was popularized in Hans Brinker , or The Silver Skates . The name of the boy , Hans , may be a reference to the erroneous association to unnamed character in the book . The film director is unknown , but it may have been Barry O 'Neil . Film historian Q. David Bowers does not attribute a cameraman for this production , but two possible candidates exist . Blair Smith was the first cameraman of the Thanhouser company , but he was soon joined by Carl Louis Gregory who had years of experience as a still and motion picture photographer . The role of the cameraman was uncredited in 1910 productions . Many of the scenes for the film were shot at Glen Park in New Rochelle , New York .

Only Marie Eline 's credit as Hans , the young boy , is credited . Eline had previously played an Italian boy in The Two Roses . The other members cast may have included the leading players of the Thanhouser productions , Anna Rosemond and Frank H. Crane . Rosemond was one of two leading ladies for the first year of the company . Crane was also involved in the very beginnings of the Thanhouser Company and acted in numerous productions before becoming a director at Thanhouser .

= = Release = =

The single reel drama , approximate 650 feet long , was released on June 17 , 1910 . Some trade publications list the length of the film as 1000 feet though . The United Kingdom release of the film may have had the name of the hero changed to Peter . A synopsis in The Bioscope on October 27 , 1910 refers to the hero by the name Peter . This alternative name for the hero of the story can be

found in the 1910 publication of Reader 1st @-@ 4th by D. Appleton and Company . A review in The Moving Picture World was neutral because it lacked specific praise or criticism of the production . The film had a wide release , advertisements for the showing in theaters include those in Pennsylvania , Oklahoma , Indiana , and Missouri . The film is presumed lost .