

1811-1819. Brooklyn, New York Indentured Servant Papers
Source: Schenck Family Papers, New York Historical Society

A. This indenture made the 15th day of May in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred & Eleven Witnesseth that Elias Hubbard Jun and Jeremiah Elsworth Overseers of the poor of the Town of Flatlands and the State of New York by and with the consent of two Justices of the Peace whose names are hereunto subscribed have put and placed and by these present do put and place a poor Black male child named Peter as a servant to Nicholas Schenck of Flatlands in Kings County & State aforesaid with him to dwell & serve from the day & date hereof until the said servant shall accomplish his full age of Twenty One years according to the Statute in such case made and provided. The said male child was born the 27th day of January One Thousand Eight Hundred & One during all which term the said Servant his master faithfully shall serve in all lawful businesses according to his will, power, and ability, honestly, orderly, and obediently, and in all things demean himself to his said master and all his during his said Term. And the said Nicholas Schenck doth for himself his Executors & administrators covenant & grant to & with the said Overseers of the Poor & their & every of their successors for the time being by these presents That the said Peter the said Servant shall & will Teach & Instruct or cause to be instructed in the duties of a servant in the best way & manner that he can & shall & will during all the term aforesaid find provide & allow the said servant competent & sufficient meat drink & apparel lodging & washing & all other things necessary & fit for such a servant that he may not be a charge to the Town of Flatlands or its Inhabitants but of & from all charges shall & will save the said Town & Inhabitants harmless of Indemnified (?) during the said Term & also that the said Nicholas Schenck shall cause the said servant to be taught & Instructed to read & write & shall also give unto said servant a new Bible at the expiration of his term of service. In witness whereof the parties abovesaid have hereunto set their hands & seals the day and year above written.

Sealed and delivered Elias Hubbard Jun
in the presence of William Rouvenhoven

Jeremiah Elsworth
Mitchell Schoonmaker

Nicholas Schenck

B. This indenture made the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, witnesseth that Nicholas Schenck of the town of Flatlands and state of New York have put and placed by these do put and place a black child named Albert as a slave servant to Benjamin Bennit in the town of Flatlands County and state aforesaid with him to dwell and serve from the day and date hereof until the said servant shall accomplish the full age of twenty one years according to the statute in such case made and provided the said child was born August the twenty third one thousand eight hundred and eight, during all that term to serve his master, shall faithfully serve in all lawful business according to his will, power, and ability, honestly, orderly, and obediently, and in all things demean himself to his said master during his said term and the said Benjamin Bennit doth for himself, his Executors, Administrators, promise to teach and Instruct, or cause to be Instructed the said Albert in several duties of a servant in the best way and manner during all the aforesaid term, find, provide and allow the said servant competent and sufficient meat, drink, apparel, lodging, washing, and all other things necessary and fit for such a servant, and also that said Benjamin Bennit shall cause the said servant to be taught and Instructed to read and write and shall also give unto the said servant a new Bible at the expiration of his term of service, in witness whereof the parties aforesaid have hereunto set their hand, and seals, the day and year before written.

Sealed and delivered Nicholas Schenck in the presents of Abraham Wykoff