

PETITION of the Lutherans of New York to Governor Richard Nicolls. December 15, 1664

*Petition to the Right Honorable Governor of His Majesty and his Royal Highness of England, [presented] on the 15th Dec. A°. 1664.**

Whereas we, by God's providence, with several families [are] now under His Majesty's obedience and we, the aforesaid inhabitants, [at his honor's] request, as is fair, according to the oath, have bound ourselves to His Majesty and pledged our obedience to his aforesaid honor, or any succeeding governor or officer who may be appointed by authority of His Majesty of England, and whereas we, the aforesaid [petitioners], and many others, were prevented by the former authorities from publicly exercising our religion and from administering [the sacraments], according to the command of God's Holy Word and our conscience, wherein we ought to show our obedience; Therefore, it is our very humble petition that it may please the honorable General to grant us the favor of permitting us to call a Lutheran pastor, whom we shall voluntarily support, to the end that with his honor's protection we may be granted [freedom of] public worship, etc.

This day, in New York on Mantans Island, A°. 1664.

[Signed:] HANS DREPER

JOCHEM BEECKMAN

ANDREAS REESZ

DAVIT WESSELS

MARTEN HOEFMAEN

LUCAS AENDREESEN

AND MANY OTHERS.

* New style date, corresponding to December 5, 1664, old style. Both the petition and the Gov Nicolls order are translated from crude Dutch translations which were enclosed in a letter of Dec. 8/18, 1664 to the Consistory in Holland.

Amst. Luth. Ch. Arch. [Portfolio America.]