

RICHARD NICOLLS, ESQUIRE

Governor under his Royall Highness the Duke of Yorke, of all his Territorys in America, To all to whom these Presents shal come, sendeth Greeting; whereas there is a certaine Island, Scituate, lying and being in a certain Bite, Bay or Arme of the Sea, which kummeth betweene the lands belonging to the Townes of East Hampton, Southampton and Southold, in the East Riding of Yorkshire on Long Island, by the Indyans formerly called by the name of Manhansucke-Ahaquatzuwamocke, and commonly known by the name of Shelter Island, which said Island was heretofore Purchased from the Indyans by James Farrett, Agent to the Earle of Sterling (in whom the Governement then was by virtue of his Majesties Letters Patents) And Since severall Deedes, Mean Conveyances and Grants derive from the said Earle of Sterling, James Farrett; and others, as also from the Indyan Proprietors for a valuable Consideration, is come into the hands of Constant Silvester of the Island of Barbados, Esq. and Nathaniell Silvester now inhabiting and residing in Shelter Island aforesaid Merchant; Now know yee, That by virtue of ye commission and Authority unto me given by his Royall Highness James Duke of Yorke & upon whom (as well by the Resignation and Assignment of the heirs of the said William-- Earle of Sterling, as also by Lawfull Grannt and Patent from his Royall Majesty Charles the Second, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland &) the Propriety and Government of Long Island and all the Islands adjacent, amongst other things is settled; I do Ratify, Confirme and Allow of all the aforesaid Deedes and Purchases, And also do hereby Give, Grant, and Confirme unto the said Constant Silvester, and Nathaniell Silvester, their heires and Assignes, the said Island heretofore called Manhansucke-Ahaquatzuwamocke, and now knowne by the name of Shelter Island; together with all the Lands, Soyles, woods, Meadows, Pastures, Marshes, Lakes, waters, ffishings, Hawking, Hunting and ffowling, And all other Proffitts, Commodities, Emoluments and Hereditamts (?) to the said Island belonging, with their and every of their appurtenances, and of every part and Parcel thereof, And that the said Island & Premises, now is, and forever hereafter, shall be held, Deemed, reputed, taken and be an Intire infranchized Township Mannor and Place of it selfe, and shall allways from time to time, and at all times hereafter, have; hold-enjoy, like equal Privileges and Immunityes, with any Towne, Infranchized place or Mannor within this Government, And shall in no manner of way, be subordinate or belonging unto, have dependency upon, or in anywise be under the Rule, Order of Direction, of any Riding (?) Townships, place or Jurisdiction upon Long Island, but shall in all Cases, things and matters, be deemed reputed, taken and held an absolute Intire, Infranchized Township Mannor and place itselfe in this Government, and shall be Ruled, ordered and Directed in all matters as to Government, accordingly, by the Governor and his Councill, and the Gen.

all (?) Assizes onely; Provided that no Priviledges or Immunityes herein Granted or mentioned to be granted, shall be meant or Interpreted to extend to the Protecting of any Traytors, Malefactors, ffugitives or Debtors, flying unto the said Island to the damage of any particular Person, or the or the obstruction of the Lawes, and the Common and Publique Peace of this Government, and the Justice thereof;--To have and to hold the said Island with all and Singular the Appurtenances and premisses, together with the Priviledges, Immunityes, ffranchizes and advantagess, herein given and granted unto the said Constant Silvester and Nathaniell Silvester, to the proper use and behoofe of the said Constant Silvester and Nathaniell Silvester their Heires and Assignes forever, fully, freely and clearly in as large and ample manner and forme, and with such full and absolute Immunityes and Priviledges as before is expressed, as if they held the same immediately from his Majesty, the King of England & his successors, as of the Mannore of East Greenwich in the County of Kent, in free and common Soccage and by fealty onely; Yielding rendering and Paying yearly and every yeare, unto his Royall Highness the Duke of Yorke and his Heires or assignes forever or \_\_\_\_\_ as from time to time shall by him be constituted and appointed as an Acknowledgment, one Lambe, upon [ ] the first day of May, if the same shall be demanded; Given under my hand and Seale at ffort James in New York, on the Island of Manhatans the 31st day of May In the yeare of the Raigne of Our Sovereigne Lod, Charles the Second by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, ffrance and Ireland, Defender of the ffaith & And in the Yeare of Our Lord God 1666.

Richard Nicolls

Entered and Recorded in the  
office at New York, the day  
and yeare above written.  
Signed Matthias Nicolls, Secr.