

unexpectedly profess to be good Royalists; as to the conditions, they can only be the general ones imposed upon all our inhabitants and on which they are admitted.

\* \* \* \* \*

We have been pleased to receive the map of the City of *New Amsterdam*: we noticed, that according to our opinion too great spaces are as yet without buildings, as for instance between *Smee Street*\* and *Princes Gracht* † or between *Prince Street* † and *Tuyn Street*, ‡ also between *Heeren Street* § and *Beyers Gracht*, ¶ where the houses apparently are surrounded by excessively large lots and gardens; perhaps with the intention of cutting streets through them, when the population increases, although if standing closer together, a defense might be easier. We leave this to your consideration and care.

\* \* \* \* \*

As D<sup>r</sup> *Selyns* has asked us, to send a good bell for the church at *Brooklyn*, which could be used to call together the country people in times of distress, we have resolved to send it if possible with this ship, also another for the *Esopus*, that they may use them on proper occasions.

The agreement, made by us with the executor and co-heirs of the late *Baron Frederick van der Capelle tho Ryssel*, concerning his pretended claim upon *Staten Island* and its dependencies, is here enclosed for your information. You are now directed and authorized, to receive, demand and have properly conveyed to you such rights, houses, buildings, implements, cattle and other things, as the said *Baron van der Capelle tho Ryssel* may have had or laid claim to on the said island, and to take immediate possession of it, that nothing of the property may be carried off to the detriment of the Company. You may believe, we would not have been so liberal in this matter, if the executor and the other heirs had not been perfectly willing to take in payment outstanding accounts against the Province of *Guelderland*.

\* \* \* \* \*

Herewith &c &c  
*Amsterdam*,  
the 24<sup>th</sup> of December 1660.

Your good friend  
The Directors of the W. I. Company  
Department of *Amsterdam*  
ABR. WILMERDONK.  
JACOB PERGENS M. P.

To the Director-General and Council of *New Netherland*.

COUNCIL MINUTE. PROCEEDINGS AGAINST QUAKERS AT JAMAICA, L. I. LAND AT FLATBUSH.

Anno 1661. In the name of the Lord, Amen. ¶

Whereas some inhabitants of *Rustdorp* have urgently requested that one of the clergymen of this City come over some day, to preach and baptize several children; and whereas his Honor, the Director-General, has been informed by letters from said village and from *Vlissingen* and *Middelborgh*, that members of the sect, called *Quakers*, have uncommonly free access to the house of one *Henry Tounsen* of said village, who was therefore arrested a few days ago,

\* *William Street*.  
† *Broad Street* above *Exchange Place*.  
‡ *Exchange Place* between *Broadway* and *Broad Street*.  
§ *Broadway*.  
¶ *Beaver Street*.  
¶ First entry in the Council Minutes for 1661.

Domine *Samuel Driesius* and the Under Schout were to-day sent there with the following letter, to obtain better information about it :

Lovinge Friends

Vppon petition of sum of yow beeing desirous that theyre Children might be Baptysed, we have sent one of our Ministers, to witt: Mr. *Samuel Driesius* & Whereas we Credibly were informed that jf the quaeckers and other Sects contra to Order & Law private Conventickles had been kept, We have sent our substitute Scholt and one of our Clercques for to tacke notice of it—Requiringe & Orderinge you by these presents that you shall give vnto them, an Exact account & true Information ware in wath house, such vnlawful conventicles ware kept, and wath persons therein had Exercysed, wath persons—men, or womman there had beene present—& which person the meetinge did call, and further of all Circumstances belonginge to it. So after my Love I shal Rest.

*Amsterdam* in the *New Netherland* this 8<sup>th</sup> off  
January A° 1661.

Your lovinge friend & Governour

D° *Driesius*, *Resolveert Waldron*, the Provost and *Nicolaes Bayard*, Clerk, proceeded pursuant to the foregoing letter to *Rustdorp*, last Saturday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of January, where they arrived in the evening. D° *Driesius* preached twice the next day and baptized eight children and two aged women. The Under Schout had meanwhile been informed, that a meeting of Quakers was being held at *Gravesend*, and in company of *Nicolaes Bayard* went there early on Monday morning, but the Quaker had escaped. They returned to this place in the evening, bringing with them the Quaker's cloak and *Sam Spycer*, because he with several others had not only followed and listened to the Quaker in several conventicles, but also entertained him in his mother's house. They further brought the following notice and the list of persons who were present at the Quaker meeting :

Notition of the Names that have been jn the meeting of the quaecker, named *N. N.* jn the house of *Henry Townsen* given vp to vs by Mr. *Ritchard Everett* & *Nathaniell Denton* :

1 *Henry Townsen* hath beene a warninge the People from doore to doore or they would nott come to his house for their was a learned man.

1 *Sam Spicer*  
1 *Goedie Tilton* } of *Gravesande*.  
1 *Sam Andries*.  
1 *Ritchard Harcker*.

2 *Samuel Deen* & his wife.  
2 *John Townson* & his wife.  
1 *Ritchard Brittnell*.  
1 *Richard Chasmoor*.

persons 11

Thus Testified in the Presence of *Resolveert Waldron* in the house of *Ritchard Everett* att *Rustdorp* this 9<sup>th</sup> Jannuary A° 1661. was underwritten.

Nota: The name of the Quaker above mentioned is *George Wilson*.

RITCHARD EVERETT.  
NATHANIELL DENTON.

January 13<sup>th</sup>, Thursday.

Present his Honor, the Director-General *Petrus Stuyvesant*, and the Councillors *Nicasius de Sille* and *Johan de Deckere*.

To their Honors, the Director-General and Council of *New Netherland*.

Show with due reverence the Schout and Schepens of the village of *Midwout*: your Honors

have been pleased to give your verbal consent to the people of said village of *Midwout*, that they might mow every year a certain piece of meadowland near the *Canarisse*, to supply themselves with fodder for their cattle, which, praised be God, number now many heads; the inhabitants of this village have done so for some years past without being prevented, but your petitioners bear in mind, that suddenly somebody else might lay claim to these meadows, which, if it happened would tend not only to the decrease and disadvantage of the said village, but also to the complete ruin and destruction of the same and its inhabitants, who are engaged there in tilling the soil and have made considerable improvements; for besides the said meadows they have already not enough land to make hay for their present number of cattle, which is increasing daily. To prevent such a calamity, your petitioners feel bound by their official duty, to submit the matter to your Honors and respectfully to request, that your Honors may pass a written document, confirming to the said village the aforementioned meadowland between the *Fresh kil* and the *Canarisse*, stretching S. S. E. from the sea to the woods, as it has been mowed by the inhabitants for some years past, as your Honors have granted them to the village of *New Utrecht* and other places. Which doing, etc.

Your Honors' willing subjects  
and servants  
The Schout and Schepens of  
the said village.

By their order,                      ADRIAN HEGEMAN.

The foregoing petition was received and read. Upon a vote being had it was decreed:

The Director-General and Council affirm their former consent and allotment of the meadow mentioned herein; the petitioners may have it surveyed by the sworn Surveyor, which done, they shall receive a properly executed document. Date as above

*Nicasius de Sille*, ex-officio Plaintiff against *Henry Townsend* and *Sam Spicer*, prisoners.

The plaintiff asserts and proves by trustworthy witnesses, that *Henry Townsend* has not only lodged Quakers, but also informed his neighbors and others, that a Quaker was at his house and asked them, to come and hear him. He has admitted, that the Quaker preached at his, *Townsend's*, house in his presence and that the said *Sam Spicer* was present at the meeting of the Quakers not only in *Rustdorp*, but also at *Gravesend* and that he lodged them in his mother's house, contrary to the placat, published against conventicles and separate gatherings. The plaintiff therefore, demands, that the prisoners be condemned to a fine of 600 fl each, conform to the placat.\* The defendants were asked, whether they acknowledged, what the Fiscal charges against them, and answered that they would not criminate themselves, but the charge had to be proved. The Fiscal having done it, they brought forward many frivolous excuses; that they had only called on their friends, that no law forbade friends to meet each other, etc. As they gave no pertinent answer, the Fiscal was directed to give them a copy of his charge and demand for sentence, to which they are to give answer on the next court day. They were then taken back to their confinement. Date as above.†

Loovinge Friend.

Whereas the Experiency from tyme to tyme to our great displeasure & Contempt hath

\* This "Ordinance against Conventicles" was passed Feb. 1, 1656. See Laws of *New Netherland*, p. 211 and Dr. *E. B. O'Callaghan's* note following it.—B. F.

† A few days later *Henry Townsend* was condemned to a fine of 25 pounds *Flemish*, and *Sam Spicer* to pay 12 pounds. *John Tilton* of *Gravesend* and *John Townsend* of *Jamaica* were banished, and Mrs. *Micah Spicer*, *Sam's* mother, was acquitted upon her assertion, that she did not know *Geo. Wilson* as a Quaker.

shewed vs that our act & Orders, set forth against all the separate Conventicles were not kept and observed, according to the tennor of our good Intentions, Especially among you in the Towne of *Rustdorp*, moore that some in whom we had put trust & authority doth Connive with the Sect called quaeckers, giving Entertainment vnto their Scatteringe preachers, leave and way vnto their vnlawful meetings and prohibited Conventicles; all which doeings tending to the Subversion of good Lawes Orders and of the protestant Religion, and Contempt of our Authority, for the Maintenance whereof we are necessitated to put such persons, in the Roome of others amongst you as wee hope and are perswaded that will for the good of the Country and protestant Cause, (See our acts and Orders better kept and observed videlicet) & by name *Ritchard Everitt*, *Nathaniel Denton* & *Andrew Messenger*, which persons as ordeyned and lawfule Magistrates yow all shall give due Respects and obedience, and Lykewise all assistance and helpe Vppon their command in the Maintaining of our aforementioned Orders, sett forth against all private & vnlawful Conventicles, for the better helpe & maintenance of the premises and for hindering all prohibited Conventicles soo in the Town of *Rustdorp* as others there about If need and occasion should Require, Wee have also sent halfe a dossyn of our Souldiers, whitch you are to furnish with Convenient Lodgeinge and diet vntill further order, So after our love we rest.

*Amsterdam* in the  
*New Netherlands* this 24<sup>th</sup> of

Your Lovinge Friend & Gouvernour

P. STUYVESANT.

January A° 1661.

Wee whose names are vnderwritten doe by these presents promise & engage that iff any meetings or Conventicles off quakers shall bee in the town off *Rustdorp*, that wee know, we shall give information to y° authority set up in place by the Gouvernour & alsoe assist y° authority off y° town against any such person or persons called quakers as need shall require. witness our hands this eleventh off february A° 1661 stylo novo

*Thomas T† foster*

*Luke Wattson*

*Sameuall Smith*

*Rodger † Linas*

*Richard R. Chasmore*

*John ~ Rhodes*

*Henry Stores*

*Morace Smith*

*Richard Everitt*

*Nathaniell Denton*

*Andrew Messenger*

his ~ mark

*Abraham Smith*

his *N* mark

*Samuell Mathews*

*Robert Coe*

*Beniamin Coe*

his *S* mark

*William S Horton*

*George M Mills*

*Thomas T Wiggins*

Written by *Daniell Denton*, Clarck.

Right Worshipfull.

These presents are to sertefy your honoure that acordeing to your derrections we have proseded and called the Towne together and propownded unto them acordeing as you may se written and desired them to set to their hands: and accordingly as they was willing they dide subscribe as you

may se in the Inclosed which are more in number than we dide expect but the course that your honoure has taken to prevent such meetings of quakers amongst us hath formerly bene we judge has caused many to doe that which otherwise they would not have done: yet notwithstanding there are many that have not subscribed whose names if your honoure desire to know we shall send them downe at your request: soe akcowneting ourselvse much obliged to your honoure for your diligent care taken for the preventing of the quakers for haveing any interment or liberty to divulge there herises amongst us we humbly crave that your honoure would be pleased to take into consideration our conditions that have kept your souldiers all this time that we may not suffer for other mens selfe wildnes and if your honoure sese cause that your souldiers shall stay any longer amongst us we humbly intreate you that you would send order that they might be pleased elsewhere and if you se cause to send for them home if there be anything that your honoure sese cause to require of us to doe in the plases you hade set us we shall indeavour to doe according to your derections with appreciation of all hapines to your honoure we humbly take our leave and shall remaine your loyall subjections to our power.

february the 11<sup>th</sup> Anno 1661.

RICHARD EVERITT  
NATHANIELL DENTON.

Upon better consideration we have set down the names of those that would not subscribe.

*John Townsend, Richarde Harkar, Samuelle Deine, Samuelle Andrewse, Benjamin Hubbarde, Nathaniell Cole.*

Lovinge friends.

By the Bearers Wee have Received your Letter & alsoo the Engagement of the most part of the Inhabitants for to oppose and to hinder the vnlawfull Conventicles of the quaekers and all other prohibited meetings, wee hope the performancy thereof and according to former petition, we free by these presents the Subscrators of the Souldiers provided that they vntil further order, shall be lodged & furnished with decent meete & vittells, by those that still our acts & orders does oppose, Orderinge by these presents the Magistrates to see these put in Execution so after my love I Rest

*Amsterdam in N. Netherland*  
this 15<sup>th</sup> of Febr<sup>v</sup> A° 1661.

Your lovinge Friend & Governour.

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PATENT FOR LAND IN FLATLAND, L. I.

*Petrus Stuyvesant &c &c* have given and granted to *Roeloff Martensen* a parcel of land, situate near the village of *Amesfoort* on *Long Island*, bounded on the northeast side by the land of *Jan Martensen* 170 rods in length, the southwest side measuring 200 rods, the southeast side 90 rods and the northwest side 60 rods, containing 23 morgens 75 rods: with the expresse condition &c

*Fort Amsterdam in New Netherland*, the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 1661.