New York Colonial Tracts.

Number III.

Voyages of the Slavers St. John and Arms of Amsterdam.
VOYAGES
OF THE SLAVERS
St. John and Arms of Amsterdam, 1659, 1663;
TOGETHER WITH
Additional Papers illustrative of the Slave Trade under the Dutch.
TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS,
WITH AN
Introduction and Index,
By E. B. O'CALLAGHAN.

ALBANY, N. Y.,
J. MUNSELL, 82 STATE ST.
1867.
No.

Edition, 100 Copies.
INTRODUCTION.

In THE Tract now published, we have collected and translated the Papers in the Secretary of State's Office, illustrative of Slavery and the Slave Trade under the Dutch. As the Documents are authentic, they furnish reliable Material for a Chapter in the early History of our State at present unwritten, and hitherto but partially known.
Introduction.

To the Dutch undoubtedly belongs the questionable Distinction of having introduced Negro Slavery into the Colonies, now the United States of America. "About the last of August" (1619), says John Rolfe, the celebrated Husband of Pocahontas, writing from Virginia, "came in a Dutch man of warre, that fold vs twenty Negars."* Oldmixon refers to the same Event, but leaves

*This Event is generally stated to have occurred in 1620; but a careful Perusal of Smith shows that it took place in 1619. Mr. Bancroft, Hist. U. S., 1st Ed., I, 189, quotes Beverley as the original Authority for this Fact. Beverley only copied Capt. Smith, without acknowledging the Source of his Information; of which Circumstance Mr. Bancroft does not appear to have been aware.
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the Impression that the Vessel was a Merchantman. "The Merchant
fold 20 Negroes, which were the first
Slaves that were brought thither (to Virginia) from Guinea."

At this Period a Class of Adventurers, called "Guinea Traders,"
reverted to Africa; another Class, called "Virginia Traders," reverted
to America. One or other of these, it is supposed, landed the above
mentioned Negroes.

In 1621, all the Dutch private Companies trading to Africa and
America were merged into one—the celebrated West India Com-
company—which, by Virtue of its Charter, raised Troops, fitted out Men-of-War, and made other Preparations for entering the Field against Spain. This Power had, at that time, the almost entire Control of the Trade of Africa, from which Country it imported into Brazil, during the four Years ending 1623, Fifteen thousand, four hundred and thirty Blacks, to work its Sugar Plantations.

In 1623, the West India Company commenced Hostilities, which it continued with considerable Vigor for several Years. At first, how-

*De Laet, Jaer-lyk Verhael, 192.*
ever, it placed no Value on the Negroes it captured from the Spaniards; for in 1624, Admiral Van Dort having overhauled, off the Coast of Brazil, a Spanish Vessel carrying Blacks from Angola to Bahia, took the Skipper and let the Ship and Blacks go, "not knowing," frankly confesses De Laet, "how useful and profitable they could be to them." Again, in 1627, the Dutch having overcome a Portuguese Ship, coming from Angola to Pernambuco with 600 Blacks on board, they derived no Advantage from the Capture, as 121.
those of Pernambuco refused to ransom the Negroes, some of whom were landed afterwards, with the Portuguese, at Fayal. And so late as 1631, two Ships from Angola with 850 Negroes, having been captured off Hispaniola and Sta. Martha, the Dutch Commanders not knowing what to do with the Blacks, let them and the Ships go.

It will be seen by the above Résumé, that the West India Company having been absorbed in its Operations against the Spaniards, did not, for some Years after it
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first came into Existence, place much Value on the Slave Trade; and, as a Consequence, Slavery was not greatly fostered or encouraged in New Netherland.

It was not until the Dutch had reduced Pernambuco and other Parts of Brazil, and taken Curacao, that they began to derive any Profit from the Capture of Slaves. In October, 1636, the Soutbergh took a Ship from Angola with 230 Negroes, which were sold shortly afterwards at the Reciff for 30,000 Guilders. A couple of Months later, another Lot of captured Afri-
cans, 340 in Number, was sold by public Auction at the same Place, and brought 67,000 Guilders. Between the Years 1623 and 1636, the Dutch captured from the Spaniards Two thousand, three hundred and fifty-six Negroes, whose estimated Value was 589,000 Guilders. Finally, in 1641, they reduced Loando St. Paulo in Africa; and thus, with this Slave Hive on the one Side, and Brazil and Curazao for Slave Markets on the other, they obtained complete Control of the Slave Trade. The Ships of the West India Company now sailed direct from Holland to
Introduction.

Angola with Articles of Commerce; got Slaves in Exchange, which they carried to Brazil, and returned to Holland with Sugar and other Produce of that Country.

We now propose to trace the Introduction of Slavery into New Netherland.

In 1625 or 1626, six or seven Years after the Dutch had discharged the small Lot of Slaves in Virginia, the first Negroes were brought to Manhattan. Among them were Paul d’Angola, Simon Congo, Anthony Portuguese, John Francisco, and seven other Africans, who were
Introduction.

probably captured at Sea. Their Names denote the Country to which they originally belonged. Two Years afterwards three Negro Women arrived at New Amsterdam; and these are the only Instances on Record of the Introduction of Slaves in New Netherland prior to the Erection of Patroonships and Colonies in 1629, when the West India Company publicly promised to "use their Endeavors to supply the Colonists with as many Blacks as they conveniently can."

For Causes, already noted, these "endeavors" were not followed, as
far as we have been able to ascertain, by any immediate Increase of Negroes here; and it was not until after the Reduction of Loando that the Current of Slavery set northward to any great Amount.*

By an Edict issued in 1645, no private Dutch Vejfel was allowed to trade farther North than Cape Florida, nor on any Account to the Virginias, New Netherland, New France, the Coast of Africa or Brazil. The Trade in these Coun-

* Slavery existed in the Limits of the present State of New Jersey as early as 1638.—N. Y. Col. MSS., I, 41.
tries was wholly monopolized by the West India Company.

In the Summer of 1646, the first Slave Ship, of whose Name we have a Record, arrived in New Netherland. She was called the Amandaré. This Vessel touched at Barbadoes, where "three Negro Wenches" were spirited away. The Remainder arrived at New Amsterdam in June, where "the Negroes were sold for Pork and Peas. Something wonderful was to be performed with them, but they just dropped through the Fingers." What Number of Slaves were brought in
this Vessel, or whether they were brought from Brazil or Guinea, is not stated.*

In January, 1648, a Committee of the States General made a lengthy Report on the Affairs of the West India Company, in the Course of which they refer to the Fact, that in Consequence of the unsettled State of Brazil, "the Slave Trade hath long lain dormant to the great Damage of the Company." In order to revive that Traffic,

*Sugar and Oil were a Part of her Cargo; and these Articles may serve as a Clue to determine her Port of Departure. She undoubtedly belonged to, or was chartered by, the West India Company.
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Attention was turned to New Netherland.

"That Country," says the Report, “is considered to be the most fruitful of all within your High Mightinesses' Jurisdiction, and the best adapted to raise all Sorts of this Country Produce, such as Rye, Wheat, Barley, Peas, Beans, etc., and Cattle; and that in more Abundance than can be done here, were it suitably peopled and cultivated. The granting of Freedoms and Privileges, hath indeed induced some Patroons and Colonists to undertake Agriculture there; but
as the Produce cannot be sold anywhere except in the adjacent Places belonging to the English, who are themselves sufficiently supplied, those Planters have not received a Return for their Labor and Outlay. With a View, then, to give greater Encouragement to Agriculture, and consequently to Population, we should consider it highly advantageous that a way be opened to allow them to export their Produce even to Brazil, in their own Vessels, under certain Duties, and subject to the Supervision both of the Director in New Netherland, and the Supreme
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Council in Brazil; and to trade it off there, and to carry Slaves back in Return; which Privilege of failing with their own Ships from New Netherland to Brazil, should be exclusively allowed to Patroons and Colonists, who promote the Population in New Netherland, and not to the Interlopers, who only carry Goods to and fro, without attending to Agriculture. By this Means not only would Brazil be supplied with Provisions at a cheaper Rate, but New Netherland would by Slave Labor, be more extensively cultivated than it has hitherto been,
because the agricultural Laborers, who are conveyed thither at great Expense to the Colonists, sooner or later apply themselves to Trade, and neglect Agriculture altogether. Slaves, on the other Hand, being brought and maintained there at a cheap Rate, various other Descriptions of Produce would be raised, and by their Abundance be reduced in Price, so as to allow, when Occasion would offer, of their advantageous Exportation hither and to other Parts of Europe."

The Trade to Africa was opened, in 1652, to the Colonists, who
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were permitted to import Slaves directly from that Country, within certain prescribed Limits. No immediate Action, however, followed this Permission; and it was not until the Year 1655 that Slaves began to be regularly imported into New Netherland.

It is to be borne in Mind, however, that during the War with *Spain*, Privateers swarmed among the *Caribbean Islands* and along the Spanish Main. These Vessels occasionally brought Prizes to *New Amsterdam*. After the Peace between the *United Netherlands* and
Spain, Hostilities were carried on between the latter Power and France. To the Privateers under the French Flag New Amsterdam was a neutral Port, where some of them occasionally came and disposed of their captured Negroes and other prize Goods.*

It has been asserted that Negroes were imported into New Netherland "often directly from Guinea." This Allegation is based on the Despatch of 7th April, 1648, and on the

* In 1642, the Privateer La Garce brought in a few Negroes, and in 1652 a Lot of Forty-four Negroes were brought in by another Privateer who had captured them from a Spaniard.
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mere Draft of a Contract in 1660 (Infra, P. 101, 169). But there is no Evidence that any Action followed the Permission of 1648, and the Remonstrance (Infra, P. 171), proves that the Contract not only had never been executed, but that the Parties declined executing it. The Records contain Instances of the Arrival of only two Vessels at New Amsterdam "directly from Guinea" with Slaves. These were the Wittepaert and Gideon. All other Importations of that Character were from Curacao, except perhaps those of the Amandaré, which most
probably were brought from Brazil.

The Ventures and Vessels in this nefarious Commerce, belonged either to private Parties in Holland, or to the West India Company. "We have resolved," write the Directors at Amsterdam in 1661, "not only that Slaves shall be kept in New Netherland, as we have heretofore ordered, but that they shall moreover be exported to the English and other Neighbours." The Spirit of Avarice and Greed deadened Conscience and smothered all Feeling of Humanity; and "the Pro-

D
motion of Agriculture, Trade, and Population” was the thin Covering which glossed over the Infamy of the Trade.

In November 1661, the City of New Amsterdam became the Owner of three Negroes, which it obtained as a Present from the Director and Council. In 1664, “the City of Amsterdam did not blush to own Shares in a Slave Ship, to advance Money for the Outfits, and to participate in the Returns.” But to the Credit of New Netherland, it is to be recorded that no Ship nor Merchant belonging to that Colony,
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had ever been engaged in the African Slave Trade. An Effort had, it is true, been made in *New Amsterdam* to embark in it, but the Project, fortunately for the Honor of the Country, fell through.

"Of a direct Voyage from *Guinea* to the Coast of the *United States*, no Journal," says Mr. Bancroft, "is known to exist." The Papers now published will supply this Defect in some Degree; and the Journal of the Slaver *St. John*, though that Vessel was not destined for the Coast of *North America*, will give some Insight to the
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Horrors of the Middle Passage. One hundred and ninety-five human Beings were crammed into the Hold of that Vessel. Bad Food, short Allowance, Want of Water, foul Air, and Bloody Flux, were the Attendants on the Passage; and as a Consequence, fifty-six per cent of the wretched Beings perished on the Voyage. Of the Balance, only one Negro eventually accrued to the Benefit of the Dutch; for, as a retributive Fate willed it, a Privateer, or Pirate, swooped down in the Vicinity of Curaçao, plundered every thing, and carried off the
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Surviving Negroes “towards the Main.”

No better Fortune awaited the Slaver, The Arms of Amsterdam. This Vessel brought One hundred and one Slaves from Angola, but on her Voyage to Curacao, was overhauled by some English Privateers among the West India Islands, captured and carried into Virginia.

Curacao was, under the Dutch, what Barbadoes was subsequently to the English—the Slave Emporium to which Guineamen brought their Cargoes of human Flesh, to
Introduction.

be thence distributed throughout this Continent. And in the following Pages, the Reader will find ample Information regarding the active Trade in Slaves, which was carried on between that Island, *New Netherland*, and the Spanish Possessions on the Main previous to 1665.
Journals

of the

Voyages of the Slavers St. John and Arms of Amsterdam.
WE Weighed anchor, by order of the Honble Director, Johan Valckenborch, and the Honble Director Jasper van Heussen, to proceed on our Voyage from Elmina to Rio Reael, to trade for Slaves for the Honble Company.

A
1659.  Saturday.  Arrived with our ship before Arda, to take on board the Surgeon's mate and a Supply of Tamarinds for the Slaves; failed again next day on our Voyage to Rio Reael.

17.  Arrived at Rio Reael in front of a village called Bany where we found the Company's Yacht, named the Peace, which was sent out to assist us to trade for Slaves.

April.  Nothing was done except to trade for Slaves.

May 6.  One of our seamen died; his name was Claes van Die- men, of Durgerdam.

22.  Again weighed Anchor and
ran out of Rio Reael accompanied by the Yacht Peace; purchased there two hundred and nineteen head of Slaves, men, women, boys and girls, and proceeded on our course for the High land of Ambosius, for the purpose of procuring food there for the Slaves, as nothing was to be had at Rio Reael.

Monday. Arrived under the High land of Ambosius to look there for Victuals for the Slaves, and spent seven days there, but with difficulty obtained enough for the daily consumption of the Slaves, so that
1659. we resolved to run to Rio Cammerones to see if any food could be had there for the Slaves.

June 5. Thursday. Arrived at the Rio Commerones and the Yacht Peace went up to look for provisions for the Slaves. This day died our cooper, named Peter Claessen, of Amsterdam.

29. Sunday. Again resolved to proceed on our Voyage, as but little food was to be had for the Slaves in consequence of the great Rains which fell every day, and because many of the Slaves were suffering from the Bloody Flux in con-
sequence of the bad provisions we were supplied with at El Mina, amongst which were several barrels of Groats, wholly unfit for use.

We then turned over to Adri-aen Blaes, the Skipper, One hundred and ninety five Slaves, consisting of Eighty one Men, One hundred and five Women, six boys and three girls for which Bills of lading were signed and sent, one by the Yacht Peace to El Mina with an account of, and receipts for, remaining Merchandize.

Arrived at Cabo de Loop de July 25. Consalvo for wood and water.
July 27. Our Surgeon, named Martin de Lanoy, died of the Bloody Flux.

Aug. 10. Arrived the Company's Ship Raven from Castle St. George d'el Mina, homeward bound.

11. Again resolved to pursue our Voyage towards the Island of Annebo, in order to purchase there Supplies for the Slaves. We have lain Sixty days at Cabo de Loop hauling wood and water. Among the Water barrels, forty were taken to pieces to be refitted, as our Cooper died at Rio Cammerones, and we had no other person capable of repairing them.
Arrived at the Island An-
nebo where we purchased One hundred half tierces of little Beans, twelve Hogs, five thou-
sand Cocoa nuts, five thousand Oranges, besides some other stores.

Again hoisted Sail to profe-
cute our Voyage to the Island of Curacao.

The Skipper called the Ships officers aft, and resolved to run for the Island of Tobago and to procure Water there; otherwise we should have per-
ished for want of water, as many of our Water casks had leaked dry.
1659. Friday. Arrived at the Island of Tobago and shipped Water there, also purchased some Bread, as our hands had had no ration for three weeks.

27. Again set sail on our Voyage to the Island of Curacao, as before.

Nov. 2. Lost our ship on the Riifts of Rocus, and all hands immediately took to the Boat, as there was no prospect of saving the Slaves, for we must abandon the Ship in consequence of the heavy Surf.

4. Arrived with the Boat at the Island of Curacao; the Honble Governor Beck ordered two
floops to take the Slaves off the wreck, one of which floops with eighty four slaves on board, was captured by a Privateer.
LIST OF THE SLAVES

Who died on board the Ship St. John from 30th June to 29th October in the Year 1659.

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two hours before day, have we lost the Ship St. John, upon
the Reef of Rocus and fled with the Boat to the Island of
Curaçao, and left in the Ship eighty five Slaves, including
Men, Women, Boys and Girls, and arrived on the fourth of
this instant at Curaçao.
INFORMATION

Taken by Order of the Honble Director Matthias Beck respecting the Capture of the Company’s Negroes abandoned on board the Ship St. John on the Island of Rocus, and of the Company’s Sloop which was sent to save them by the Honble Director M. Beck aforesaid.

Appeared Jan van Gaelen who was sent by the Hon. Director in the Company’s Sloop, with the Skipper Hans Marcussen Stuyve, to aid
in saving the aforementioned Slaves, and having failed with the Skipper of the loft Ship and some of his Crew, from the Port here on the Seventh of November towards evening, came on the following Saturday in sight of Bonaire. When they were running towards the shore, they met an English Privateer or Rover whereof Jan Pietersen, a native of Denmark, was Captain, who came off the land and had the weather-gage of them, and commanded them to strike, threatening to fire if they did not obey. And this Deponent
coming on board the aforesaid Privateer, was asked, Whence came he and Whither was he bound? He answered, from Curacao and was bound for Bonaire. Whereupon, the Captain of the Privateer asked, What business had he there? Thereupon, Deponent answered, To look up the Company's People. He, then, said, I am going with my Ship and remain you here on board and let the Vessel go on. Which they did and came to Bonaire. Being in the Roadstead with the aforesaid Vessel, on board of which were 5 or 6
of the Privateer's crew, one of the men of the wrecked Ship called out from the shore to those of the Vessel, as the Deponent hath afterwards understood, Did you bring along Skipper Blaes—to wit, the Skipper of the wrecked Ship—and have you been to Rocus to save the Negroes, who remained on board the Ship that lay stranded there? or, They ought first to go thither to save them. Whereupon the Privateers, who were in the bark, said, addressing the Skipper of the wrecked Ship, Now, it is enough that we
know that you are the Skipper of the wrecked Ship; and about two hours afterwards, the Privateer came with his Ship, named the Castle frigate, carrying four guns and about thirty men, into the Roadstead where the Vessel lay at anchor. Then his Fellows who were on board the Company's bark or Vessel, called out; Captain, We have a good Prize—mentioning the Ship wrecked at Rocus—and having berated the Deponent for not having told him of what had occurred, was answered, He was not bound to do so; and at the
same time requested and protested that he should let him go in order that he may prosecute the Voyage he had been sent on. Whereunto they were unwilling, but on the contrary, him detained by force, and on the following Sunday, dispatched the Vessel to Little Curaçao against his will where the aforesaid Privateer had his Lieutenant with a party of his men and a Pirogue to watch, as they said, the Company's vessels.

On the morning of the following Monday, the aforesaid Vessel returned with the
Lieutenant and Crew, leaving their Pirogue, which they had taken from the Spaniards, on the coast of Curaçao, still at Anchor at Little Curaçao, and towards evening set sail, taking with them by force the Company's Vessel on board of which he put his crew, leaving in it only Skipper Hans aforesaid with two men; and then took along by force on board his Ship the Deponent with the rest of the Crew of the Vessel and some belonging to the stranded Ship and proceeded on their Voyage to the Coast of Caraccas where
coming, the Rover drove a Frigate ashore which was understood to mount six guns, and with the Company's vessel stranded a Spanish Pirogue, and afterwards proceeded to the little Island of David, where they came to an Anchor. Deponent having requested with the other men to be set on board their own Bark, they would consent that the Deponent only should go on board the bark or Vessel. The Rover remained there at Anchor and dispatched the Deponent with fourteen of said Rover's crew in the Com-
pany's vessel to *Rocus*, with orders to seize the Slaves as a good Prize, even though the Bark named the *Young Brindle Cow*, whereof *Jan Ryckartsen* was Skipper, which had been sent thither by the Director to save the aforesaid Slaves, might have them on board.

The abovementioned Bark had lain four days by the Wreck, and had made fast a line to it in order to get the Negroes on board by that means and save them; but they could effect nothing through dread of the Negroes, and because the hands on board the Bark
were too few. They, therefore, resolved to await the arrival of the Vessel whereof the aforesaid *Hans Stuyve* was Skipper, in order thus to be stronger in hands, and by that means better able to bring the Negroes on board. Then, on arriving there, the Rover's fourteen men did, in the presence of this Deponent, run aboard them with the vessel, and attack and overpower them in a hostile manner, and took the boats of the Bark and the Sloop, all the Property of the Company, and with them hauled the Negroes off the
Wreck to the number of eighty four and having loaded the Bark the Brindled Cow with them, proceeded to David's island where lay the Rover, who took all the Negroes on board.

Meanwhile, remained the Sloop or Vessel with the Deponent at Rocus, pretending still an inclination to save something, and came the day following, to David's island having saved some cooking Kettles and Cordage which also they took away to the Rover. When this was accomplished, the Deponent enquired if they
were satisfied and would permit him to depart with the aforesaid Vessel, or Company's Sloop. They answered, When they had hauled wood and water. Persisting in his request, he at last obtained for answer, That the Sloop was of use to them and they would not restore it, and in case the Bark could be of service to them, they would retain her likewise, and further, every thing belonging to the Company on the way to or from Curacao. However, since she is of no use, you can go in
her with all your folks and do'nt give much jaw, or you shall all march out naked, and do you go quietly on board and do not hoist a single sail until we are gone.

On the evening of the 23d. when he had failed, steering his course towards the Main-land, we took our departure and this day arrived here. And this he declares to have thus truly occurred, which if necessary he will confirm by oath; in presence of Theunis Lucassen and Peter de Leeuw, as Witnesses hereunto invited,
in Fort Amsterdam at Curaçao, the 25th November A° 1659.

(Signed)

Jan van Gaelen.

Witness
Theunis Lucaffen,
Peter de Leeuw.

In my presence,
Nicolas Hack,
Secretary.

Appeared Jan Rykartsen, Skipper of the Company's Sloop, The Young Brindled Cow, and says, that he by order of the Honble Director, had gone to Aruba. When
there, received Instructions to proceed to Rocus, to save the Company's Slaves who were driven on shore there in the Ship St. John, coming from the Coast of Guinea. These orders I immediately executed. On arriving there, I used every diligence to reach the Wreck and so far succeeded as to get a line on board, and then two Negroes came swimming to the Boat by whom the line had been passed on board. It afterwards broke loose and in consequence of bad weather, I could not go on board. I, therefore, resolved to wait for
the Company's vessel whereof Hans Marcussen Stuyve was Skipper, who, I had been notified, would come to help to save the Slaves; the rather, because my Crew being few in number stood, therefore, in fear of the Negroes.

On the 16th instant, arrived the vessel which attacked me in a hostile manner. Whereupon the Deponent demanded, What are you about? He said, Shew your Sea brief which Deponent did. That, they said, was well, and added, he might remain in their service
as long as he pleased, which he refused, being bound to serve not them, but the Honble Director in the Company’s service upon which he was dispatched. Nevertheless, he and his Crew were compelled to submit, and they forcibly took away his Boat, and with it the Company’s Slaves and the Boat of the aforesaid Vessel, on board his own Ship, and commanded him to accompany them to *David’s island*, where lay the Rover, called the *Castle frigate*, the Captain whereof was *Jan Pietersen*
of Colding,* in Denmark, to whom the men belonged who mastered and captured the Company's Vessel aforesaid, and transferred the Slaves to the Ship. In the meanwhile, the aforesaid Vessel remained at Rocus with the Deponent's boat, in order, as they gave out, to save by their means, more Property, and they, indeed, brought off two more Slaves, some Elephants' teeth and other trifles, so that altogether they took 84 Slaves and

* A City in the S. E. Corner of the Province of North Jutland, near the Little Belt.
2 fucking Children. They also took and carried off the afore-said Company's Vessell whereof *Hans Marcussen Stuyve* was Skipper, and told me, the Deponent, that even had I had said Slaves on board the Bark on their arrival at *Rocus*, they should have taken them away by force, and declared them good prize, because I had no Commission, but only a Sea brief. And the Deponent says, that they offered him money for the service they had received from his Bark and Crew; this he refused to take, as such service was rendered
under compulsion, for he owed them no obedience and could not receive any thing for compulsory service. The Deponent also says, that he hath given the Captain a note that he had received nothing from them, and likewise that the Captain of the aforesaid Rover had sent the Deponent on board, though the Crew of the aforesaid *Hans Marcussen Stuyve's* Bark, belonging to the Company, had remained with him, and ordered me not to fail before he had departed, which was on the evening of the 23d of No-
November, he steering towards the Coast, and we to this place where we arrived this date. And this he declares to be true and, if needs be, will confirm the same by oath. Curacao in Fort Amsterdam the 25th November A° 1659. (Signed) Jan Rickertsen.

Witness.

Ghyfbert de Rosia
Peter de Leeuw
In presence of me
Nicolas Hack,
Secretary.
Appeared *Hans Marcussen Stuyve*, Skipper of the Company’s Vessel, and declared: On the 7th of November I failed hence by order of the Honble Director for *Rocus*, there to save the Company’s Slaves and other property from the Ship *St. John* coming there from *Guinea*. On the following day, arrived off *Bonaire* with the aforesaid Bark, and met an English Privateer, or Rover, who having the wind of us obliged us to strike. We then launched our Boat in which *Jan van Gaelen*
went on board of him with two other hands, whom they detained, and sent my Boat back with men to take possession of my Bark which they did and carried us against our will to Bonaire, where being come, they put more hands on board and sent this Dependent from there to Little Curaçao to fetch the Privateer’s Lieutenant and some men thence, out of a Pirogue which they had taken from the Spaniards on the Coast of Caraccas and was stationed there to watch the Company’s Vessels going in and out.
Being come there, they came over in our Vessel and abandoned the Pirogue leaving her riding at anchor. Thus they returned to Bonaire, where the Rover rode at anchor, and being come there, they set sail altogether, notwithstanding every Protest against the injustice they did us, towards the Coast of Caraccas where they drove a Spanish Ship ashore, whilst we with our Sloop chased a Pirogue ashore. Steering thence back we came to Little David's island where the Rover cast anchor, and having put more
men on board of us, compelled us to go to *Rocus* to save the Slaves from the wrecked Ship, and if they were already saved by the Company’s Bark, whereof *Jan Ryckartsen* was Skipper, to capture and remove them by force. On arriving there, we found the Bark, which we immediately boarded and took by force, removing all the Slaves which had already been saved. But although they had been there *four* days before us, they were unable to effect any thing as the line they had sent on board the Wreck, had again
broke loose and they could not afterwards approach the Wreck in consequence of the violent wind. Only two Negro men came by swimming on board of him; furthermore, finding themselves too weak, they waited for our coming in order, being thus stronger, to return and save the Slaves &c, weather permitting. Boarding then the Bark, she was overpowered, as stated, by force. Then taking their Shallop with ours, the Rover's crew, despite our protests that we could not assist them, much less allow them to use our Ves-
fell, saved and brought on board the aforesaid Bark of Skipper Jan Ryckertsen, Eighty two Slaves and two Sucklings and steered away with them to David's island, where said Rover lay at anchor with his Vessel named the Castle frigate, the Captain whereof was Jan Pietersen of Denmark, and compelled us to remain with our Bark at Rocus, with the little Sloop of Jan Ryckertsen aforesaid, to save, as they said, some other Articles, which they did, namely, eight or nine little elephants' Teeth, two cooking Kettles, some tin Ware and
Cordage, and proceeded there-with to David's island, where the aforesaid Rover removed every thing from the said Company's Vessels, and compelled us to remain until he had hauled Wood and Water. Nay, he would pay the Depo-nent for his trouble and the use of the Vessels and Sloop, which he would not accept, giving for answer, That they were sent out not on this, but the Company's service by the Honble Director Matthias Beck, and that force and violence had been employed against them. Whereupon the
Captain of the Rover was greatly irritated, and carried off the Deponent's Vessel, notwithstanding he had more than three times exhibited to him his Commission which the Honble Director had given him, acknowledging even that the Commission was valid and that he was a Free man, and had nothing to say against him. All which notwithstanding, he afterwards carried off my Vessel with him, saying, He had need of it, and made me vacate it with my Men, permitting us only to take our Clothing, and then put us on
board Jan Ryckertsen's Bark. The Deponent further faith, that he was compelled per force to sign a Note, not knowing its contents, for it was written in English, and this Deponent does not understand the English language. And having been ordered not to fail before the Rover left, which was on the evening of the 23d November instant, steered his course towards the Main, we, with the aforesaid Bark of Jan Ryckertsen leaving behind one of our Sailors named Jacob Pietersen of Belcom, who voluntarily remained with them, steered to-
wards this Harbor, where we arrived in safety this day. And this he declares to be true and will confirm the same if needs be, by oath; in presence of Ghysbert de Rosa and Peter de Leeuw as witnesses hereunto invited. Curaçao in Fort Amsterdam the 25th November A° 1659.

(Signed)

This is the mark of Skipper

HANS MARCUSSEN STUYVE
Witness Ghysbert de Rosa
Peter de Leeuw
In presence of me
NICOLAES HAEK, Secretary.
Appeared Adriaen Blaes van der Veer, and faith, that he was commanded by Johan Valckenburgh General of El Mina and the Gold Coast, on the 4th of March last to sail as Skipper of the Ship St. John, from the Roadstead of the Castle del Mina aforesaid, with Commissary Johan Froon and the accompanying Sailors, in the Company's service, to the Calabari or Rio Real, there to trade for Slaves and to proceed with them, by order of the aforesaid General, to this place. In obedience to these
orders, \textit{Two hundred and nineteen} Slaves big and little, were actually traded and purchased, wherewith we failed in order to prosecute our Voyage and carry out our Instructions. Not obtaining at the \textit{Calabari} such sufficiency of provisions as this Voyage demanded, for the sustenance of the aforesaid Slaves, we resolved to go to the Highland of \textit{Ambosius} where we were unable to procure any Provisions, as was our desire. We, therefore went to the River \textit{Camerones}, where we obtained a few Articles, but not as much as we wanted.
Nevertheless, we pursued our Voyage towards Capo de Lopo Gonfalves, at which place we took in Wood and Water, and thence stood across although experiencing great misery and want of food, to Anabo, where we got some Provisions and went on our Voyage and made land in the month of October last at the Island of Tobago, the greater portion of the Slaves having died from Want and Sickness, in consequence of such a very long Voyage, so that we saved only Ninety Slaves, out of the whole Cargo. Having taken in wood and
water and a few Refreshments from the surrounding Islands, we set sail and after we fixed our course on the first instant, west by south, we ran ashore, two hours before day, on one of the Rifts of Rocus, on the North East side of the Island. Perceiving our danger, we saved ourselves with all the Crew in the Boat, leaving the Negroes in the Ship, taking our course to this place, in order to inform the Honble Director M. Beck of our Misfortune. After we had left some of the men at Bonayre, because the Boat was too
heavily laden with the Crew, we arrived here on the fourth instant. Having reported ourselves to the aforesaid Honble Director, he dispatched me with the above Boat to Aruba, whither the Company's Vessels had failed, the day before, on the Company's business, with orders to proceed in said Vessels with five of my men, and Jan van Gaelen, the Company's servant. Arriving there on the following day, we went over in the Company's Vessel, whereof Hans Marcussen Stuyve was Skipper, with Jan van Gaelen, and two of my
Crew, and the other three of my men in the Bark, called The Young Brindled Cow, of which Jan Ryckertsen was Skipper, all in the service of the Company.

We pursued our Voyage without any mishap, pursuant to the orders we had received from the aforesaid Honble Director here, and so on to Rocus, to save the Slaves and Ship's property, and having failed on the evening of the seventh after remaining half an hour here, we arrived in the afternoon of the following day off Bonayre where we met an
English Privateer, who having the wind of us, overtook us and compelling us to strike and to send off a Boat, the aforesaid Jan van Gaelen went on board him, who told him, we came from Curacao and were going to Bonayre. Thereupon, the said Privateer dispatched in our Boat, in which Jan van Gaelen whom he detained, had gone to his Ship, on board our Vessel a party of his men to search for Pieces of Eight which, they said, we had. Then not finding any, as we had none, they forced us to run with them
up the Roadstead of Bonayre, where we arrived about two hours before the Privateer. Some of my Men who were on shore, not knowing any thing of these proceedings, called out, If I were on board? The Privateer’s men taking up the word before me, asked, Who? Thereupon they answered, The Skipper of the Ship wrecked at Rocus, adding, Had we been to the Slaves, or were we going to save them? The Privateers answered, That they were going to save them; manifesting great joy thereat, saying, when the Privateer
cast anchor, Captain, we have a good Prize. Thereupon they forced the Deponent to go on board the Rover which was a small Frigate, carrying four guns, and about thirty men, whereof Jan Pietersen, a native of Denmark, was Captain. This Vessel was called The Castle frigate. Coming on board, the Captain enquired, How many Negroes he had left on his Ship? Deponent answered, Eighty. When he heard that, he sent the Vessel in which the Deponent came, to Little Curaçao, to bring his Lieutenant and some of his
men, who were lying there in a Periauger, which they had taken from the Spaniards, to watch the Company's Veſſels. Meanwhile this Deponent re-mained on board the Rover, and they returning to us in the Roadſhead of Bonayre, the Ro-ver permitted this Deponent to go back to the Bark, on board of which ſtill were, Skip-per Hans Marcuffen aforeſaid, with one of his hands, who had been compelled to go to Little Curaçao to fetch his Lieuten-ant and men. To this Veſſel I came, as ſtated, from the aforeſaid Rover with two of
my Crew, being then in all five servants of the Company on said Company's Vessel. The Captain of the Rover having then placed his Lieutenant and Pilot, with some of his hands, on board the Bark, we set sail under compulsion, leaving Jan van Gaelen and some of our men behind, whom the Rover retained by force on board his Ship, not heeding any protests or requests as free men, which they themselves admitted us to be, having cognizance of the Commission granted by the Honble Director to the afore-
said Hans Marcussen Stuyve, as Skipper of the aforesaid Vessel, and that therefore, they used force and violence towards us who were not in any manner in their service, but indeed in that of the Company, to whom alone we owed Obedience, and that for the purpose of executing the orders of the Honble Director, to which end and to no other, were we sent out. All this notwithstanding, were we compelled to accompany the aforesaid Rover who set sail at the same time, taking his course towards the Main land of Ca-
raccas where he drove on shore a Spanish Ship mounting six guns, and with our Bark, in our presence and before Deponent's face, drove a Spanish Periauguer ashore. Thence they and the Rover forced us to cross over and cast anchor under Little David's island, and having put more people in our Bark, until she numbered in all fourteen men, whilst he remained there at Anchor, we set sail for Rocus.

On arriving at that place, we found the other of the Company's Vessels, named The Young Brindled Cow, whereof
Jan Ryckertsen aforesaid was Skipper, with three of my men on board, who accompanied him to Aruba, out of my Boat. They went thither, as already stated, by command of the aforesaid Honble Director, also with orders to no other intent than to save the aforesaid Slaves &c, and had lain there four Days and had so far succeeded as to pass a line on board my Ship, two of the Negroes coming on board swimming. The aforesaid line breaking loose, and finding themselves too weak in consequence of the strong
wind, the Men resolved to wait our arrival, having been informed of our approach, so as, when thus reinforced and the Weather would moderate, to save with our Sloop and Boat the aforesaid surviving Slaves &c. from my Ship which also belonged to the Company. Then they, the Rover's men, who were on board our Bark, supposing that the aforesaid Skipper Jan Ryckertsen with his Crew and my three men had saved all, coming to them went on board with our Bark, according to the orders they had to that effect, from their
Captain, who had been informed of the departure of the aforesaid Company's Bark and the purport for which we were sent out, by a Frieslander named Jacob Petersen from Belcom, a Sailor in the Company's service, under Skipper Hans Marcussen Stuyve, who had voluntarily deserted to them on the same day that we came on board the Rover. Which orders were to board them, to see if they had saved the Slaves &c. and to seize and remove them. They accordingly did attack them in a hostile manner in the pre-
fence of the Deponent and four other of the Company's Servants who could not refrain from remonstrating against the injustice which they demonstrated they were doing. Finding that no more than the two aforesaid Slaves had been saved, they took away, per force our Boat together with Jan Ryckertsen's Boat, all the property of the Company appertaining to the aforesaid Vessels, and with them, the weather moderating somewhat, removed the Slaves from my Ship, making use for that purpose of one of my Matroses named
Martin Michielsen van Hulst, who was on board Jan Ryckertsen's Bark aforefaid. By his assistance, for the Negroes knew him and called him by name, the aforefaid Jan Ryckertsen got the line on board, and in like manner accompanied one of the Rovers at the time all the Slaves &c. were on board, and then came again swimming on board the Lieutenant of the Rover with two of his men, who then numbered four, having again brought a rope on board from the Company's Vessel by which they let all
the Negroes who were capable of swimming, swim off to the Rift, whilst they brought those who could not swim in a Boat belonging to the afore-said Vessels, to the same Rift, and having meanwhile made the other Boat dry inside the Rift, they brought in her on board the afore-said Jan Ryckertsen's Bark, eighty two Slaves and two Sucklings. And this Deponent having, before they removed any of the Slaves, requested of the Lieutenant and his men belonging to the Rover, permission to go with his afore-said Matrofs, he was
unwilling to grant it until some of the Slaves had been removed out of the Ship, so that when this Deponent went on board his Ship there remained on board no more than about thirty Slaves. After all the Negroes had been removed from his Ship, this Deponent was conveyed to Jan Ryckert-ten's Bark, with the Instructions which General Johan Valckenburgh had given him, together with all the Papers and Accounts of the said Commissary, relating to his freight and other business matters, done pursuant to the Compa-
ny's orders. Then the Depo-
pent was conveyed by them
with the aforesaid Bark and
Negroes, to David's island,
where the Rover lay at anchor
waiting for us, leaving behind
them the Vessel whereof Jan
Marcussen Stuyve is Skipper,
to save two Negroes whom the
Deponent had left on board
when he quit the Ship. That
Vessel joined them the next
day at David's island, bringing
along the two aforesaid Slaves,
some Kettles, Rope and about
70 pounds of Elephants' teeth,
also some Flags, Compasses
and other articles. The Rover
having removed the Slaves and every thing else out of the Company's Vessels, took from the Deponent the Instructions given him by the General, with all the Commissary's Papers, notwithstanding the protests and requests to the contrary, giving the Deponent for answer, that all belonged to him. He, moreover, commanded them to remain by him until he had hauled Wood and Water, and afterwards took Hans Marcussen Stuyve's Vessel, saying he required her. He then made the Deponent remain on board Jan Ryckert-
fen's Bark, compelling him to make room for said Hans Marcussen Stuyve with all his Crew and some of the Depo-
nent's men. Then he ordered them not to fail for this Place until he had taken his depart-
ure, which was on the 23d instant, steering his course to-
wards the Main. And this Deponent with his Crew and that of the Company's Bark, took their course with the afore-
said Jan Ryckertsen's Bark, to this Place where they arrived in safety on the 25th instant.
This he declares to be the truth, and to have thus oc-
curred, and will if needs be, confirm the same on oath, in presence of Mr Gysbert de Rosa and Peter de Leeuw, witnesses hereunto invited. Curaçao in Fort Amsterdam the 27th November A° 1659.

(Signed)

Adriaen Blaes.

Witnesses.

Ghyßbert de Rosa
Peter de Leeuw
In my presence
Nicolaes Haek,
Secretary.
PROCLAMATION.

Matthias Beck, in the service of their High Mightinesses the Lords States General of the free United Netherlands and of the Honble General Incorporated West India Company, Governor over the Curaçao Islands, Greeting:

Be it known, that one Jan Pietersen of Coling in Denmark, styling himself Commander of a Ship called The Castle Frigate, having with him some Englishmen, French-
men and Dutchmen, who are cruising with him on this Coast in the Ship aforesaid, hath dared to attack the Company's Vessels near Bonayre and Rocus, and forcibly to take possession thereof, and with them and the Company's Men to take by force, among others, eighty four healthy Negroes out of the Company's Ship, called The St. John, coming from the Coast of Guinea, which was wrecked on the Rifts of Rocus, where one of the aforesaid Company's Ships was already engaged in saving said Negroes for the Company,
whose Property they were, with all that was in the Ship, to bring them here to Curaçao, for which purpose they were expressly sent hence thither; Regardless whereof, the aforesaid Jan Pietersen hath not only prevented the Company’s Vessels executing their Instructions and Orders, but hath made himself Master of said Vessels, and with them and Boats, stole not only the said Negroes and every thing else, but in addition thereto carried off one of the Company’s best failing Vessels called The Young Ostrich, to the great damage
of the Honble Company, and appropriated the same to himself as good booty, so as all is to be seen by the Informations, Relations, Reports and Delarations of the Skipper and Crews of the Vessels aforesaid.

And Whereas the aforesaid Jan Pietersen and his Men have heretofore committed similar acts under irregular Commission and persist in the same course, especially as public Pirates, by the seizure of the Company's Vessel and Negroes, and have threatened to continue so to do; And Whereas among others, one of
the Company's Matroffes named *Jan Pietersen* of *Belpom*, a Frieslander, being in our actual service, having failed as Matroffs on board the Company's *flyger schuit*, *The Young Brindled Cow*, hath voluntarily gone over to this Pirate, disregarding the Allegiance, Plight and Oath, whereby he was bound to the Company, but on the contrary, as appears by Information, hath acted and is still acting, as a Spy for these Pirates; All which and what precedes are matters of very ill consequence, of serious K
damage and moment to the Honble General Incorporated West India Company, who will not fail to express their highest Indignation on this subject, and endeavor by all ways and means, not only to make good and to procure an indemnity for their damages and losses already suffered by the stealing of their Vessel and Negroes, so illegally purloined from them, but above all, to procure that such Rovers shall be punished as Pirates and Robbers, according to their deserts, as an Example to others.
To this end, therefore, with the advice of Our Council, upon the certain Proofs and Reports to Us rendered, We, being unwilling to lose any time in overhauling the said Sea Robbers, have Resolved and concluded, in the Name and on the Behalf of the Lords Principals, their High Mightinesses the Lords States General, and the Honble General Incorporated West India Company, for their protection and the Public Good, hereby to warn all the Company's Captains, and Ships as well as Private Skippers and Ships
and Vessels at present lying or about to come, within this Harbor, who owe allegiance to their High Mightinesses the Lords States General and are in the service of the Honble General Incorporated West India Company not only to be on their guard against the aforesaid Pirates and Sea Robbers, but should they meet them at Sea, them to attack, openly and with force and arms, and bring them in here to Curacao, or if they fall in with them at any of the Leeward Islands, to complain of them to the Governors and
Magistrates at such place where they happen to find them, according to the Proofs thereof in existence, and to procure that such Justice may be inflicted upon them as the Informations shall justify. Requesting all Generals, Governors and Commanders both on Sea and on Land, to whom these Our Letters for the execution of the premises shall be shown, to administer good Law and Justice to them. Such will We reciprocate on like Occasion. Thus done and enacted on the Island Curacao in Fort Amsterdam the 5th December, Aº 1659.
Vice Director Beck to the West India Company, Chamber at Amsterdam.

Curacao, 5 January, 1660.

Honorable, Respected, Wife, Prudent and most Discreet Sirs,

Gentlemen,

By the Ships King Solomon and St. John 3d September, was my last to your Honors, to which I refer.

* * * * * * * * *

I despatch these few lines at present by the bearers hereof, the Commisary and
Skipper of the Ship *St. John*, who coming from the Coast of *Guinea* with Negroes were wrecked on *Rocus* on the Voyage hither, leaving behind them some *Eighty* living Slaves, besides many and a greater number of dead ones who were starved on the way for want of food. Your Honors will please see in the accompanying Papers what diligence I have used to save those living; also, how the Sea Rovers, of whom I heretofore advised you, have carried off not only the Negroes, but also the best of the Company's Barks, as appears
by the said Papers, to which and to the verbal Report of the aforesaid Commisary and Skipper I, for brevity sake, refer.

With submission to your Honors, it would in my opinion not be unadvisable if a suitable well fitted Vessel or Yacht could be obtained, carrying half a dozen guns. She could be employed in bringing Horses from Aruba to Bonayre and this place, many of which are now bitten to death by the Rattlesnakes there, and on such occurring occasions be manned with hands sufficient
to overhaul such Sea Rovers, and used for various other purposes.

As it is in the highest degree necessary to look after the Sea Rovers, in order at least to impress them with the fear of approaching so near us, I have chartered a small private Boat, mounting six guns, strongly manned and double armed to look up the aforesaid Sea Robbers at the place where, we presume, they are sojourning, in the hope of obtaining not only some advantage over them, but if we should catch the Ringleaders,
of having such punishment inflicted on them as would serve as an example to others. Herein we shall not fail in our duty.
Director Beck to Director Stuyvesant.

Curaçao, 4. February, 1660.

Sir,

My last dated 23 August and 10th September were sent your Honor by the Ship Sphera Mundi as per copies annexed, to which I refer. Since then, I have had none of yours to acknowledge. Therefore this shall be the shorter, the rather as I transmit enclosed to you open the accompanying despatch to our Lords Masters, in order that
you may, yourself, be able to see from it what transpired here, and having taken cognizance thereof to seal and send it by the first failing Ship to Amsterdam to the Lords Masters.

As your Honor will be able to glean from the Informations and Papers inclosed therein, what sort of Sea Rovers here have taken the Company's Negroes and Bark, among which visitors was also to be found one Pickled Herring, who formerly went privateering with Captain Beaulieuw, and now and then makes his
appearance in your Honor's jurisdiction in New Netherland, and possibly some of the Ringleaders of them may land there, we wish, in such case, that they were made known to you, to the end that you may cause such Justice to be administered to them as they deserve.

If your Honor have an opportunity of writing to Jamaica, where I partly understand these Rovers have arrived, and where they have no Counter party and can make such Representation as they please to the General
there, your Vigilance might effect a great deal of good by transmitting a Letter on the subject to him, which shall also be done here when an opportunity offers.

* * * * * * * *

I greatly desired that the Ships expected with Negroes had arrived, in order to enable me to send your Honor some lusty fellows, but none have come up to this date, although looked for every day. We must postpone doing so until the next opportunity, God willing.
JOURNAL

OF THE SLAVER

The Arms of Amsterdam

AND

HER CAPTURE.
PAULUS Heyn Ridder from Staden, aged about 51 years, Pilot of the Ship the Arms of Amsterdam, and Leendert Jacques van Cuelen, born at Amsterdam, aged about 26 years, Assistant Commissary, who arrived here yesterday from Virginia, in Mr. Foscom’s Bark, M
appeared at the Meeting of the Director General and Council of New Netherland, and made known and declared as followeth:

That they, the Deponents, set sail from the Castle del Mina on the 21st February last in the service and for the account of the Honble Incorporated West India Company, Chamber at Amsterdam, in the Ship the Arms of Amsterdam, at which time Jan Gerritsen Nuchteren, who died on the passage on the , was Skipper, with orders and command from the Honble Ge-
general Jan Valckenburgh to repair to Loango in Angola, to take in a cargo of Slaves there, and convey them to the Island of Curacao.

April 15. Having arrived at Loango and taken on board 101 head of Slaves there for account of the abovementioned Company,

On the 28th of said month, again set sail for Curacao.

June 20. Sighted Curacao, but could not reach said Island in consequence of the strong Current and stiff East wind. Having vainly endeavored, during three days and three
nights, to laveer, and Water beginning to get very low, we were necessitated to change our course, and thus

July 2, came to the Salt ground of *Cayman*, which is one of the Cayman Islands, where, whilst engaged in taking Water and some Turtle on board, on

July 6, about noon, *five* Ships came to anchor there; *four* with English flags and one under Portuguese colors, which last, called the *Maria of London*, whereof one *Robert Douwneman* was Captain, after she had taken some hands on board from the other Ships,
immediately weighed anchor again, and came down on the Deponent's Ship, calling out, "Strike for the King of Portugal;" and at once, without giving time to strike, fired a shotted Cannon and a discharge of Musketry killing two Negroes dead, and wounding one Dutchman. After having thus fired, came straight on board, seized the Ship and Negroes, forced the Crew to go to the Ship aforesaid and plundered every thing. The Captains of the four English Ships abovementioned, one of whom was called Captain Gey
and another, Captain Brom-mert, got some of the Negroes because they had furnished him men, but the Deponents do not know how many. After they had lain there some days, said Captain having first dis-mantled his own Frigate set her on fire, and

July 18, failed thence with the aforesaid Ship, The Arms of Amsterdam, having enlisted some of the Sailors, giving out that he intended to fail to Montserrat in the Caribbean Islands, but as the Ship was a poor Sailer, and Water was short, he set fail for Virginia and arrived
September 10, in the Bay there.

September 19, arrived at *Elizabeth's river*, whence the Deponent went to *Nancimon*.

October 6, departed thence for this place in Mr. *Foscom's Bark*, and arrived here yesterday.

All which they declared to be true and truthful. In testimony whereof these presents are signed by them in *Fort Amsterdam* in New Netherland, the 13th October A° 1663.

FINIS.
APPENDIX.
ADDITIONAL PAPERS
RELATIVE TO
The Slave Trade
UNDER THE DUTCH.

Directors at Amsterdam to Director Stuyvesant.

[1646.] HAVING observed that more Negroes could be profitably traded off there than were carried thither in the Ship Tamandare, we shall pay attention that for the future more Negroes shall be conveyed thither.
Bill of Sale of a Negro.

BEFORE me Cornelis Van Tienhoven, Secretary of New Netherland, appeared Fredrick Lubbersen, who declared to have sold unto Richard Lord, a Negro named Anthony, which Negro, he the Grantor hereby conveys and transports in right ownership to the abovenamed Richard Lord, who shall be at liberty to use the said Negro during his life, at all such work, as he, Richard Lord, shall think proper. He Fredrick Lubbersen declares from this day forward to deft from all property in the said Negro. In testimony whereof these presents are signed by Fredrick Lubbersen and witness hereunto invited, 28th 9ber 1646.

Frerick Lubbertsen.

To my knowledge,
Cornelis van Tienhoven, Secretary.
Adriaen van Tienhoven, Witness.
Directors at Amsterdam to Director Stuyvesant.

Efforts are just now making at the Hague before their High Mightinesses to effect a general Reform in all the Colonial possessions of this Company, and New Netherland also was remembered on that occasion. It has been already provisionally resolved that all Colonists of that Country shall be empowered to export their products of Flour, Fish, Beef, Pork, Peas, Beans, &c., in their own, or in chartered Ships to Brasil, and Angola; that said Ships may again take freight from Brasil to this Country, but that those who have completed their trade in Angola shall be at liberty to convey Negroes back home to be employed in the cultivation of
their lands. By this resolution Your Honor will observe that we ourselves are at liberty to send a Ship with all sorts of Provisions to Angola and to convey Negroes back in return. Therefore please to embrace this opportunity as quickly as possible with the Provisions which you say you will have remaining.

Amsterdam, 7th April, 1648.

Directors at Amsterdam to the Commonalty at the Manhattans.

And in order that you may be the more fully assured of our good intention, we do hereby content that the Commonalty yonder shall have liberty to repair to the
Coast of Angola and Africa, and transport thence as many Negroes as they will make use of for the cultivation of their Lands, on the Conditions and regulations which are sent herewith to the Director.

* * * * *

Amsterdam, 4th April, 1652.

Directors at Amsterdam to Director Stuyvesant.

* * * * *

WE have by contract given and granted to some private Merchants permission empowering them to repair to the Coast of Africa to trade for Slaves there, and to carry and convey them to the West Indies and the Islands situate thereabout, and as we expect that the aforesaid
Ships or some of them will go to New Netherland to sell their Slaves also to the Inhabitants there, in such case we desire and request that Your Honor will not demand any Duties from them, but lend them all reasonable Assistance, in order to the removal of every obstacle which might prove a hinderance to Agriculture. This for your information and notification.*

* * * * * * *

Amsterdam, this 6th June, 1653.

* Note by Dr. Vanderkemp.—Here are reported unquestionable Facts that the Dutch were the chief Supporters of the Slave Trade, stamping their Seal on the Declaration of one of the Magistrates of Amsterdam to Prince Frederick, “that he would send a Cargo to Hell at the Risk of singeing his Sails if he were sure of a prosperous Voyage.”
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Resolution of the Assembly of the XIX.

Monday, 15 September, 1653.

The Committee appointed for this purpose reports with regard to the Ninth Article relative to Privateering, as the result of their deliberations, that the Regulation of the year 1646 on this subject ought to remain in force, but in order to encourage Individuals, in this critical conjuncture, to equip Vessels to annoy the Enemy, it might be permitted, besides lowering the duties granted in 1652, that the following alterations be provisionally adopted:

* * * * *

5.
The Negroes coming in prizes from beyond the Seas, and nothing
else, may be exported, with the consent of the Government in Brazil, to all such places as the interested may deem proper.

6.

The duties which the Company receives from all prize goods brought in and mentioned in the aforesaid rule, Negroes included, shall be reduced to ten per cent, and no more.

Directors at Amsterdam to Director Stuyvesant.

26. After closing and dispatching the duplicate hereof which goes by the Ship The Black Eagle, we have on the Petition of some private Merchants, viz., Jan
Sweerts and Dirck Pietersen Wittepaert, and in order to promote Population and Agriculture there, consented and allowed that they may go with their Ship the Wittepaert to the Coast of Africa, and having trafficked for Slaves there, convey the same to New Netherland to be sold to the Inhabitants there, provided that of the Goods and returns proceeding from said Slaves, and which shall be brought back in the abovementioned Ship, there shall be paid to the Company the lawful Duties fixed thereon, or otherwise the ordinary Tonnage duty according to the regulation enacted at the Coast of Africa, at the Company's option, as appears by the annexed extract of Resolutions adopted on the 19th of this month.

* * * * *

Amsterdam, 23d November, 1654.
Resolution of the Amsterdam Chamber of the West India Company.

No. 26.

Thursday, the 19th November, 1654.

Mr. Jan de Sweerts and Dirck Pietersen Wittepaert appeared before the Assembly, and requested permission to proceed hence with their Ship the Wittepaert, to the Coast of Africa for Slaves, and to dispose of these in New Netherland, on payment of the ordinary Tonnage, or the Duty fixed therefor. Question being put, considerable discussion ensued, and as it was understood that such would tend to the increase of Population and advancement of said Place, the
fame was consented to, on condition that the Company shall have the option, on the arrival of said Ship, which must come in here, to collect the proper Duties of the Goods which she is to bring with her, or the ordinary Tonnage duty, according to the Regulation enacted on the Coast of Africa, with which the abovementioned Messrs Jan de Sweerts and Dirck Pietersen Wittepaert are satisfied.

**Ordinance imposing a Duty on Exported Slaves.**

*Friday, 6. August, 1655.*

*WHEREAS* the Director General and Council of New Netherland find that the Negroes
lately arrived here from the Bight of Guinea in the Ship Witte Paert, have been transported and carried hence without the Honble Company or the Inhabitants of this Province having derived any Revenue or benefit therefrom, the Director General and Council have resolved and concluded that there shall be paid at the General Treasury io per cent of the value or purchase money of the Negroes who shall be carried away or exported from here elsewhere beyond the Jurisdiction of New Netherland. Dated as above.

P. Stuyvesant,
Nicasius de Sille,
La Montagne.
Resolution of the Director General and Council of New Netherland.

Tuesday, 24th August, 1655.

The Petition of Edmund Scharburgh being read, requesting permission to depart from this place to Virginia with his Vessel and some Negroes he has purchased, this Apostile was given:

The Request is granted, on condition that the Petitioner give bail in the sum of five thousand Pounds sterling, not to enter the South Bay or River, and that his Crew promise under Oath not go there, nor communicate any intelligence by Sea or Land to any person whomsoever.*

* Referring to the Expedition against the Swedes, on the Delaware River, then about to fail.
Resolution of the Chamber at Amsterdam.

Monday, 3d. April, 1656.

It being represented that a Ship, with the consent of the Directors of Medenblick, depending on the Chamber of West Friesland and The North Quarter, has failed to the Coast of Africa for Slaves, with intention to sell them at the Island of Curaçao,* or to trade them on the Main, it is resolved to oppose the aforesaid sale or barter, and to write to Vice Director Beck there, to detain the aforesaid Ship and Slaves and to proceed therewith so and in

* Curaçao was exclusively under the Direction of the Chamber at Amsterdam, and it may be inferred from the above that the exclusive Control of the Dutch Slave Trade was also vested in that Chamber.
such manner as he shall find consistent with law.

Vice Director Beck to the Directors at Amsterdam.

Curaçao, 11. June, 1657.

Honorable, Respected, Wife, Prudent and most Discreet Gentlemen.

Gentlemen,

My last to your Honors was by way of the Caribbean Islands, which I hope has been received long ere this. Since then safely arrived here the Freight-boat with those who were commissioned and sent for purposes explained in our previous dispatch, from this place, to the Caraquas, the principal Capital of the Main, lying nearest this P
Ifland, bringing with them the written Answer of the Governor of said locality, who, as represented, was favorably inclined to what was proposed to him in our letter, yet dared not manifest such in public, because, as he alleges, of the Limits agreed upon and concluded in the Articles or Treaty of Peace between his Royal Majesty of Spain and their High Mightinesses the Lords States General. The original Letter received from there, mentioned above, goes herewith, together with the Relation and Verbal Report of the disposition in which our two Commissioners, who were sent thither, found them. Nevertheless, in order to avoid suspicion and arrest, and on account of some Ships lying there, they did not find it expedient to deliver the principal and separate Memorial entrusted to
them to the Governor and Chief Authorities of that place, the rather as no occasion or opportunity presented itself; for they had not been further than the beach in the Harbor and under the Fortresses, whence they had been again dispatched without having been invited to Caraquas, the Capital. They were, however, by order and command of the Governor of Caraquas courteously entertained by the chief officers of the Fortress and place, of the Village and Harbor where they lay and were offered every thing they stood in need of for the prosecution of their Voyage to Eustatius. They report that they have had many inquiries and solicitations for goods, such as Silks, Linens and Hats, but they excused themselves; trade to their Coasts, Harbors and Territories not being permitted, they dared not
bring any thing with them. But on the other hand, if they had an opportunity, and would please to come to Curacao, to purchase Negroes and Merchandize, they would be welcome there and accommodated to their satisfaction either for Specie, Hides, Tobacco or other commodities saleable in Europe. They had communicated to divers individuals the separate Memorial with which they had been entrusted, and had, according to opportunity, divulged it to them as amply and fully as was in their power, and stimulated some thereby to such a degree as to create hope that some time or other it will produce fruit. Your Honors can inform yourselves more fully on the subject by reference to the Reports and Documents sent herewith.

A certain Biscayan, an inhabitant
of Caraquas had, among others, an interview with our Commissioners and gave them to understand that he had a new Vessel on the stocks there with which he was intending at an early day to make a Voyage along the Main from Caraquas hitherward, to certain little Islands lying in the neighborhood of, and opposite Bonayre, near the Main, to catch Turtle, and expected to be engaged there three weeks. It was his intention, according to circumstances, to take with him, as a venture, some Tobacco, Hides and other wares, in order, should people come there to trade with him and bring along such goods as would be of use to him, that he would have payment ready for them, and also have a better opportunity to converse about other trade.

With a view, therefore, to en-
courage those people more and more in our favor, I resolved, upon the abovementioned Report; by advice of and after communication with the adjoined Council here, to send one of the Company's Sloops, with a small cargo of such things as we could obtain here, as a venture thither. I found said Biscayan faithful to his proposal and promise, only he was prevented bringing any Hides or Tobacco with him, by being obliged, by the Governor of Caraquas, to convey some persons for the King to Porto Cabelho, and in order not to create any evil suspicion in their minds, he dared not on this occasion bring any thing with him in his Bark except a little rough Copper or Slacken which he exchanged for the small cargo he bespoke from our people, and further made a Proposal and even
wrote a Letter to me with his own hand, the original whereof is annexed, to purchase the Company's Negroes, that is, all that are here at present, on the following conditions, to wit; That the Company shall have a Ship with their own Crew here ready for the Negroes to embark in, and when resolved to accept his offer, to let him know by those recently with him, at the place designated by him, when he will without loss of time, repair in person to this harbor, and enter into an Agreement and terms for what articles and at what price the Negroes shall be delivered at the place where he hopes to bring them in safety and without danger; and that he will not receive any Negroes before payment for them shall be made on board the Ship, and he or his partner shall remain on board
the Ship, with the Negroes, until the Conditions and Agreement which will be made here, shall be fully carried out.

He reports that the place to which he says he will convey them is on the North side of Cuba, where the (Spanish) Nation has no Fortresses nor means to prevent the project or to disturb them; also that he will leave his own Cousin, who is likewise related to the friends to whom he will convey the Negroes, here at Curacao as a Hostage and security, until it be manifest that he shall have performed in good faith all he has promised; as more fully appears by the annexed Relation and report of Cornet Balthazar Van Es's and Johan Rombouts on the subject. He has requested an answer to this, for his information. I therefore wish your Honors' early
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Instructions hereupon, as to what I shall do, or omit in this matter, and that in the meanwhile I may receive a supply of provisions sufficient for the Negroes to enable me to wait for him.

* * * * *

I have received the Agreement and Condition which Your Honors have concluded with Mr. Henricus Matthias, merchant of Amsterdam, respecting the Negroes. On looking and reading it over, I find it very favorable for that gentleman, wherefore my impression is that your Honors' intention in concluding it is to begin and introduce the trade here. I shall not be wanting, God willing, in obeying and executing your Honors' orders and Instructions in this regard faithfully and to my best ability. Meanwhile, should it happen that Q
Mr. Henricus Matthias's expected Ship did not arrive here, as it has not yet done, I shall expect your further order and answer whether we shall dare to proceed or not with the Negroes on the aforesaid Bifcayan's presented proposals extended as above. In the strong hope and expectation that we shall be able to open a trade with our nearest neighbors, I shall purchase on your Honors' account a small cargo from Skipper Simon Corne-liffen Gilde, so that they may at least find something on coming here; and our Vessels on passing near Bonayre may advise the Biscayan and the other Inhabitant already mentioned, what goods can be purchased here on arriving, taking a sample along to show them, should occasion present, and, at the same time, inform the Biscayan that
I have not received any orders to allow Negroes to leave the Island until payment for them has been made, and that I shall let him have, within four months after date, a fuller and more explicit answer which I hope I shall receive from your Honors in the meantime.

I am confident that on these Conditions he would readily give *Two hundred* pieces of Eight for a merchantable Negro or Negress, one with another, whilst he gave us to understand, that the price of Hides would be *Eighteen* shillings.
Vice Director Beck to the Directors at Amsterdam.


Gentlemen.

* * * * *

AS I advised your Honors in my laft, I dispatched the Freight-boat to the appointed and prefixed place—a certain small Island near the Main—to the Biscayan and sent him word on the subject of his trading for Negroes, as I had informed your Honors more at large in my laft. Whereupon he resolved to visit this place in person, in our aforesaid Freight-boat (StygerSchuit). He was accompanied by a certain Padre, named Friar Francis to purchase a few parcels of merchandize with one or two little Negro Girls.
I also sold to the abovenamed Biscayan, a small Negro Boy with a few goods, for which he had brought with him some Hides and Tobacco in our aforesaid Boat; these are sent herewith as a specimen by the Ship Ostrich, the price of the Hides being Fifteen shillings each and of the Tobacco Six pieces of Eight the Arobe of Twenty five Pounds. I have sold to the aforesaid Padre Friar Francis, goods to the amount of Four hundred pieces of Eight and two little Negro Girls, all at a fair and reasonable price, in order to encourage and stimulate them to come to these Ports to trade, which I think is greatly for the Company's interest. Wherefore, I let the Padre have the two little Negro Girls @ One hundred and fifty pieces of Eight each, which together amounts to Three hundred pieces of Eight,
and to the aforesaid Biscayan a little Boy @ One hundred and twenty pieces of Eight. The Merchandizes which I fold them were purchased from the bearer hereof, Simon Cornelissen Gilde, Skipper of the Ship Ostreich, expressly for this purpose on your Honors' account before their arrival, in order that our nearest Neighbors on coming here may at least on such occasion find something for the asking, until your Honors might send such cargoes as the case requires, as I have partly explained in my last.

Although the abovementioned Padre, Friar Francis, did not bring with him any payment for what he purchased, yet could I not let him go away empty handed, as it was the first time, in consequence of the conversation and verbal Agreement entered into with our Commissary
and Skipper of the Freight-boat before his arrival here—that is, to let them return to the appointed place with what they had purchased, on condition that they should not land, much less receive possession of what has not been paid for here, until they have made payment therefor to the Commisary and Skipper of the aforesaid freight Boat, in good and sufficient Hides.

* * * * *

With regard to the trade in Negroes, the aforesaid Biscayan, now here, hath given me such explanations and further information on that point, that we can come to no other conclusion than that a good and favorable result is to be expected from it. He hath communicated to me the most direct and shortest route, how and in what manner not only a shipload of
Negroes, but successively a cargo of good saleable Merchandize besides could be traded off. Were a Ship with necessaries in the harbor here, he is willing on receiving notice thereof at the appointed place, to come here and enter into such agreement with the Company from which as he firmly believes, he and the Company would derive great advantage.

The place the Negroes should be conveyed to is called Porto Velo, the staple place of trade. Permission can be obtained to dispose of the cargo freely there on paying One hundred and thirteen pieces of Eight for each Negro, which is the Royalty. But such permission is not given except to persons of their own Nation; but it can be obtained under the pretext that they had chartered a Dutch Ship and
Crew to fetch and bring over the Negroes, and that the Negroes and Merchandize in the Ship are the property of their Nation.

Such is the manner in which the aforesaid Biscayan would contract for and purchase Negroes from the Company on the following Conditions: That he, or his companion, with five or six more of their Nation, shall embark at their own expense with the Company's Skipper, Commissary, Crew and Matroses in the Ship lying ready to sail and prosecute with them their Voyage to Porto Velo, and after receiving a permit there from the Governor, sell the Negroes which they know they can sell immediately after their arrival at such a high price that the outlay of the aforesaid Royalty in order to obtain the Permit, may be easily repaid. Therefore, they
will undertake this themselves, and pay to the Company, after safe arrival there, for each Negro and Negress between Eighteen and thirty years of age, Two hundred Reals or Pieces of Eight, in Silver bars or pieces of Eight; further they will be able to obtain there a proper permit to trade then to other places, to load the Ship with such cargo and freight as the countries supply and are most profitable to the country. In like manner, the price for the Goods being agreed upon and arranged here, the payment there for them shall be made in the same manner as for the Negroes, but the risk of the Sea and the expenses of the Negroes, until they arrive at the above place, must be borne by the Company, but when arrived there, they will be responsible for them. For the full per-
formance of the Conditions which shall be made here on the part of the Company, the aforesaid Biscayan offers to stake his life, and even to remain here in person in the Fort, or to leave another responsible person here in custody of the Company at the risk of his life, if any fraud is, or has been intended or designed. And it is further conditioned that the Negroes in their minority, as well as old and deformed ones, must be disposed of at a special and lower price. On these terms he is resolved, at all times from now henceforth, whenever a Ship with Negroes will be ready here, at the time and place to be named where advice is to be sent him, to come hither and with God's merciful help faithfully to perform whatever is abovementioned.

The other Plan or proposal mentioned in my last, to run the Negroes
in at the north side of Cuba, is not, he says, so feasible as this.

Charter of the Ship Eyckenboom for a Voyage to Africa and New Netherland.

IN the Name of the Lord, Amen.

In the year of the birth of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, 1659, the 25th of January, before me Henrick Schaeff, admitted by the Court of Holland a Notary Public residing in Amsterdam, and the undersigned witnesses, in their own persons came and appeared Messieurs Edward Man and Abraham Wilmerdoncx, Directors of the Incorporated West India Company at the Chamber here in Amsterdam
hereunto authorized by the Board of their Associates, as charterers on the one part, and Skipper Jan Jansen Eyckenboom of Hoorn, Master under God, of his Ship named the Eyckenboom, long \( \text{xx} \), wide \( \text{xx} \) and one half, hold \( \text{xx} \) and one half, over it five and one half and six feet, with a half deck and forecastle on either side, and the aforesaid parties declared and do hereby declare to have made and concluded together a certain Contract for a charter of said Ship, in the form and manner hereinafter described, To wit:

That the aforesaid Skipper shall be bound immediately to deliver his aforesaid Ship here in the City fitted out, tight, well caulked, and provided with good and sufficient anchors, cordage, tackle, sails, running and standing rigging and all
other necessaries and appurtenances thereunto belonging, and the same to mount with Ten good pieces of Cannon, with the requisite powder and shot and other ammunition in proportion, but the necessary consumption of powder and shot aforesaid shall be made good by the Company, which shall also put on board said Ship in addition to the Ten pieces aforesaid as many other guns as they please and can conveniently place, and shall provide and pay the expence of the powder and shot therefor, on condition that in the necessary consumption thereof, the aforesaid Skipper shall bear the contingent of his Ship aforesaid; that further, said Company shall man said Ship with such and so many hands and provide them with such stores as said Company will please and think proper. Which
being done on the one side and the other, the aforesaid Ship shall on the part of said Company, be laden with a full and suitable cargo, or to such extent as said Company shall think proper; being laden with all such goods, wares and merchandizes as they will determine, the aforesaid Ship shall, with the first fair wind and weather that God will grant, be dispatched and sail from this country direct to the Coast of Africa and run along said Coast from above downward, or from Cape Verd down, and touch, trade, lie and remain at all trading posts and ports, according to the pleasure of said Company and their Commiffary, unto the Castle St. George d'el Mina, where they shall receive or find orders from the Company's Director General and Council or shall be furnished with them on
failing hence; And sail towards the Bight of Guinea and touch and trade at all other places lying therein according to the order which shall be given him by the Director General or here; from thence proceed further to the Islands of Curaçao, Bonaire, and Aruba in the West Indies, and also to New Netherland, and all round every where else the Company, or its Ministers, shall determine and order, and likewise at all said quarters and places trade and traffic Goods, Wares and Merchandizes and also take in people, load and unload at the pleasure of the aforesaid Company or its Ministers; And to that end sail to and from, run hither and thither, anchor, lie, load and unload at said Coasts, Quarters and Places as often and as frequently and so long as the service of the Company such shall
demand; Furthermore, return and come thence to this city Amsterdam or the destined port of discharge, and on her safe return and arrival, there discharge and deliver to the aforesaid Company her laden return cargo and goods. Which done, there shall be paid to him the Skipper for the contracted freight, every month, the sum of Eight hundred guilders of xx ffivers each, on condition that the Company is bound for the term of Six successive months or longer, to be calculated according to the length of time, all current months according to the Almanac, to run and commence when the Ship shall, in the prosecution of the Voyage, reach the Sea outside the last buoy of the Texel, and to expire when she shall arrive and cast anchor before this city of Amsterdam or her destined
port of discharge, payable xiii days @ three weeks after the aforesaid discharge here, besides average and pilotage according to the custom of the Sea, and over and above also Hat money for the abovenamed Skipper at the Company's discretion. And said Skipper, with and besides the Company's Crew, shall also make the Voyage with the aforesaid Ship in order to look to said Ship, her appurtenances, &c., making use of the Company's stores, but the monthly pay or wages not being at its charge; And he shall be, over and above, subject to the orders and instructions, articles and other rules of the Company during the Voyage, no more nor less than if he had been sworn to observe the same, they being taken as inserted herein, and especially also in regard to particular or private forbidden
trading, in shipping or conveyance of particular or private goods, merchandise or wares, on pain according to the aforesaid Articles, Orders and Instructions of the said Company. The abovementioned Directors, parties hereunto, pledging for the payment of the aforesaid contracted monthly or freight moneys, average and pilotage, their private persons and property, and the aforesaid Skipper, specially, also his person, Ship, appurtenances and contracted freight moneys, and generally all his other property, real and personal, present and to come without any exception, submitting the same to the Court of Holland and all laws and judges, all aboveboard. Done at Amsterdam in the presence of Cryn van Seventer and Marten Hegervelt, free citizens (poorters) here, witnesses hereunto invited.
Bill of Lading of Negroes.

I, Jan Pietersen of Dockum, Skipper under God of my Ship named the Spera Mundi, now lying ready before Curacao, with the first fair wind which God shall vouchsafe, to sail to New Netherland, where my correct unloading shall take place, acknowledge that I have received under the deck of my aforesaid Ship, from you Frans Bruyn, to wit, Five Negroes, whereof one is a Negress, all dry and well conditioned, and marked with the annexed mark. All which I promise to deliver (if God grant me a safe Voyage) with my aforesaid Ship at N. Netherland aforesaid, to the Honble Director General Petrus Stuyvesant, or his Factor or Depu-
ties, on payment for the freight of the above described goods, at the discretion of the said Director General, and for the performance hereof, I bind myself, and all my goods and my aforesaid Ship and appurtenances. In witness of the truth, I have signed three Copies hereof with my name, all of the same tenor, the one being satisfied, the others to be void. Written at Curaçao the 24th day of August, Anno 1659.

Jan Pieters Gros

of Dockum.
Vice Director Beck to Director Stuyvesant.

Curacao, August, 1659.

Honorable, Valiant, Wise, Prudent and most Discreet Sir.

Sir,

I NOW transmit to your Honor duplicates of what I have already sent by the Galiot New Amstel, Skipper Augustinus Heermans, and it will be very agreeable to me if I may be informed by the earliest opportunity of their speedy and safe arrival. I would not forego the present favorable occasion and opportunity of the Ship Spera Mundi, Jan Pietersen Skipper, to acquaint you of the circumstances of this Island up to the present time (God
be praised! in regard to the Commerce with our nearest Neighbors. Hitherto there have not been imported as many goods as the demand requires, and especially the trade in Negroes at this place which the Company hath reserved to itself, or else all are sold.

There are lying here, at present, two Ships ready to sail hence for Fatherland, which occupy my whole time, so that I have not much leisure to write to your Honor at length. The one is the Company's Ship called the King Solomon, which arrived here on the 2d of July from Guinea, with Three hundred and thirty one Slaves. Of these I have sold 300 @ One hundred and fifty pieces of Eight each, to a certain Spanish trader whom I am daily expecting to come here and receive them, which I wish may occur
before the departure of the aforesaid two Ships in order to be able to transmit the proceeds to the Lords Masters.

Franck Bruyn purchased out of the aforesaid lot of Negroes for your Honor, Two Boys and a Girl who go over in this Ship. I have done every thing possible to protect them against the cold. Franck Bruyn hath also purchased Two for Commissary Van Brugh, who likewise go by this conveyance on said Commissary's account. Your Honor will please to have such payment collected therefor from said Van Brugh for the Company, as you will consider just. Commissary Laurens van Ruyven hath also purchased Two young Negroes here for account of his brother the Secretary of your Province, at the same price as the lot sold for here, viz., One
hundred and fifty Patacoons. I am still in daily expectation of a Ship with Negroes. I wish they were come, even were they a thousand head. I expect the abovementioned merchant here, as already stated, to take away those of the King Solomon. He is well able and will eagerly buy the whole lot at once.

I have received orders from the Lords Masters to send your Honor against the Spring, some fifteen or sixteen Negroes whom I could have easily dispatched now, but we have no coarse cloth to clothe them, and are fearful that they will not be able to endure the Winter there. As Negroes will be plenty here in future, I thought it best, according to orders, to postpone sending them

* A Spanish Coin of the Value of $1.04.
until the Spring, when I shall be sending a young Negro Girl for Mr. Augustinus Heermans according to his request. Meanwhile, I hope to receive for my instruction, your Honor's advice and order as to whether you will require any more Negroes than the above, and of what age and in what numbers you wish them sent.

* * * * *

1659. December 26, Director Stuyvesant writing to the Directors at Holland says:

"The Negroes purchased at Curacao for £140 @ 150 and paid for, cannot be sold here (at New Amsterdam) again at that price, either in Beaver or Tobacco, so that all the expences of going and returning are entirely lost."
Vice Director Beck to the Directors of the West India Company.

Curacao, 4th Feb., 1660.

Noble, Honorable, Respected, Wise, Prudent and most Discreet Gentlemen.

Gentlemen,

My last to your Honors, dated 5. January, as per copy enclosed, was by the Ship Gideon, Skipper Simon Cornelissen by way of the Caribbean Islands.

* * * * *

You will learn from my last letters, and from the annexed papers sent again herewith, the fate of the Ship St. John, which was due here from Guinea with Negroes, and
which according to your Honors' orders was to replace the Ship Die-men here. What causes us most grief here is, that your Honors have thereby lost such a fine lot of Negroes and such a fast sailing Bark which has been our right arm here.*

Although I have strained every nerve to overtake the Robbers of the Negroes and Bark, as stated in my last, yet have I not been as successful as I wished. I shall communicate the particulars to your Honors, God willing, by the Ship St. George, which is about to sail direct from hence this month. If no remedy can be found to prevent such Robberies, and villainous crimes as the carrying away of the Company's Slaves and Bark, and no prosecution and redress follow, they will not

* See Journal and Papers in first Part of this Volume.
only persist therein, but even strike terror into the Spanish merchants who come here to trade.

Inclosed herein goes a Minute of what I have provisionally judged necessary, with the advice of the Council, to be done against them. Copy thereof has been furnished to Simon Cornelisse Gilde, to be used by him, according to circumstances. And although my zeal be hearty and sincere to pursue such Robbers, and as much as possible, to repair and make good your Honors' losses, yet have I been scrupulous, as I did not wish to do too much or too little. Therefore do I respectfully soliciit your Honors to supply me herein with such orders, ample advice and power, that I may set to work and execute them unscrupulously against similar and such like Robbers, when occasion offers,
so that others may take example therefrom. Had we had here a fast failing Yacht of fourteen guns, manned in proportion, we might, without doubt, have overtaken and again recovered by force or with good right, the aforesaid Negroes and Bark, and it grieves us that we for want thereof could not carry out our good intentions.

We regret exceedingly that such Rovers should have been the cause of the ill success of the zeal we feel to attract the Spanish traders hither for your Honors' benefit, by previous notices and otherwise, for the augmentation of Commerce and the sale of the Negroes which are to come here more and more in your Honors' Ships and for your account. What is lawfully done by English Ships with regular orders and Commission against their Enemies, even
the Spanish Nation, and not against us, we must tolerate; but whenmost of the damage is inflicted without lawful order and Commission, not only on the Spanish Nation, but even on ourselves, it ought not to be tolerated, and should, by all ways and means, be driven from the Sea.

I have witnessed with pleasure your Honors' diligence in providing us here from time to time with Negroes. That will be the only bait to allure hither the Spanish Nation, as well from the Main as from other parts, to carry on trade of any importance. But the more subtly and quietly the trade to and on this Island can be carried on, the better will it be for this place and yours.

* * * * *
Inasmuch as Mr. Gysbert de Rosfa, who is with me, is authorized by the private persons interested in the Ship Hope to apply to the Governor of the Havana, by whom we understand the Rover has been arrested, and to that end have sent to me such papers, letters and proofs as may serve for the recovery of said Ship and cargo, nevertheless up to this time have we had no opportunity to effect the work according to our good inclination, except that Mr. Gysbert de Rosfa has recently sent his Yacht, The Young St. Paul, with a cargo to St. Jago de Cuba, by which we wrote conjointly a letter to the Governor at Havanna to be sent to him overland from Cuba, to give said Governor some premonition, until a more favorable opportunity shall present itself to
carry out your Honors' intentions and those of the private friends who are interested.

I first received the contract entered into by your Honors with Messrs Hector Pietersen and Guillaume Momma, by the Ships Gideon and Love, after the Negroes that had come by the Ship King Solomon had all been sold, and although the Ship Eyckenboom has not yet arrived, two Spanish Vessels with a Yacht from Cadiz have cast anchor in this port on the 2d January. They are come pursuant to express orders to the Captain of the aforesaid Vessel Pedro Sorilho by name, for the purpose of taking away those Negroes, according to contract; and Skipper Ewout Jansen has exhibited those orders to me, and this gave me to understand, that in case they should leave here without Negroes, the whole
object of their Voyage would be thereby frustrated, and they should in consequence suffer excessive damages. I found myself, therefore, obliged to solicit as well the free-men as the Company's servants, to loan from their Plantations to the Company as many Negroes as they could possibly spare, under the promise that good stout Negroes should be returned in their stead, out of the first lot which would come for the Company. In this way, what with the Cape Verde Negroes, and those of the Company and of private individuals, I have collected together with great trouble Sixty two head. As there were among them some old and some young, two were deducted for them, as appears by the original Receipt transmitted herewith. They have accordingly paid me here for Forty six head, as
per contract, @ One hundred and twenty pieces of Eight, amounting to Five thousand, five hundred and twenty pieces of Eight, leaving Fourteen head of Negroes, for which the aforesaid Meffrs Hector Pietersen and Guillaume Momma are to pay your Honors in Holland, as is more fully set forth in the receipt to which for brevity sake I refer.

* * * * *

The aforesaid Captain, highly gratified and contented, failed from here with his two Ships on the 15th January for Porto Bello, as he informed me.

* * * * *

I received by the Ship Gideon, from Cape Verde only Twenty eight Slaves, old and young, as appears by the receipt delivered to the Skipper. In consequence of their condition and age, they are not
worth so much as the Negroes lately brought by the *King Solomon*. But I have since been informed that if a handsome lot of Negroes could, when opportunity offers, be imported from that place, those would proportionably advance in price.

What your Honors recommend to me in regard to Privateers, that they shall not be allowed to come here or hereabouts, I have fully communicated to our opposite Neighbors,* and to the Spanish Nation in other places. Few Privateers will come into our harbor, because they know that they are suspected here, unless they come into port in numbers under one pretence or another, to see if they cannot obtain some advantage over us for purposes of plunder, as the Rovers

* That is in *Venezuela* and the Spanish Main. Ed.
have indeed threatened us. Though well on our guard here against them, yet must our defence depend on human hands in such circumstances. The reinforcement your Honors have now sent in the Ship Love is not sufficient to oppose a great force, because, on the other hand, as many of the old Soldiers, whose time is expired, are going away as nearly balance the reinforcement just arrived.

With so few men we cannot resist any evil disposed Spaniards, if they should have any bad design in their heads, and be as strong as the two Ships which lately arrived here in our Harbor with full Two hundred and fifty hands. The same holds good in regard to the French and English Privateers, who heretofore have visited our Harbor, and we place as little confidence in the
one as in the other. The Spaniards seeing that we are so weak, can get up one pretext or another, especially those who come from Spain, who look on this trade with a jealous eye. For, some Merchants who arrived in this port with the afore-said two Ships, have, as I am informed, alleged here to one and another, that the Trade which we carry on here with the Spanish Nation on the Coast or elsewhere, would not be permitted in Spain, and such a prohibition would be issued that no Spaniard belonging to any place would dare to come hither for the purpose of trade. On the other hand, I have understood from the Captain himself, that they are confident the Trade here will flourish more and more, and he hoped that his Ship, the St. Catharine, would return here
in four months with *Three to Four thousand* pieces of Eight to purchase Negroes and Merchandize. This was confirmed to me by the Dutch Skipper *Ewout Janssen*, in case they arrive safe at *Porto Bello*. The Spanish Frigates which have been previously here, and trade to *New Spain*, have also told me the same thing, and said that they came yearly from *New Spain* up to *Caraccas*, with considerable cash to trade there for Cocoa and Merchandize, and that they then would seek a pretext to touch, on their way from *Caraccas*, here to purchase Negroes and stock goods.
Receipt of Pedro Diez Trox-xilla for Slaves.

I, UNDERWRITTEN, hereby acknowledge to have received from the Hon.ble Mathias Beck, Governor over the Curacao Islands, Sixty two Slaves, old and young, in fulfillment and performance of the Contract concluded on the 26th June, A° 1659, by Messrs Hector Pieters and Guillaume Momma, with the Lords Directors at the Chamber at Amsterdam; and as the Negroes by the Ship King Solomon, were disposed of, long before the arrival of the undersigned, and the Ship Eyckenboom, mentioned in the aforesaid Contract, has not arrived at this date, the said Governor has furnished me, the undersigned, with the abovementioned Sixty two
Slaves, and on account of the old and young which are among the aforesaid Negroes, has allowed a deduction of two Negroes, so that there remain *Sixty* head in the clear, for which I, the undersigned, have here according to Contract, paid to the Governor aforesaid for *Forty six* head, @ *One hundred and twenty* pieces of Eight, amounting to *Five thousand, five hundred and twenty* pieces of Eight. Whereas, *Fourteen* Negroes remain still to be paid for, according to Contract in Holland by Meffrs Hector Pieters and Guillame Momma in Amsterdam, to Meffrs the Directors aforesaid, on presentation of this my receipt, to which end three of the same tenor are executed and signed in the presence of two undersigned trust-worthy witnesses, whereof the one being satisfied the others are to be
void. Curacao in Fort Amsterdam, the 11th January, A° 1660. It being understood that the above Fourteen Negroes, to be paid for in Amsterdam, shall not be charged higher than according to Contract @ Two hundred and eighty Guilders each, amounting together to Three thousand, nine hundred and twenty Carolus Guilders. Dated as above.

Pedro Diez Troxxilla,
Ewout Jansen.

Witnesses,
Nicolaes Haeck,
L. V. Ruyven.
Director Stuyvesant to Vice Director Beck.

Amsterdam in New Netherland, }  
  17 February, 1660. 

* * * * *

Four Negro Boys and one Negro Girl have, as you advised, been sent to, and received by me the Ship Spera Mundi; 3 on mine and 2 on Commissary Van Brugge's account, their price being left to our discretion. Upon this subject I must say, that the assignment sent to me by Frans Bruyn is unsigned. However, in order to avoid any difficulty, I left this time the choice to the Commissary who took the Negro Girl and one of the stoutest Boys. But greater difficulties have arisen in this wise:
One of the *Five* died on the passage hither; some were sick or have become so after arriving. To prevent any misunderstanding in future, the sold Negroes ought to be consigned to the purchaser by their names or marks.

As regards the price which was left to our discretion, in order to prevent any suspicion of self interestedness, I wish your Honor to inform me after the others have been sold, what price they brought.

I have observed by your despatch to the Honble Directors, dated 3 September, forwarded by the Ship *Spherea Mundi* the 26 December last, that the Negroes were sold to Mr Corn' van Ool @ 140 pieces of Eight, viz., from 40 to 16 years; from 16 to 12 years, three for two; under 12 years, two for one.

We hope and trust that by com-
plying with such price and terms, we shall avoid all suspicion of self interest. I am willing to take my share of the expence and risk of their passage hither, because I desired the Negroes for my own service and the promotion of Agriculture, not in the expectation of any gain, and therefore sent for young ones, in which regard the worthy Inhabitants, Christians, and those of the Honble Company, ought, I think, to be preferred before Spaniards and unbelieving Jews.

You will see by the enclosed extracts from my letter covering yours to the Honble Directors, what I have proposed to them. It is therefore desirable and somewhat necessary that a fixed price should be set on Horses conveyed hither, or ordered from Curacao, by private persons, as well as on Negroes as
far as practicable, according to their ability and age, because the one as well as the other are most urgently required here for purposes of Agriculture and its advancement, and finally would tend to the greater advantage, trade and prosperity of the Honble Company and its subjects.

* * * * *

In regard to the Negroes which the Honble Directors ordered to be sent hither, they ought to be stout and strong fellows, fit for immediate employment on this Fortress and other works; also, if required, in war against the Wild Barbarians, either to pursue them when retreating, or else to carry some of the Soldiers' baggage; it being very apparent that we shall be constrained to wage a righteous and offensive War against them, for the
peaceable possession once of the Land, and the avenging of numerous suffered affronts and murders. An important service would be conferred on the Company, on us and the Country if there were among the fold Negroes, some of experience who had resided a certain time at Curaçao.

Directors at Amsterdam to Director Stuyvesant.

Amsterdam, the 9th March, 1660.

* * * * *

Now as regards the trade in Slaves, or Negroes, which the Inhabitants there at Curaçao might pursue, that is permitted to them as to other Merchants, with the understanding, however, that it is
not to be at a lower price, for the reason that the Company here would thereby be seriously prejudiced. But as Agriculture there would be beneficially promoted by Negroes, and the advancement thereof is of great importance, and the prosperity of that State is, for the most part, dependent thereon, we have, therefore, concluded and even resolved to try an experiment with a parcel of Negroes which we shall have conveyed to your Honor by the first opportunity which a Ship or Ships may offer from Curacao. These Negroes shall then be publicly sold to the highest bidder there, on the express condition, nevertheless, that they shall not be removed thence, but be employed in cultivating the Land. To this end, an exact register shall be made and
kept, as your Honor will see by the accompanying form of the aforesaid Conditions.

* * * * *

Proposed Contract to import Slaves into New Netherland.

THIS day, the undersigned Director and Council of New Netherland, thereunto authorized by Resolution of the Chamber at Amsterdam, on the one part, and the Owners of the Ship whereof is Skipper, burthen about Tons, on the other part, have agreed and contracted that a Permit and Commission in due form shall be granted to the aforesaid Skipper, to buy Slaves, and further to prosecute such advantage as said Owners shall deem
expedient on the Coast of Africa; in like manner to return here to the Manhattans with the said Slaves and their further cargo, provided nevertheless that they shall not be at liberty, in regard to the Coast of Africa, to resort on the granted Permit to the Gold Coast, and therefore not to go Westerly further than Ardre or at most to Popo, on pain of the loss of the Ship and Goods laden therein, to which end the Directors and Council shall be at liberty to place a Supercargo on board said Ship, (whom the Skipper shall be bound to entertain in the Cabin,) and if necessary to cause the People therein to be sworn; for which aforesaid Permit and Commission the aforesaid Owners promise, on the return of the said Ship and before her discharge, promptly to pay to the Director
and Council aforesaid, or their deputies, a duty of Fifteen Guilders for each Negro, without making any exception or objection thereto. Under bond of their persons and Goods, none excepted, with renunciation of benefit ordinis divisionis et excussionis, having entire knowledge thereof. Done New Amsterdam this

Remonstrance on the preceding proposed Contract.

Honorable, Wife, Prudent Lords, Petrus Stuyvesant, Governor General, and the Councillors of New Netherlands, Curacao and Dependencies thereof.

Honorable,

The Undersigned Burghers and Inhabitants of this City New Amsterdam, your Honors' liege Sub-
jects, most respectfully represent that they are inclined to a foreign Trade, and especially to the Coast of Africa, according to the Con-
cession of the Honble Directors granted in the year 1652, as a special privilege to the Inhabitants of this Place, in order to fetch thence Slaves and other Wares might be disposed of here and elsewhere, whereby this City and the entire Country would increase and prosper in Merchandize, Commerce, Population and more especially in the Tobacco Trade, to the advantage not only of these Inhabitants, but also of the Honble West India Company which would behold, in time, a vast, populous, and rich commercial Province spring up in these parts therefrom.

But it has appeared to them that those who would execute with...
Skipper or Merchant going to that Country a Draft of Partnership, which is beset and pinched by such precise Conditions, would risk their lives and Goods, and at best gain nothing, or run the risk of having Ship and Goods confiscated. For, besides the entire of the Gold Coast being excepted in that Concession, it appears that Cape Verde, Siera Leona, the Greyn (Pepper) and Qua Qua Coast are also excluded; for it is not permitted to resort further West, at farthest, than Popo Sonde. Moreover, the Gold Coast which from Cape Apolonia to Cape des Rodes or Mount Berique is reckoned 60 leagues, can be extended much further, as will be seen, to any place where Gold may be found. And as regards Slaves; for each head 15 Guilders must be paid, and then the payment for them in Tobacco or Beaver, is again taxed when
shipped to Fatherland, which imposes too heavy a burthen on this hazardous Trade.

The Honble Company, in the meanwhile, must perceive that our Neighbors the French, English, Swedes, Danes and Courlanders, are by means of the Netherlanders who repair to them, trading along the entire Coast, even under their strongholds, without any profit being derived therefrom by the Company; Yea, they suffer rather very serious loss thereby, as is manifest from the example of Arent de Groot who in the Year 1638, built a Fort at Cormantyn for the English, and of Hendrick Caerlof, the former Fiscal, who built another at Cape Corsé in the Year 1650, for the Swedes.

Your Honors' subjects passing by these strongholds, take another course and as faithful subjects, ad-
dress themselves to you, humbly praying permission to trade free and unobstructed in Ship or Ships, along the whole of the West Coast of Africa, that is, from Cape Verd to Cape Lopes de Gonvalve, in all Bays, Rivers and Coasts, without any exception, the Honble Company's strongholds alone excepted, according to the Rules and Orders, on payment, either here or in Holland, of such moderate duty as shall be agreed on. This doing, &c.

(Signed)

Cornelius Steenwyck,
Marten Kregier,
Themotheus Gabrie,
Oloff Stevensen,
Govert Loocquermans,
Jacob Strycker.
P. L. Vande Grift,
Pieter Rudolphus,
Hendrick Jansen Vander Vier,
Peter Couwenhoven,
Jacob Steendam,
Johannes Verveelen.
The preceding Petition being read and considered, the following Apostil was annexed thereto:

The Director General and Council consider themselves unqualified, without the previous knowledge and approbation of their Superiors, the Lords Directors of the Incorporated West India Company, Chamber at Amsterdam, to grant any further enlargement than the Act herein mentioned implies. The Petitioners, therefore, must make application on the subject to that Board. Done Fort Amsterdam in New Netherland, 3d May, 1660.

**Bill of Lading of Negroes.**

I UNDERWRITTEN Jan Jan-fen Eyckenboom, Skipper under God of my Ship called the Eyck-
enboom, lying at present in the Harbor of the Island of Curacao, ready to sail for New Netherland, hereby acknowledge to have received in my Ship aforefaid from the Honble Vice Director Matthias Beck for account of the Honble Company, Twenty head of Sound Slaves or Male Negroes, whom I undertake and promise to deliver after the prosperous and safe arrival of my Ship in New Netherland, unto the Honble Director General and Council there, first acknowledging to have executed triplicate Receipts therefor, one of which being satisfied, the others shall be void. Curacao in Fort Amsterdam, the 8 May, A° 1660.

Jan Janse Eyckenboom.
Director Stuyvesant to the Directors at Amsterdam.

Amsterdam in New Netherland, } 25 June, 1660.

* * * * * *

We are this instant informed by a Fisherman, that the Galiot New Amstel is in fight with another flute with Horses and Negroes from Curacao. We shall communicate to your Honors by the first opportunity, perhaps the Ship Faith, what intelligence we receive from there, and in the mean time will execute your orders as to the sale of the Negroes.

* * * * *

The Flute already mentioned, which arrived here from Curacao with the Galiot is named the Eyck-
enboom, and was dispatched 16 or 17 months ago in the service and pay of the Company to Guinea, and thence with Negroes to Curacao.

Nineteen Negroes arrived here in the same Vessel; the twentieth died on the Voyage. The remainder are in tolerable health.

Director Stuyvesant to Vice Director Beck.

Amsterdam in New Netherland, 5 July, 1660.

IN respect to the Three Negro Boys received by the Ship Sphera Mundi, they will be accepted on the same terms as those so told Van Olen. You will please to enter them on our account there, and
offset them against what has been heretofore delivered out of our coreal to the store there.

Nineteen of the 20 head of Negroes which your Honor sent on the Company's account, have arrived in tolerable condition and health.

* * * * *

It has pleased the Honble Company, on our proposal transmitted by the Ship Sphaera Mundi, in regard to the trade in Negroes and the equalization of duties between the two Conquests, to write, on the first, in order to make no alteration to the Company's prejudice in the Negro trade at Curacao, that they had resolved for the promotion of Agriculture, to send thence hither a good number of Negroes, to be sold to the Inhabitants, on condition that they shall not be transported elsewhere, believing that, by this
method, the Honble Company will suffer less loss and the People reap greater benefit. The effect hereof we shall leave to time.

Bill of Lading of Negroes.

I UNDERWRITTEN Dirck Jansen from Oldenburgh, Skipper under God of my Ship named the New Netherland Indian, at present lying in the Harbor of the Island of Curacao, ready to sail to New Netherland, hereby acknowledge to have received from the Honble Vice Director Matthias Beck, for account of the Honble Company, Ten head of Sound Slaves or Male Negroes, whom I undertake and promise to deliver, after my safe arrival with my Ship in New Netherland, to the Honble Director
General and Council there, first signing three Receipts of the same tenor, of which when one is satisfied the others are void. Curacao, in Fort Amsterdam, the 31st August, A° 1660.

Dierck Jans.


Permit to export a crazy Negro to Virginia.

The Petition of Samuel Edsal, setting forth that one of the Negroes purchased by him on the 8th of October last at public Auction from the Director General
and Council is unfit to perform any sort of work, as he is sometimes not in his right mind, and requesting permission to send him to Virginia, being read and considered, it is Apostilled—

The Petition is granted on condition that the Petitioner, when opportunity offers, shall import or cause to be imported into the Country another in stead thereof. Done 20th January, 1661.

Directors at Amsterdam to Director Stuyvesant.

Amsterdam, 11th April, 1661.

Honorable, Prudent, Valiant, Beloved, Faithful.

The bearer hereof has safely handed us your Letter of the 9th ultimo, which came by way
of New and Old England. The Necessaries required therein, not already sent, shall be forwarded to you in the Vessels now lying ready to sail direct thither.

This goes by way of Curacao. And as we have observed by the enclosures thereof, that the greater portion of the Slaves conveyed thither by the Eyckenboom and New Netherland Indian, have been sold at a fair price, we have written to Vice Director Beck at Curacao herewith, and ordered him to provide you with a fresh supply by every opportunity. We have done this the rather, because we have resolved not only that Slaves shall be kept in New Netherland, as we have heretofore ordered, but be moreover exported to the English and other Neighbors. This, however, on condition that on such
occasion there shall be paid, on each exported Negro, a duty of Two Beavers, which is a small and light impost.

The reasons which have led us to the adoption of such Resolution, are, among others none of the smallest, the promotion both of Agriculture and Trade in those Parts, as herefrom a greater frequentation of the water communication between New Netherland and Curaçao, must necessarily follow, and tend accordingly to their prosperity. Thus the one will be supplied and provided with necessaries by the other, which is a matter of great consideration in regard to foreign Possessions.

As your Honor observes, our zeal and care for the welfare of New Netherland, so must you endeavor to retain us therein and consequently
not fail to send us, from time to time, such returns as may accrue there from the sale of the Slaves, in which case we shall not neglect to have your Honor supplied with others by every opportunity.

Herewith,
Honorable, Prudent, Valiant, Beloved, Faithful, commending you to God's protection we remain,
The Directors of the West India Company, at the Chamber of Amsterdam,

C. Witsen,
Edward Man.
Direc\text{tor} Stuyvesant to Vice Direc\text{tor} Beck.

Honorable, Wife, Prudent, right Discreet Sir.

\textit{YOUR} welcome Letter of the 31st of August of last Year, was handed to us in due course by the Bearer, in which is first mentioned the unfortunate loss for the Company on the Horses sent hither in the Ship \textit{Eyckenboom} and Galiot \textit{New Amstel}. You Honor will learn from the annexed return of the public sale, what they brought here in consequence of their emaciated appearance after having been refreshed during two or three months.

We have had better luck with the few Slaves sent hither at the same time. They were sold to the highest bidder, chiefly at Beaver's
value, which differs little from Silver pay. I have retained some of the best for the Company. One with another they brought about £l. 440* a head, less the freight.

On this point, we must not neglect to recommend, in case Negroes are hereafter sent in one and the same Vessel, some on the Company’s, and others on private account, as happened in the Ship Indian, that on such occasions, the Negroes sent for account of the Company, or Individuals, may be distinguished the one from the other by some particular marks or tokens, either by a stripe on the clothing or otherwise, in order to prevent disputes and differences here, which we might easily have had here with the Owners of the Ship Indian if any had fallen sick or died on the

* Equal to $176.
paffage, since they claimed to be entitled to the first choice, leaving the rest for the Company. This choice I also have allowed them, as there were no certain marks to guide us. *

Amsterdam in New Netherland, 16th April, A° 1661.
(By the New Netherland Indian.)

Resolution of the Director and Council of New Netherland.
Friday, 2d September, 1661.

In Council. Present—
The Honorable Director General
Petrus Stuyvesant,
Hon. Nicasius de Sille,
Johan de Decker.

WHEREAS, the Yacht New Netherland Indian arrived here yesterday from Curaçao, by which
I have received on the Company's Account 36 out of 40 head of Negroes and Negresses, both young and old, that had been shipped in that Vessel, it is resolved in order to prevent expense and loss by death or otherwise, to sell them publicly on Tuesday next to the highest bidder, and to announce the same immediately every where by Notices.

It being taken into consideration in regard to the above subject, what pay the above Negroes should be sold for, it is by a majority of Votes resolved, to sell them for Beaver or Provisions, such as Beef, Pork, Wheat or Pease, at Beaver price; for if they are to be sold for Beaver or Cash down, or Tobacco at Beaver price, neither Burgher nor Farmer can purchase any, since there is no Tobacco, much less Beaver in cir-
calculation among the People. By this means, a few persons only, to whom the Company is indebted, would have an opportunity to monopolize them in diminution of the debt, and that at a small price, because, as already stated, such only will be for their interest, whereby then, the Company will be frustrated out of the Beaver or Tobacco down, and we, also, shall be obliged to purchase a quantity of Provisions for the Garrison against the coming Winter, and in payment thereof take up Goods from the Merchants at the highest price, and next year again lose thereby the greatest portion of the Beaver. Therefore, for these and many other reasons it has been thought best to sell the aforesaid Negroes for Beaver or Provisions at Beaver price.
Director Stuyvesant to the Directors at Amsterdam.

Fort Amsterdam in New Netherland, 31st October, 1661.

Honorable, &c.

As nothing of consequence has transpired since the departure of the Faith and Gilded Eagle, by which the condition of affairs had been explained at large, and nothing of any importance has since occurred, this Letter is principally intended to accompany Invoices, Muster Rolls of the Garrison, and a few necessary Documents.

* * * * *

Nos. 6 and 7 are two Lifts, one of a lot of old, and the other of a lot of young, male and female Negroes, sent hither by Vice Director
Beck in the Ship New Netherland Indian. Annexed thereto is a return of the conditions and prices at which they were sold here.

* * * * *

Resolution of the Director and Council of New Netherland.

Monday, 7th November, 1661.

IN COUNCIL. Present—
Director General Petrus Stuyvesant,
Honble Nicasius de Sille,
Johan de Decker.

RESOLVED, to sell four more of the 7 Negroes, held over last year, to the highest bidder at public auction on the following Conditions:

The Buyers shall be empowered to use the purchased Negroes as Aa
Bond Slaves, also to resell them to others either within or beyond this Province, provided that whomsoever will remove or transport them beyond this Province, shall pay for each Negro a duty of Two Beavers.

Payment shall be made down at latest within six weeks from date hereof in Wheat or Rye.

The Wheat at 3 Guilders, and the Rye at 2 1/2 Gl. the Skepel.

The Negroes shall be delivered to the Purchasers at the time of payment and not before.

The Purchasers shall be bound to give sufficient security.

Contract for a Cargo of Slaves for New Netherland.

This day the Messrs Abraham Wilmerdonx and Jacob Pergens, both Directors of
the West India Company at the Chamber here, being specially authorized thereto by their Associates, on the one part, and Hendrick Roeters, old schepen, Johan Tayspil and Anthony Casteleyn, Commisaries and Directors of this City's Colonie in New Netherland, by their Associates thereunto specially delegated, on the other part, agree and contract, that the abovenamed Directors intending to purchase a parcel of Slaves at Angola, and to convey them to New Netherland, shall admit the aforesaid Commissioners and Directors to participate with them in the costs and risk of the Trade of the aforesaid Slaves, for one fourth, in all respects the same as the Company, and that accordingly the abovenamed Directors and Commissioners shall also pay their portion in the moneys which are advanced.
to the Skipper of the *Gideon*, and the aforesaid Directors (of the West India Company) shall with all possible speed dispatch the Ship *Gideon*, chartered for that purpose by their Honors, according to the Charter Party, and let it pursue its Voyage accordingly; that the abovenameed Directors shall have the exclusive management of the aforesaid Trade and raise on bottomry the moneys required therefor, in the manner usual with the Company, and after the Voyage is completed, account for and settle with the abovenameed Directors and Commissaries for every thing; and that the aforesaid Commissioners shall give orders that their Officers, being notified of the arrival of the aforesaid Slaves at the *Manhattans*, shall repair thither to receive the aforesaid fourth of the said Negroes by blind lot, and give
receipt therefor; that, further, the aforesaid Commissioners, as soon as the receipt shall be produced here, shall pay to the Company Ten Carolus Guilders, over and above their share as above in the Trade, after delivery for each merchantable Slave from 15 to 36 years, being reckoned head for head as merchantable, and above 36 and from 15 to 8 years downwards, three for two, and from 8 years down, 2 for one, sucklings following the mother. All under express condition, that the abovenamed Directors and Commissioners must retain the aforesaid Slaves in their Colonie without allowing them to be sold to any other Nation outside the Colonie, or suffering them to be either directly or indirectly removed or sold elsewhere. All upon the penalty of 300 Florins for each Slave who
shall be removed, or such higher penalty as is provided or may hereafter be provided in the Ordinances already enacted, or that shall hereafter be enacted therefor in New Netherland.

Directors at Amsterdam to Director Stuyvesant.

Amsterdam, 20th January, 1664.

* * * * *

IN our last which we enclose, you were informed that we contracted with Symon Gilde, Skipper of the Ship Gideon, to export a goodly number of Slaves from Loango on the Coast of Africa, and to convey them by way of Curacao to New Netherland; also that this City is a partner therein for one fourth part, as may be more fully
seen by the Copies hereunto annexed.

As the Slaves are intended solely to promote Agriculture, which is the only means of making the State prosperous, so is it our express order, that the aforesaid Slaves shall be sold there only to our Inhabitants on the express condition, that they shall not be exported out of our district, but specially retained therein, to be employed in the cultivation of the soil, so that the great expense which we have incurred may not be fruitless, but that we may, in due course of time, reap the fruits which we promise ourselves therefrom. The aforesaid Ship with about 300 Slaves may, according to our calculation, arrive yonder in the month of June or July next.

As your Honor will be greatly relieved by this supply, you will
therefore use every effort that one third part at least of the proceeds shall be forwarded hither in Beaver, in order that we may be enabled to pay the freight, or the greatest part thereof at farthest, on the arrival of the aforesaid Ship here, which we are bound to do by contract. Otherwise, we shall lose all ambition to continue such transmission of Slaves. This we commend to your Honor's special consideration.

**Director Stuyvesant to Vice Director Beck.**

_Amsterdam in New Netherland, 7 May, 1664._

MESSrs the Directors, and the Commissioners of the Coloni on the _South River_, have entered
into a contract with Simon Cornelissen Gilde, Skipper of the Gideon, to transport hither a lot of Negroes for Agricultural purposes. These Negroes will, we hope, have arrived before this Letter reaches your Honor, or, at least, be embarked after its receipt. We shall therefore recommend that, being properly provided, they may be dispatched hither as speedily as possible. If it happen that Simon Gilde should arrive with the Negroes at the Island of Curaçao a month later than the Charter Party provides, say, the middle of August, the first installment might reach here before or by the middle of September from Curaçao, and the remainder by the middle of October. In that event a fair price might be realized for them.

Bb
Conditions and Terms on which the Director General and Council of New Netherland propose to sell to the highest bidder a lot of Negroes and Negresses. 29 May, 1664.

The Buyers shall immediately take possession of their purchased Negroes, and may use them as Bond Slaves, and also sell them to others.

But whereas, the meaning of the Directors is, to promote and advance the Population and Agriculture of this Province more and more, the purchased Negroes or Negresses shall not be sold, carried away or transported beyond this Province. Who so acts contrary hereunto, shall
(203)

forfeit for each Negro or Negress, 
One hundred Guilders, Beaver value.

Payment shall be made, one fourth part down, the remainder in September or October next, in good Beaver at Eight Guilders the Skin, or in Merchandize, Beaver price, or in Provisions such as the Honble Company may require, to be delivered here at the Manhattans at the following prices:

Wheat at 55 Stivers, 
Peaře at 50 Stivers, the Skepel.
Rye at 45 Stivers, }

Salted Beef at 4 Stivers, the Pound. 
Pork at 5 Stivers, }

The Purchaser shall be bound to give sufficient security.
On the foregoing Conditions, the following were the Purchasers:

Florins.

*Jacobus Backer,* - 1 Negro, for 555

1 Negres, 305

1 Negro, 315

--- 1175

Dome *Johannes Theodorus Polhemius,*

on Colonists' Account, one Negro

for 440

*Nicolas Verleth,* on Colonists' Account,

1 Negres, for fl. 290

1 Negro, 395

1 Negress and Child, 360

1 Negress, 260

--- 1305

*Johannes Verveelen,* - 1 Negro, 445

*Paulus Leendertsen Vande Griff,*

1 Negro, 425

*Capt. Thomas Willet,* - 1 Negro, 502

*Timatheus Gabry,* - 1 Negro, 485

*Mr John Laurence,* - 1 Negro, 345

*Jerominus Ebbingh,* - 1 Negro, 485

*Isaacq Forees,* - 1 Negro, 545

*Jacob Leyfeler,* - 1 Negro, 615

*Nicolas De Meyer,* - 1 Negro, 460

*Daniel Terneur,* - 1 Negro, 465

*Isaac Bedlo,* - 1 Negro, 430
( 205 )

Jacques Cuffeaa,  -  1 Negro, 335
   1 ditto,   305
   1 ditto,   300
   —        940

William Maerschalek, 1 Negro,  500
   1 ditto,   425
   —        925

Govert Looquermans,   - 1 Negro,   305
Egbert Myndertsen,    - 1 Negro,   562
Adriaen Vincent,      - 1 Negro,   255
Carel van Brugge,     - 1 Negro,   300
   1 Negro,   600
   —        900

Total Florins, 12009

**Director Stuyvesant to the Directors at Amsterdam.**

* * * * *

THIS day fortnight arrived here your Honors' Vessel, the Sparrow, with Forty head of Slaves, sent to us by Vice Director Beck to procure Provisions and all forts of
Timber work, six Ox Carts and a new Rosmill.

The Negroes and Negresses have all arrived safely and in health, but were, on an average, pretty old, and as the Skipper alleges, rejected by the Spaniards. The product of the greater part appears by the accompanying account of the public Vendue. They would have brought more, had they not been so old. Five of the Negro Women, who were, in our opinion, unsaleable, have been kept back and remain unfold. In like manner, Six Negroes also, to help to cut the required Timber and to perform some other necessary work for the Honorable Company.

10 June, 1664.
Directors at Amsterdam to
Director Stuyvesant.

Amsterdam, 24 June, 1664.

Honorable, Prudent, Valiant, Beloved, Faithful.

We have heretofore advised you of our intention to let the Ship Gideon go from Curacao to the Manhattans with her Slaves. Having since then, and now for the first time, remarked the hostile and treacherous designs manifested by the English towards the Company's rightful Conquests on the Coast of Africa, where they have already mastered Cape Verd and taken 3 at 4 of the Company's Ships or Yachts, we have come to a different determination. As your Honor also will
not be left unmolested by them, for we understand that they have like-wise sent 3 Ships with Men thither to the assistance of their Nation, and as the aforesaid Ship with Slaves might hereby be brought into difficulty, we have thought proper to send her first to the South River, to learn there from the City's Director how matters stand at the Manhattans. On learning the arrival of this Ship there, your Honor must immediately commission some one to go thither, to be present at the allotment of the Negroes, and to repair to the Manhattans with the share, or 3/4th the part that is to fall to the Company; with this understanding, however, that if the abovenamed Ship had not brought thither above 200 head, there shall be left to the City at least 60 head, as we find ourselves under obliga-
tion to accommodate them with that number.

Herewith,
Honorable, Prudent, Valiant, Beloved, Faithful,
Commending you to God's merciful Protection, we Remain,
Your Good Friends,
The Directors of the Incorporated West India Company, Chamber at Amsterdam,
J. BontemanTel,
David van Baerle.

Cc
Vice Director Beck to the Directors and Council of New Netherland.

Curacao in Fort Amsterdam, the 21. July, Anno 1664.

Honorable, Valiant, Wise, Prudent and right discreet Gentlemen.

Gentlemen,

My last to your Honors was dated 28 April, by the Company's Ship Musch, which I not only hope has arrived in your parts long before your receipt of this, but ardently desire to see her return here every day.

Since then a handsome Genoese (genuees) Ship, named the Sta Cruz, arrived here from Cartagena, with One hundred and sixty thousand pieces of Eight in Specie, to be all invested
in Slaves through the Factors residing here on behalf of the Genoese Company, who, however up to this time have delayed doing any thing, by advice and order of their Principals, in the expectation that they will have concluded a new Contract with the Company, and that more Slaves may arrive here, so as to invest the entire Capital which they have brought for that purpose in their aforesaid Ship, in Slaves and to carry them away at once.

On the 8th instant, arrived here by way of Guinea, Angola, and Cayenne, the Ship Gideon, the bearer hereof, Simon Cornelissen Gilde, Skipper, with over Three hundred Slaves. I was in hopes by means of these and the supply of Slaves already here, to have enough to be able on the Advice and Order of the Company, to accommodate the aforesaid
Factors for their abovementioned Specie, as then was their intent; for they said, in case no reasonable advice or order was received from their Principals and the Company, that they would then contract with me for as many Slaves as were here at present, and might happen to arrive, to be paid for on delivery, in order to dispatch their aforesaid Ship, which was lying here at great expense. So they were expecting that they could have availed themselves on this occasion, for their Vessel, of the Slaves brought hither by the aforesaid Ship Gideon, when the abovementioned Skipper Simon Cornelissen Gilde brought me such ample Order and Instructions to the contrary, that I could not dare to change them, as your Honors will please to observe by the annexed Copies. Pursuant to said Orders
I am sending to your Honors here-with, by the aforesaid Ship and Skipper the number of Slaves to be seen in the accompanying Invoice and Bill of Lading to which, for brevity’s sake, I refer.

And since now, in the first place, no more Slaves are to be expected here, the aforesaid Factors will have to content themselves with the Slaves which have been previously brought hither on the Company’s account; and as many of the Slaves brought here by the said Ship Gideon are infected with Scurvy, I have therefore retained the greater number of these here and embarked others in their place from among those brought in previous Ships. When those are cured of the Scurvy, they can be delivered, in the place of the others, to the aforesaid Factors.
Bill of Lading for Three Hundred Negroes sent to the Manhattans.

I UNDERWRITTEN Simon, Cornelisse Gilde, Skipper under God of my Ship, named the Gideon, now lying in the Harbor of Curaçao, ready to sail with the first fair wind (which God shall vouchsafe) for the Manhattans in New Netherland acknowledge to have received between the Decks of my aforesaid Ship, the number of Three hundred Slaves, consisting of One hundred and sixty Men and One hundred and forty Women, all merchantable; which Slaves I promise to deliver (if God grant me a prosperous Voyage), with my aforesaid Ship at the said Manhattans to the
Honble Director General Petrus Stuyvesant or his Order, on payment of my freight for the aforesaid Slaves, as agreed upon and conditioned by the Charter Party, and for the performance of what precedes, I pledge myself and all my Property and my aforesaid Ship with all its Appurtenances. In witness of the truth I have signed three Invoices, all of the same tenor, the one being fulfilled, the others are void. Written at Curacao, the 21st July, Año 1664. (Signed)

Symon Cornelissen Gilde.
Director Stuyvesant to Vice Director Beck.

Honorable, Prudent, Wise, and very Discreet Sir.

Our last Letter to you was by the Ship The White Horsemanship Skipper Hendrick Janssen Stuyvesant, dated the 7th May last. * * *

Since then, viz., on the 24th May, arrived here in safety, God be praised, the Company's Ship Sparrow, Skipper Jan Petersen Groot of Dockum, by whom I received your Honor's Letter of the 28th of April, to which the following will serve as an answer.

The Slaves and Merchandize arrived safely according to Invoice and Bill of Lading. * * *

I have sold the Negroes that have been sent, at Public auction to the
highest bidder, for Provisions, with the exception of Six of the Men, who are employed in the Company's service on the Works of the Fort, and Five Negro Women who, on account of their advanced Age, could not find a Purchaser, except at a very low figure. The remainder have been sold at prices mentioned in the annexed Copy of the Conditions of the Sale; being, in our opinion, a tolerably fair price for such a lot. Had they been better, there is not a doubt but they would have produced a much larger amount, as may be inferred from the price of a few who were sold for 600 Guilders* and upwards.

These Negroes have afforded us great relief in the purchase of Provisions for the Garrison. Otherwise,

* $240.

Dd
we should have been constrained by the low state of the Treasury, caused by the continued troubles, first with the Barbarians, and now at present with the neighboring English, to purchase Supplies by Bills of Exchange.

* * * * * * *

In our former dispatch, duplicate whereof we here inclose, we stated among other things, if it should come to pass that Simon Gilde arrived at the Island of Curaçao, with Negroes three weeks or a month later than intimated in the Charter Party, say the middle of August, therefore the sending of the Negroes hither should not be postponed, &c. Having reconsidered this, we have, for divers reasons, whereof one is, that the Right Honorable the Regents of the city of Amsterdam are interested
therein one fourth part, thought it best and most justifiable, not to make the slightest alteration in the Charter Party which the Directors have concluded with Simon Gilde. Wherefore we request and recommend your Honor to regulate yourself by the said Charter Party in the forwarding of the abovementioned Negroes. But as we find ourselves burthened here by an unusually strong Garrison, for the support of which, exclusive of the monthly pay, we require considerable Provisions, for the purchase whereof we are not well provided; we, on that account, have need, yea great need of a few Slaves, in order to truck them for Provisions. Yet, for reasons already given, we deem it unjustifiable to send for the said Negroes, contrary to the Charter Party concluded with Simon Gilde.
Yet requiring a large quantity of Provisions both for this place and Curaçao, as we have already stated and more fully explained, should an opportunity offer to purchase any, funds would be absolutely necessary. Wherefore we recommend this seriously to your consideration; and if Simon Gilde arrive in season, to send us as many Negroes as circumstances will permit. If Negroes be scarce, which however we should prefer to have for the good and advancement of the country, according to the Hon'ble Company's Order, some other effects, either Money or Osnaburghs and other coarse Linen, or anything else that is not needed for the public service, might be spared and bartered for Provisions. If Negroes, your Honor will please to bear in mind to have them sent off in time that they
may probably arrive here before, or about All Saints, and that they be suitably provided against the cold.
30 July, 1694.

The Council of New Netherland to the Directors at Amsterdam.

MEANWHILE, God be thanked, the Ship St. Jacob arrived here in safety on the 13th instant, from the South River, and, two days after, the Ship Gideon, which failed from Curaçao on the 21st of July with 300 Slaves, 160 Men and 140 Women, whereof 9 died on the passage. This is a very poor lot; indeed so poor do we believe, that we fear the most of
them will remain on our hands, or must be let go at a very low figure, whereof more in our next.

Pursuant to the Contract which your Honors made with the Directors of the City's Colonie, we have delivered by lot the fourth part of the abovementioned Negro Men and Women, into the hands of Mr Peter Alrichs, Commisary of Indian Cargoes, and Councillor of the Colonie of New Amstel, who has been here for some time for the purpose of purchasing Oxen, Cows and Horses, to the number of 200 or thereabouts. * * *

The Colonie has received by lot for its fourth part, 38 Men and 34 Women. But as there were among these, as well as among those that fell to the Company, many above the age of 36 years, three of them must be counted for two. * * *
This serves merely to advise your Honors of the arrival of the above-mentioned Negroes who, though a very poor lot, as already stated, yet in our most deplorable state, will wonderfully relieve us, so that we and your Honors’ Servants and Inhabitants, find ourselves greatly obliged, and gratefully acknowledge your care in the sending of the said Negroes. * * * *

Fort Amsterdam in New Netherland, 17 August, 1664.
(By Way of the South River, per the Eagle.)

Receipt for the above Negroes.

We the undersigned Director General and Council of New Netherland, hereby certify and declare that the bearer hereof, Symon Cornelissen Gilde, Skipper, under God,
of the Ship Gideon, on the day after his arrival, being the 14th of August, hath delivered here on shore for account of Messrs the Directors of the Incorporated West India Company, Chamber at Amsterdam, Two hundred and ninety head of Negroes, to wit, One hundred and fifty three Men, and One hundred and thirty seven Women, among whom in all were found by impartial Men as selected according to the Charter Party, Eighty nine which were judged to be above Thirty six years old; of which delivery, the above-mentioned Skipper, Symon Cornelissen Gilde, demanding proper Receipt to serve him agreeably to his Charter Party, with the abovementioned Directors, we have executed for him two of the same tenor, one whereof being satisfied, the other is to be null. Done Amsterdam in
New Netherland, the 30 August, 1664.

Permit to transport Negroes.

THE Honble Director General informed the Council that Capt. Thomas Willet would accept 3 or 4 Negroes in payment of the Beavers due him by the Company, if he might transport them from this place to such other that he may think proper. Which being taken into consideration, it was, on question being put, Resolved to let him have 3 or 4 Negroes; because from the low state of the Treasury, it is not well known how else to satisfy him for the Provisions delivered last year, amounting to about Eight thousand Guilders; and Secretary Van Ruyven is deputed to inform said Willet thereof, and to Ee
agree with him about the price for the best advantage of the Company, and if possible to obtain from him as much as the General hath lately had from him for two of his own Negroes. Done 30th September, 1664.

Vice Director Beck to Peter Stuyvesant.

Curacao, in Fort Amsterdam the \begin{align*}
15 \text{ Novembr', Año 1664.}
\end{align*}

Sir,

* * * * *

I HAVE remarked, among other things, in your Honor's acceptable Letter, the serious mistake that has been committed here in the sale of your Slaves; especially of the little Children, since with great
forethought on the part of Madam Stuyvesant, your Honor's spouse, they were presented at the baptismal Font. If we had had the least knowledge of the fact, the mistake would not have occurred. To my grief, a great error has been committed which I fear is irreparable; for so long an interval has elapsed, it will be very difficult to ascertain where they have been finally landed. But I shall have inquiries made by the first Ship that leaves here for Carthagena and Porto Bello, and if it be possible, endeavor to get them back, even if I should have to give two full grown Slaves and more for them.
Vice Director Beck to Peter Stuyvesant.

Curacao, 16 April, Ano 1665.

Sir,

A ship, named Miss Catarina, whereof Jacob Dircksen Wil-ree is Skipper, arrived here on the 14th January last, from Ardra, on the Coast of Guinea, with one hundred and fifty Slaves. She was sent in the Service of the Company from Amsterdam to the Castle del Mina to Mr. Valckenburgh with some Supplies for that place, and succeeded very well, notwithstanding many English Ships were off that Coast.

Since my last, I have fold here
to the Genoese (genueefen) all the Slaves which had come here on the Company's account in the last Ships and were remaining at this place @ One hundred and twenty pieces of Eight. And because of these English troubles, and principally because no Slaves were expected here from the Coast of Guinea, the aforesaid Genoese have taken their departure hence with their Ship and the abovementioned purchased Slaves, on the 23d January last for Carthagena. We shall learn betimes whether this trade shall be renewed in Holland with the Company, or whether it will be pursued and continued at this place by other Spaniards.

I have, since that, been informed that the Principals of the abovementioned Genoese in Spain have contracted with the Royal Company
of England for the delivery of Slaves, such delivery to be made at the Island of Jamaica, and that a large Ship belonging to the said Genoese has already arrived at Jamaica, to carry away the Slaves, according to the Contract concluded with the Royal Company. But inasmuch as no Slaves had reached there for the Royal Company, they were allowed to purchase as many Slaves from the English Planters and Inhabitants as they were to receive. In regard to this Contract, all Commissions of Privateers and Ships against the Spaniards in these West Indies are revoked, and they are forbidden to inflict any damage on the Spanish Nation by land or water; and when a rich Spanish Prize was brought by the English Privateers into Jamaica, they were obliged to restore her, free of costs and charges.
I doubt if this English Royal Company will be able to fulfill their Contract with the Genoese, if it be of any magnitude, in consequence of the disturbances and troubles caused by themselves on the Coast of Guinea and the great obstruction they will encounter as long as these troubles continue, in their Slave Trade and in all their other Commerce, from the Privateers of Holland and Zealand, of which they have had, hitherto, no suspicion.

* * * * *

We see now here for the second time a Comet with a long fiery tail; it has been visible here for more than two months past. It is also visible in Europe. What it portends is best known only to the Chief Giver of all Good, who will mercifully turn away from us all
well deserved plagues and punishments, and make every thing tend to the honor of his Most Holy Name for the Good of His People unto Salvation.

* * * * *
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ERRATA.

P. 73, Line 2, for Jan read Jacob.
205, " 1, for Cousseau, read Cousseau.
221, " 5, for 1694, read 1664.