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Translator: Deborah Hamer

Hendrick Schaeff was a notary often used by West India Company employees, so it is no surprise that Annitgen Hendricxdr turned to him when she wanted an attestation recorded. What is less clear is why Annitgen wanted her husband's associates to provide this testimony. It is likely that she intended to ask the directors of the West India Company in Amsterdam to provide her with compensation for the work that her husband had done during the four months that he had been relieved of his duties and salary. Perhaps her husband had written to her and asked her to intercede on his behalf. Justice could often be negotiated, and people in the Netherlands might ask for injustices that had occurred in New Netherland or Brazil to be righted at home with higher West India Company authorities.

Testimony Regarding Cornelis Pieters van Purmerent's Labor

On this day, the 25th of October 1638, there appeared before me, Hendrick Schaeff, notary, and the undernamed witnesses, Simon Jans van Durgerdam, 45 years old, skipper, Simon Jans van Vlielant, 48 years old, ship's carpenter, and Claes Pieters van Embden, 35 years old or thereabouts, constable, all having served in those positions and having arrived with the ship *Den Haring*. And with true words in place of an oath, at the request of Annitgen Hendricxdr, the wife of Cornelis Pieters van Purmerent, who [i.e., Cornelis Pieters] is currently in Curacao in the service of the Dutch West India Company on the yacht the *Sevenstarre*, they attest and declare that it is true that they, the testifiers, two years ago, in the summer, were in New Netherland and they served the [Dutch West India] Company on the ship the *Sevenstarre* which was there [in New Netherland] at that time, on which ship was also serving the aforementioned Cornelis Pieters van Purmerent in the position of upper carpenter, and he was well known to them. He [Cornelis Pieters] was punished by the Director Wouter van Twiller and the Councilors in New Netherland to go without pay for four months and for this reason he [Cornelis Pieters] did not have to work. Even so and notwithstanding this, the skipper of the selfsame yacht, named

Willem Ruwerts, also called Tall Willem, forced him [Cornelis Pieters] to work and held him to work and he [Cornelis Pieters] did his work daily and performed it during the time of the aforementioned four months in which he was punished, as they, the witnesses, daily saw and experienced. Presented and done in Amsterdam in the presence of Gerrit Jans Hasenburg, my clerk, and Willem Cornelis de Bruijn, beer supplier, as witnesses

[signed]

Simen Jansen
Klaes Pieterssen
X [the mark of] Simon Jans

Willem de Bruijn
G Hasenburg
Schaef, notary public
1638