GEMEENTE AMSTERDAM

Documents relating to the history of New Castle, Del. and the State of Delaware.

In 1841 Mr. John Romeyn Brodhead, appointed for this purpose, travelled to Europe to trace and copy documents relating to the early history of the U.S.A. His investigations in that year included a study of the archives of the Municipality of Amsterdam. In the Resolution Books of the Corporation, Muniment Registers of the Council, Great Memorandum-book and Joint Missives, and in particular in a bulky sheaf of papers, entitled: " Various Documents relating to the Colony of New Holland" and "Accounts relating to New Holland" he found a large number of documents relating to the colony of the town of Amsterdam in America. This town colony comprised the present state of Delaware with New Castle as its centre. From 1656-1664 this territory has been the property of the town of Amsterdam.

The documents found and copied by Mr. Brodhead were published in English in the first two volumes of "Documents relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York", Albany 1856, Vol.I. (Holland-Documents 1603-1656) and Albany 1858, Vol.II (Holland Documents 1657-1678).

The documents found by Mr. Brodhead in 1841, which are filed in the archives of the Municipality of Amsterdam, have been microfilmed on behalf of the town of New Castle (Del.). The various pictures of this microfilm show where they have been inserted in the English translation in "Documents relative to, etc.". The indications Doc.I ar Doc.II therefore refer to Vol.I or Vol.II of the "Documents relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York".

Of the "Accounts relative to New Holland" Mr. Brodhead has included only a few in his publication. However, these "Accounts, etc.", numbered 1 to 99, have all been microfilmed.

Naturally, Mr. Brodhead's English translation contains various errors due to copying, faulty reading and translating. It is therefore of scientific interest to have also the original texts available.

Archives of the Burgomasters.
Portfolio of Trade No.4, New Holland.

Documents relating to the town colony of Nieuwer-Amstel (New Castle, Delaware) in New Holland (America).

1. August 1656.

Draft conditions offered by the City of Amsterdam to the settlers leaving for the Delaware River. An English translation of this document has been published in "Documents relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York", by John Romeyn Brodhead, Albany 1856, Vol.I, pp. 630-4. Conditions offered by the City of Amsterdam to settlers on the Delaware River.

2. August 1656.

Conditions to be fulfilled by the City on behalf of its settlers in New Holland.
English translation as above: Vol. I, pp. 635-6.

3. 7 May 1657.

Letter from Jacob Alrichs, director of the town colony, to the Burgomasters of Amsterdam.
The director relates his vissicitudes during the unfortunate voyage by the "Prins Maurits" and his arrival with the settlers at Fort Nieuwer-Amstel (New Castle) on April 25th 1657.
English translation as above: Vol.II, pp.8-9.

4. February 1659.

Excerpt of letter from Administrators of the W.I.C., Amsterdam Chamber, to the directors in New Holland on permission for the settlers to trade direct with France, Spain, Italy, etc. with the exception of the trade in furs.
See translation Vol. II, p.58.

5. February 1659.

Remonstrance of the Commissioners of the town colony of Nieuwer-Amstel to the Burgomasters of Amsterdam on a revision of the conditions in order to obtain permission, also for the settlers in the town colony, to sell their agricultural produce, salted and dried fish, etc. direct to France and elsewhere.
See translation Vol.II, pp.58-9.

Accounts relative to the town colony of Nieuwer-Amstel (New Castle, Delaware) in New Holland (America).

6. No. 67. - 24 November 1661.

Bill for requisites supplied for surgeon's case, medicaments and instruments for the surgeon Mr. Jacob Kommer, who is sailing by the Purmerlanderkerk to the town colony of

Nieuwer-Amstel on the South River (New Castle on the Delaware River).

No. 94. - April 1662.

Bill for board and passage money for Joost de la Grange, sailing with his wife, three children, five man- and two maid-servants by the Gulden Arent to the town colony of Nieuwer-Amstel (New Castle on the Delaware River). A list of the passengers sailing by the same ship on February 5th, 1662, is attached.
N.B. The passage money of Joost de la Grange and his wife, who boarded in the cabin, was fifty guilders each. For the servants 36 guilders each was paid.

No. 97. - November 1662.

Bill fro the freighters of the ship Purmerlanderkerk, sailing in November 1662 to the town colony on the Delaware River, for board and passage moneys of passengers and transport of town goods for the town colony and goods of the passengers. A list of the persons who are going by this ship at the expense of the town, namely the surgeon Mr. Willem Rasenberch, a sergeant andseven town soldiers, a messenger and a woman, is attached. The board and passage money to America for the nine town servants and the woman, who boarded on the upper deck, was 40 guilders each. For the surgeon, who boarded in the cabin, sixty guilders had to be paid.
Enclosed Bill of Lading for the transport of town and passenger goods, showing that the town goods, marked with the arm of the Municipality of Amsterdam, included sheets, linen, stockings, shoes, soap, wine, brandy, blankets, prunes, raisins, currants, sugar, vinegar, sowing-seed, ammunition, agricultural implements, 25 wheelbarrows, two mill-stones, ironware for a saw-mill, nails, copper kettles, iron, a brewing-copper, a clock, 24 saws, tar, pitch, note paper, ropes, a pair of compasses and medicaments.

Photographs of archival documents relative to the town colony of Nieuwer-Amstel (Delaware and New Castle).

1. 3 March 1656. (4 photographs)

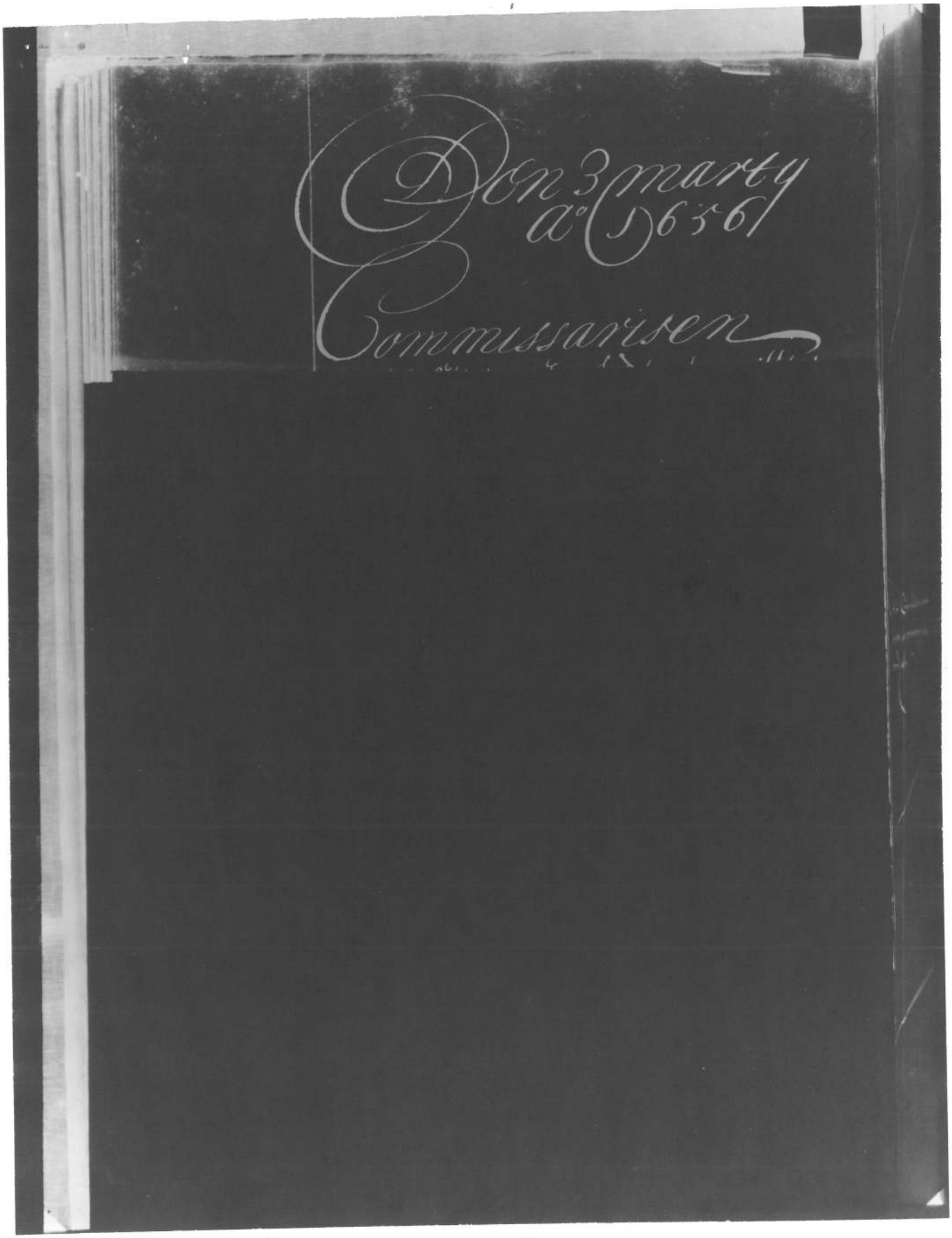
Decree of the Corporation of Amsterdam, authorizing the Burgomasters and treasurers to purchase land in New Holland. Thus they expect from these regions a supply of products which so far came from the Baltic countries.
English translation by John Romeyn Brodhead, "Documents relative to the colonial History of the State of New York", Albany, Vol. I, p.614.

2. 4 November 1656. (4 photographs)

Burgomasters report to the Corporation that provisions should be made for the occupation of Fort Casimir which, when taken over by the town was called Nieuwer-Amstel, and now New Castle, situated in the colony taken over by the town from the Company, and situated on the Delaware River. The Corporation leaves the management of this matter to the Burgomasters.
English translation as above: Vol. I, pp. 642-3.

3. 9 June 1662. (3 photographs)

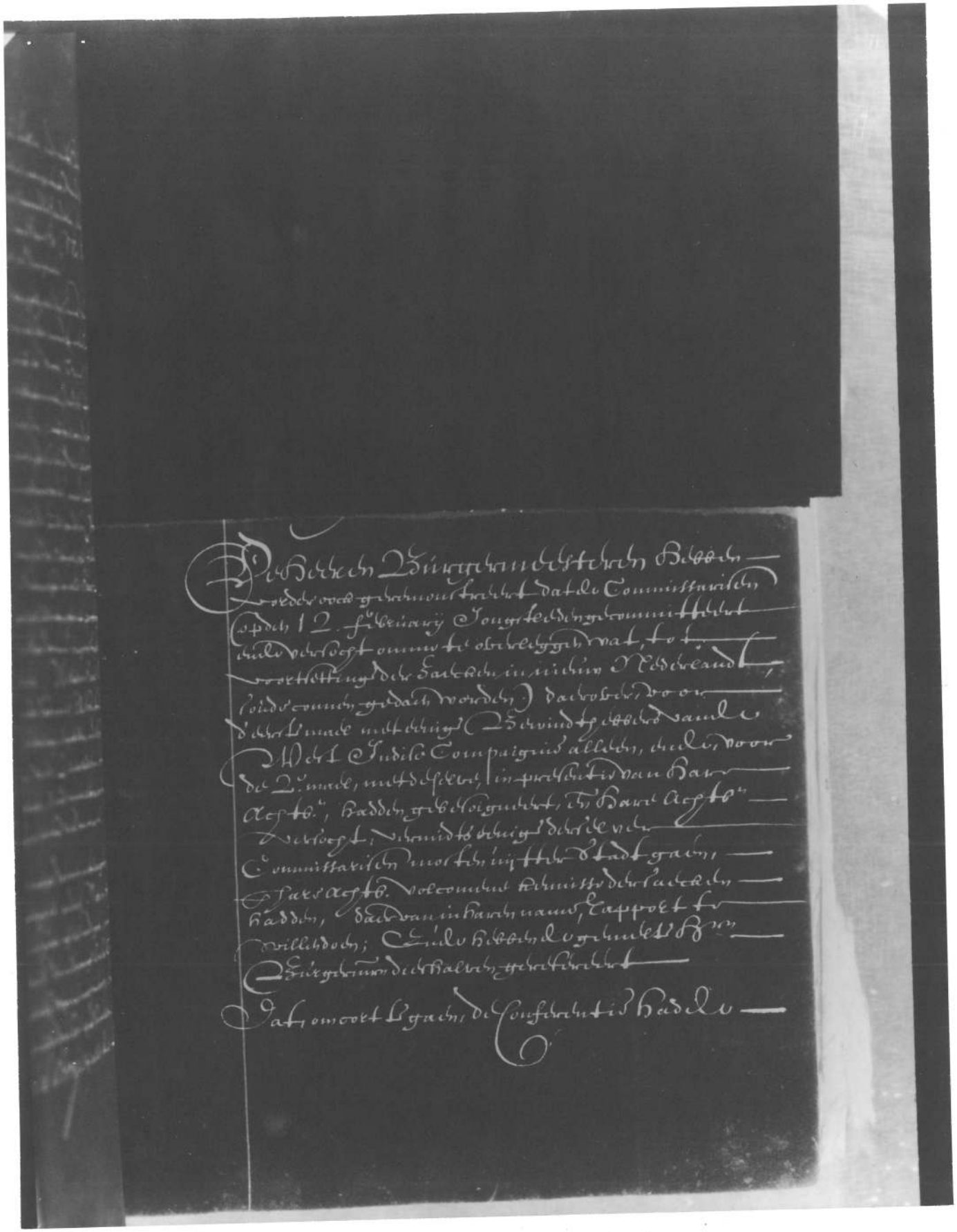
Contract between the Burgomasters of Amsterdam and Pieter Cornelisz. Plockhoy, who is going to the town colony on the Delaware River, together with 24 other (mostly Mennonite) families. They get a loan of 2,500 guilders and settle at the end of 1662 on the Whorekill to found their Utopia there.
English translation as above. Albany 1858, Vol.II, pp.176-7.
Compare also Bertus Harry Wabeke - Dutch Emigration to North-America 1624-1860, Booklets of the Netherlands Information Bureau No.10, New York City, 1944, pp. 55-60.


Don 3 marty
a° 5656
Commissarisen

1656, March 3

1 a.

See J. R. Broadhead Doc. rel. to the Col. History of the State of N. York, 1656, vol. I, P. 619



1656, March 3

1 b.

Ingebracht, Als daer gelesen, dat
Reinier Nuyts Vandt Ingeval mede
mits sijn gebuyrs van de Landen daer aen
gelegen, mochten sonder gebonden
sijn aengeslagen, mochten allen tegen sijn voorder
diligentie daer comen, tot mesdoen.

Dat de Compaignie alhier Landen aldaer
sijn gehadt van de Wilden o
Inwoonders, onder behoorlijcke vrijwillige
opdracht, gelaeten voorts Hoogh
Overigheden alsdaer, volgende Brieven
daervan onder hare behoorlijcke sijlen
dat sij dese Landen jure Titulo besitten,
Geoctroyeerde Vrande Wilden, als
van alle andere omliggende Europese Volckeren.

Dat mede, bij voorsichtige approbatie van
Haer Ho: Mo: de directeur ende Reinier
Nuyts Vandt, voorsz: belede de Wet Judicieuse
Compaignie te bevrijden, en t'naerdere
van t'selve, volcomentlijcke Speciale octroye
gedispenseert aende Camer van Amsterdam,
die voor soude comen te volbrengen ende te
Landt aendese Stadt in coop oste
doen.

De Raedt, gelesen ende overwogen Voorts
Rapport, midsgaders voorsz: dese
den Brande, ende constitutie deser tijden, Soo
Reinier Nuyts Vandt worde voorgeslagen, Oock
sijn Actroy en allen van Oost Indien:
Authoriseert dese Heeren Dirigeerende

Hoewel den bydevorgad. vande 19en

Eenige Landt vande Comp. in mindere Landt toegepast.

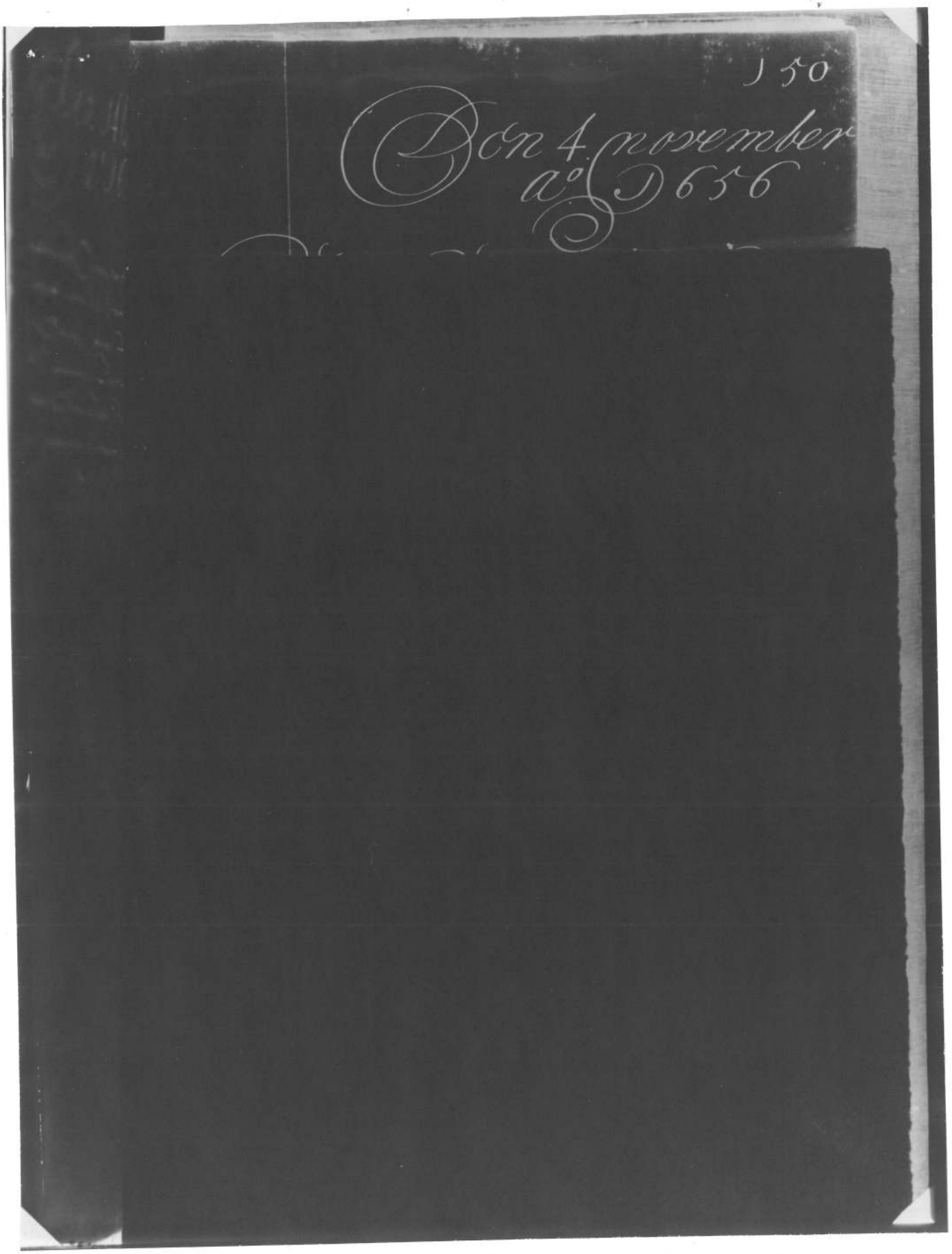
1656, March 3

1 c.

See: Documents relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York by John Romeyn Broadhead, Albany, 1656, vol. I, p. 614

1656, March 3

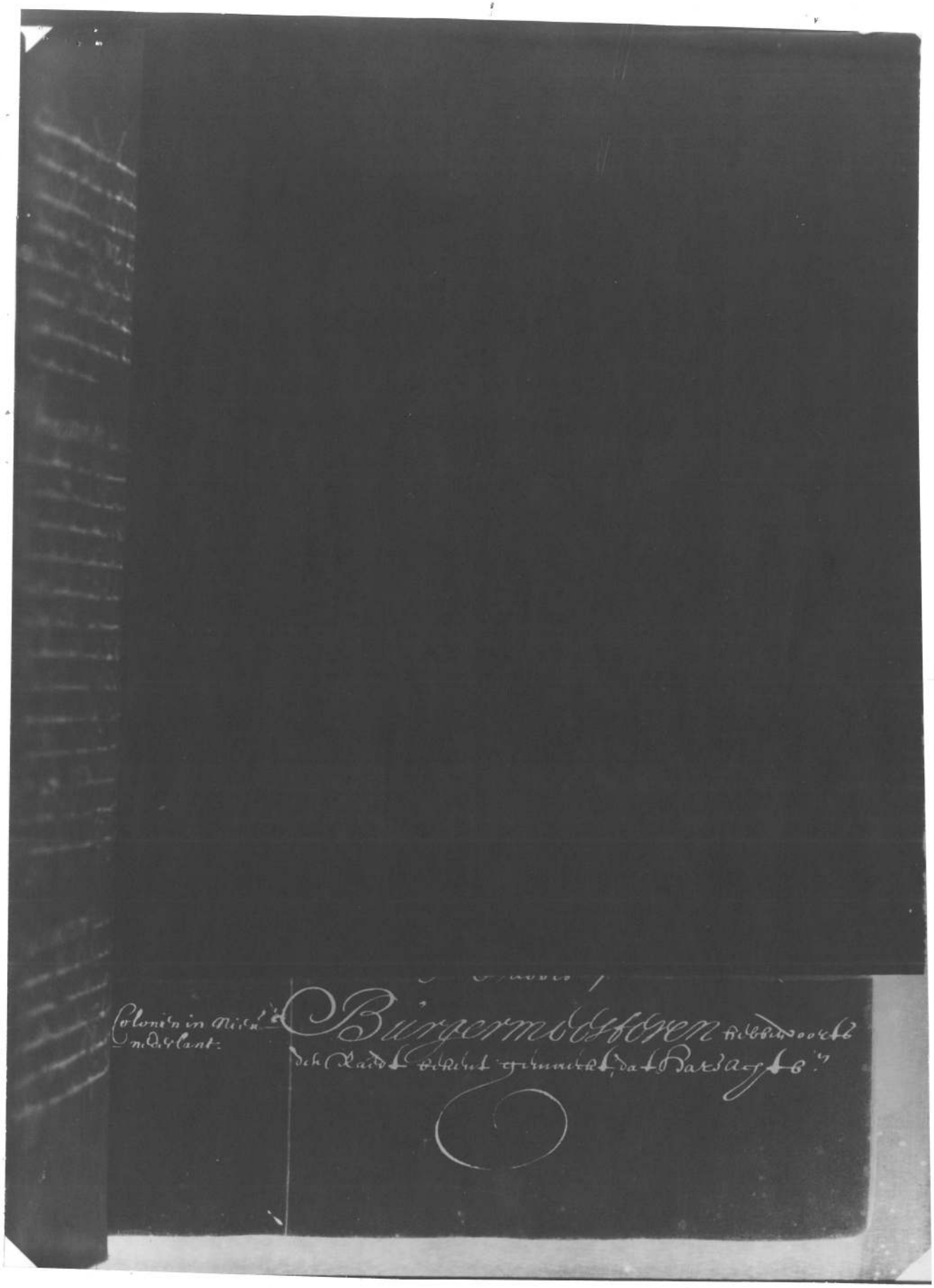
1 d.


150
Con 4 novembr
aº 1656

1656, Nov. 4

2 a.

See: John Romeyn Brodhead. Documents relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York, Albany, 1656, vol. I, p. 642, 643



1656, Nov. 4

2 b.

1656, Nov. 4

2 c.

2 d. 1656, Nov. 4

Burgerlijcken Collegiedes der Stad Amsterdam

Actum den 9. Juny A° 1662.

Burgemeesteren van gemelder Stede,

Wijbott Slicher

Copia.

Burgerlijcken Collegiedes der Stad Amsterdam

1662, June 9

3 a.

See: John Romeyn Brodhead. Documents relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York, Albany, 1656, vol. II, p. 176, 177

3 b.

Copia

Burgemr. ende Regeerders der stat Amsterdam condemneren bij desen
een yegelijck die dat aengaet, uytdrijvelijck hiermede te verbieden
[illegible] meer te schieten dat midden bij
de Oosterpoort binnen Diemen gemeten wijdt is dat bij ordre
16 juny 1662.

Ter ordonnantie van de voorsz. Heeren

Hrybolt Hiesser.

Copia

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3 c.