

BOWNE HOUSE ARCHIVES



Bowne House Historical Society, Inc.

37-01 Bowne Street

Flushing, NY 11354

<https://www.bownehouse.org/archives>

Ph: (718) 359-0528 Email: bownehousearchives@gmail.com

BOWNE FAMILY PAPERS OF FLUSHING, L.I.

Transcription of BFP #2018.1.01-17

Power of Attorney: John Crook to John Bowne, John Tilton, and William Richardson

Date: August 7, 1675 Old Style
(August 17, 1675 New Style)

This transcription retains the spelling and punctuation of the original document.
Transcribed by Brandon Loo & Eric Haviland; reviewed/edited by Charlotte Jackson
Last revised: 7/2024

Transcription begins on next page

NOTES ON 17TH- AND 18TH-CENTURY DOCUMENTS

Dates:

1. Quaker dates: early Quakers used the numbers, not the names, of the months and the days of the week. (Note that the numbering of the months was different in the Old Style calendar-- i.e., their "seventh month" is September, not July.)
2. Old Style ("O.S.") vs. New Style (N.S.): Prior to 1752, English people mostly used "Old Style" dating, which followed the Julian calendar and began the New Year on March 25. However, the Dutch and many other European countries followed the "New Style" calendar in use today. By the 17th century, the Old Style calendar had fallen ten days behind the New Style.
3. Dual dating: because the New Style calendar began the year on January 1 and the Old Style began it on March 25, dates that fall in between are sometimes given in a format like 1663/4 or 1663-4.

Common abbreviations:

y ^e = the or thee	y ^m = them
y ^t = that	w th = with
y ⁿ = than or then	w ^{ch} = which

Note: words like "ye" are spelled with the Old English character thorn, which looks like the letter "y" but is pronounced "-th."

Money is denominated in pounds, shillings, and pence, in columns as follows: £ : s : d

Transcription Notations:

Text in ROUND PARENTHESES: () is in parentheses in the original document

Text in BRACKETS or SQUARE PARENTHESES: [] indicates missing or hard-to-read words supplied from context, or from an alternative source.

Text in BRACES or CURLY PARENTHESES: { } is an annotation inserted by the editor

[...] indicates missing text (page torn, ink faded, or letters blotted out)

[???] indicates hard-to-read words that we have yet to transcribe.

The forward slash: "/" represents the end of a line in the original document (where we have not been able to fit the text onto one line in the typed transcription).

Power of Attorney:
John Crook to John Bowne, John Tilton, Samuel Spicer & William Richardson
August 7, 1675 (Old Style)
BFP #2018.1.01-17

Know all men by these presents that I John Crooke of [N]ewton in the County of Bedford¹ [Gentl.] have assigned ordained and made and in my stead and place by these presents put and constituted my trusty and well beloved friends John Bowne of Long Island in Amirica planter John Tilton in the same place planter Samuell Spicer of the same place planter and William Richardson Master of this shipp Mayflower of New England² ~ joyntly and severally to be my true & lawfull Attorney or Attorneys for me and in my name and for my use to aske [sue] for levy require recover and receave of Nathaniell Silvester of Sheltor island³ in or neare new England in America [????] all & every such debt and summes of money wth [are] now due unto [me] [by] any manne[r] of clamyers or [indames?] whatsoever Giveing and granteing unto my said Attorneys my whole power strength and Authority in and about the [premises] and upon the receipt of any such debts or summes of money aforesaid acquittances or other discharges for me and in my name to meake seale and Deliver and all and every such Acts and Acts th[ing] and things device and devices whatsoever in the [law] for ye recovery of all or any such debts or su[mmes of money] as aforesaid for mee and in my name to [do, execute and] performe as fully largely and amply in every respect to all intents [construccions] & purposes as my selfe might or could

¹ Bedfordshire, England

² a popular 17th-century ship name; not to be confused with the *Mayflower* on which the Pilgrims arrived in New England, which was no longer seaworthy by 1624, nor the second *Mayflower* to sail with the Winthrop Fleet, which was lost *en route* to Virginia in 1642.

³ Nathaniel Sylvester (1610–1680) was an original proprietor and later sole owner of Shelter Island, a plantation off Long Island, New York that provisioned his brother Constant Sylvester's sugar plantations in Barbados.

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doe, if I were there in mind and in p'son {*person*} present rattifieng
alloweing and holding firme and [stable] all and whatsoever
[my Attorney?] and Attorneys shall lawfully doe or cause to be done
[in or] about the execution of ye p'mises by [virtue] of these presents
In witness whereof I y^e said John Crooke have hereunto sett my
hand & seale on the seaventh day of August Anno [Dom.] 1675.

Sealed & delivered
in presence of
Nate [Scott?]
Alexander Parker
Arther Cooke

John Crook {SEAL}