1658. Petition for the Return of Slaves
Source: E.B. O'Callaghan, ed. (1856). *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New-York; Procured in Holland, England and France*. Albany, NY: Weeds, Parsons, v. 2, p. 26, 31, 222.

A. Juan Gaillardo Ferrara Petitions Peter Stuyvesant (April 26, 1658)
To the Honble Petrus Stuyvesant, Director-General and the Council of New Netherland.
Respectfully showeth, Juan Gaillardo Ferrara, a resident of the city of St. Lucar de Barrameda, at present in this city of Amsterdam, in New Netherland, that he, the Petitioner, did deliver to your Honors, on the 6th instant, the despatch of their High Mightinesses, the Lords States-General, as well as of the Honble, the Burgomasters of the city of Amsterdam, to the end that you may be pleased to the Petitioner here to administer just, brief, prompt law and justice; whereunto the Petitioner hath placed in your Honors' hands some documents, among others a sworn declaration, by which it appears that one Geurt Tysen did, in the month of April, 1652, in the latitude of Cape Morante, unlawfully deprive him, the Petitioner, of forty-four negroes and negresses, and bring the same here.
And, whereas the Petitioner hath discovered here some of said negroes, whose names appear on the subjoined list, all of whom, male and female, still well recognize him, he therefore, respectfully prays your Honors to give orders that the negroes, whom he has already discovered, and may happen hereafter to find, shall be restored to him and placed in his hands. Further, as the Petitioner is at present a very poor man, he respectfully prays your Honors to be graciously pleased to provide him with lodgings and some board money, until a ship sail for Fatherland. Which doing, etc., Your Honors' servant.
Juan Gaillardo.

B. List Of Negroes Claimed By Juan Gaillardo Ferrara
Copy of the list of Blacks which your Honors demanded of me, saying that you intend to attach the Negroes aforesaid in the hands of their masters, so that said Negroes may not be alienated nor sold out of this country until further notice, as stated.

Francisco, who belonged to me, and is now in the possession of Thomas Hall		1
Gasinte, who belonged to the pilot, and is not the Company's		1
Antonio, who belonged to a Biscayan, and is now with the man who sells straw	1	
Diego, or Jacob, was mine, and is now in the possession of Neeffies		1
Gr or John, was mine, and is now with Verbets		1
Barbara was the pilot's, and is now in the possession of Jan Martens		1
Christopher was the pilot's, and is now in the hands of Oloff Stevens		1
Bastiaen and Lucia were the pilot's: they are in the Bay, and now belong to Jaboce		2
Fernando was mine, and is now with Veesteman or Beeckman		1
Balthazar, who belonged to the pilot, is now the General's		1
Maria was the pilot's, and is now Augustine's or Verlet's		1
Juliana and Maria and the children were mine, and are now with Jacob, the Miller in the fort	5	
Mookinga was the pilot's, and is now at Fort Orange		1
John was the pilot's, and is now Govert's		1
Madelina, ad idem, and now with Govert, aforesaid		1
Catelina and 2 children, in the possession of Potter's son or daughter		3
Susanna, who was the caulker's and now Tharan Hal's		1
Peter Noorman's Negro belonged to the pilot		1
John and Francisco were the pilot's and are now Joboce's, in the Bay		2
Maria, Jan and Lius were our clerk's and now Jacob Hay's		3
La Caubotera was the pilot's, and is now in the hands of	1	
Figa was the pilot's, and now Fortese's		1
Manuel, ad idem, is now at Fort Orange	1	
Lucia and her husband, called Joseph, now in the possession of the Company,		

and whom the General hath sent to Curacao to take charge of the cattle
at pasture there   2
Paulo and Diego, or Jacob, are also sent to Curacao in the Company's service   2

C. Chamber at Amsterdam to the Director and Council of New Netherland, 1664.
Source: E.B. O'Callaghan, ed. (1856). *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New-York; Procured in Holland, England and France.* Albany, NY: Weeds, Parsons, v. 2, p. 222

We informed you in our last letter, now again inclosed, that we had entered into a contract here with Symen Gilde, commanding the ship *Gideon*, to take in a good cargo of Slaves at Loango, on the coast of Africa, and to fetch them, by way of Curaçao, to New Netherland; also, that this city was a partner for one-fourth thereof; as can be more fully seen by the copies which we have directed to be sent you herewith for your information. And as these Slaves are sent solely to be employed in agriculture, which is the only means whereby this State can be rendered flourishing, we expect and require most expressly that the aforesaid Slaves must be sold there to our inhabitants on express condition that they shall not be taken beyond our district, but kept specially there and be employed in husbandry, so that the great expense we are incurring herein may not be in vain; but the fruits we promise ourselves therefrom be abundantly reaped. That ship may arrive next June or July with about 300 Slaves, according to our calculation. As your Honors will possibly be bravely assisted by this supply you will, therefore, be careful that the third part at least of the proceeds of the Company's Slaves shall be sent hither in Beavers, in order to be able, on the arrival of said ship, to pay the freight or the greater part thereof, according to contract. Otherwise, we shall lose all desire to continue supplying Slaves. Your Honors are, then, to pay particular attention to this matter.