

ascertain without difficulty where to place his dwelling and what rule he has to follow.

“ Expecting soon a favorable answer, we remain

“ Your Honors' obed't servants,

“ ADRIAEN HEGEMAN,

“ TOMYS SWARTWOUT.”

The memorial having received the approval of the authorities of New Netherland, who that day had appointed Jan Stryker a *schepen* to succeed Jan Snedeker, the following order, dated October 16, 1655, was issued:

“ Whereas Jan Stryker, Adriaen Hegeman, and Tomys Swartwout, inhabitants and magistrates of the village of Midwout situate on Long Island, have this day exhibited to us a certain plan and petition annexed, to be empowered to effect the concentration of the aforesaid village for the greater security thereof and for enabling the inhabitants in general, when necessary, the more readily and effectually to assist one another, which being examined by us the Director-General and Council of New Netherland, we have approved thereof and so deemed it proper and necessary.

“ We, therefore, do hereby authorize said magistrates, Stryker, Hegeman, and Swartwout, to lay out the aforesaid village according to the exhibited plan, provided that five or six lots be reserved for public buildings, such as for the sheriff, the minister, the secretary, schoolmaster, village-tavern and public court-house, hereby commanding the inhabitants of the said village in general to submit themselves without opposition provisionally, and until further order, to the proposal of the aforesaid magistrates and this our good intention.

“ Done at the assembly of the Honorable Director-General and Council of New Netherland, holden in Fort Amsterdam.”

In another ordinance, dated February 22, 1656, it was further ordered that the *schout* Pieter Tonneman and the magistrates of the village be peremptorily ordered and commanded “to lay out the settlement and lots thereunto required in the form agreeably to the aforesaid model, and allot them to the first that is ready to build without distinction of persons and without making any alteration in the plan; hereby commanding at the same time all inhabitants already residing or hereafter coming to live in the aforesaid village, to submit themselves to the aforesaid order, model and survey, and to the taxes or assessments, which the aforesaid sheriff and magistrates shall find necessary to collect with the advice of the Director-General and Council, in order to promote the setting off of the aforesaid village with palisades and a blockhouse.”¹

¹ Laws and Ordinances of New Netherland, 1638-1674. By E. B. O'Callaghan. 1868, pp. 199, 213, 214, 229.