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L A W S

AND

ORDINANCES

OF

NEW NETHERLAND,

1638-1674.

COMPILED AND TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL DUTCH RECORDS IN THE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, ALBANY, N. Y.

By *E. B. O'Callaghan*
E. B. O'CALLAGHAN.

ALBANY:
WEED, PARSONS AND COMPANY,
PRINTERS AND STEREOTYPERS.
1868.

Thus done, resolved, resumed and published in the Assembly of the Director General and Council, holden in *New Netherland* the 27 June, 1656.

ORDINANCE

Of the Director and Council of New Netherland renewing the Ordinances for the formation of Villages, and against admitting armed Indians into Cities, Villages and Houses. *Passed 1 July, 1656.*

[N. Y. Col. MSS. VIII. 56.]

THE Director General and Council of *New Netherland* do hereby make known to all persons.

Preamble.

That they have been informed by some Indians that 2, 3 or four Indians of *Tappaen* were brooding some mischief, and had given out that they intended to kill one or more Christians on the Flatland; And Whereas the Director General and Council cannot ascertain where or against whom the blow is leveled, much less that it is a general plot of the Tribe, the rather since the warning has been given by the Tappaen Nation and other Indians, the Director General and Council with the assistance of the Burgomasters of this City cannot, for the present, apply any other order or remedy against it than hereby to renew their previous Ordinances and Edicts, to wit: that the separate Country people have to concentrate themselves in the nearest Villages and Hamlets, and to settle there, on the fine formerly affixed thereupon; and in the meanwhile, to warn every one to be on his guard, and not to go into the Woods or on the Roads except armed, and at least 2, 3 or 4 men together, in order to be able to oppose such Bushwhackers.

People in the Country to move into the nearest Village, and

Not to go out unless armed.

Further, in order to prevent such dangers of isolated murders and assassinations, the Director General and Council, with the advice of the Burgo-

masters of this city, cannot for the present devise any better or other expedient than already stated, and besides that, to interdict and forbid the admission of any Indians with a gun or other weapon, either in this City or in the Flatland, into the Villages and Hamlets, or into any Houses or any places, on pain of forfeiting such arms, which may and also shall be taken from them, on the complaint of the Inhabitants, by the Sheriffs, Marshals, or, in their absence, by one of the Magistrates, to wit: 14 days after the publication and posting hereof, or after notice and communication of this interdict have been given to the Indians, which the Director General and Council hereby order to be communicated to the Indians by some of their subjects acquainted with the Indian language, and that in the most civil and properest manner, it being intended and meant by the Director General and Council, with the advice of the Burgomasters aforesaid, only to prevent all difficulties between the Christians and Indians.

Thus done in the Council holden in *Fort Amsterdam* the 1 July, A° 1656.

No armed
Indians to
be admitted
into
Villages.

Indians so
appearing
to be dis-
armed.

Notice of
this pro-
hibition to
be com-
municated
to the
Indians.