MORRISANIA

AND

UPPER MORRISANIA.

ABSTRACT OF TITLE, 1849.

ABSTRACT

Of the TITLE of GOUVERNEUR MORRIS of Morrisania, to a *Tract* of land containing about two hundred acres, in the County of Westchester and State of New York,

A map whereof, entitled "MAP of the Village of Mor-RISANIA, situated about one and a half miles from Harlem River, in the manor of Morrisania, in the Township of West Farms, in the County of Westchester and State of New York," made by Andrew Findlay, surveyor, dated West Farms, August 10th 1848, is filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester at White-Plains.

And also to another *Tract* containing sixty-four and one-fourth acres of land, in said County of Westchester, a map whereof, entitled "Map of the Village of Upper Morrisania, in the Town of West Farms, in the County of Westchester and State of New York," made by Andrew Findlay, surveyor, dated West Farms, November 11th, 1848, is on file in the office of the Clerk of the said County of Westchester at White Plains.

The premises in question, are parts of the Estate known as Morrisania, which was formerly occupied by Col. Lewis Morris, by him devised to his son Staats Long Morris, and by the latter, conveyed to the late Hon. Gouverneur Morris, by whom the same was devised to his son

Gouverneur Morris, the present proprietor.

A map of the lands in the said County of Westchester, belonging to the Hon. Gouverneur Morris, made in 1816 by John Randell, jun., is filed in the office of the Clerk of the said County of Westchester at White Plains.

The family of Mr. Morris is descended from RICHARD MORRIS—Said to have been a prominent leader in the armies of Oliver Cromwell.

He came over, first to the West Indies, and afterwards to New York, and purchased an estate near Harlem, ten miles from the city containing more than three thousand acres of land. He died in 1673, leaving an only son named

Lewis—An infant and orphan, his mother having died a few months before. The Colony appointed guardian for him.

Not long after, his uncle Lewis Morris came from England and settled at Morrisania; he took his young nephew under his charge and finally made him heir to his fortune.

Lewis, (the nephew,) was Chief Justice of New York, and during the last eight years of his life was Governor of New Jersey. He had four sons and eight daughters.

Lewis—The eldest, lived at Morrisania, and had eight children, of whom four were sons.

Lewis—The eldest son, was a member of Congress from the State of New York, and was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

STAATS Long—Who some years afterwards died in England.

RICHARD—Judge of Vice Admiralty, and afterwards Chief Justice of New York.

Gouverneur—The youngest son, by a second marriage, was born at Morrisania, January 31st, 1752.

By his father's will, dated the 19th day of November, 1760, the estate of Morrisania and its appendages, were left to his mother during her life; she died in January, 1786.

The property then devolved upon the second son, Staats Long Morris, who was then in England, Lewis Morris, the elder brother, having received his portion before his father's death.

A legacy of £7000, was to be paid by Staats Long Morris to the other children, before he could take possession of the Estate; and of this sum, Gouverneur Morris was to receive £2000.

The Estate was afterwards purchased of Staats Long Morris by Gouverneur Morris, who died November 6th, 1816, leaving one son, the present proprietor,

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS.

Conveyances, &c.

The original conveyances, by which the Title to the Estate of Morrisania became vested in the ancestors of Mr. Morris, mostly bearing dates prior to the date of the commencement of the records of Westchester County, are in his possession.

STAATS LONG MORRIS

DEED dated 4th April, 1787, reciting, that whereas, Lewis Morris, late of Morrissania in the County of Westchester, &c., the father of the parties to this Deed, by his

last will and testament, dated the nineteenth day of November, 1760, devised all that part of Morrisania, being the farm whereon he the testator then lived, lying to the eastward of the Mill Brook, together with the said Mill Brook and the stream leading from the Bronks Kill to the Grist Mill, which then stood on the said Mill Brook, to the head thereof, to his wife Sarah Morris, for her life; and from and after the death of his said wife, to his son Staats Long Morris, if he should survive her, and to his heirs and assigns forever, upon condition that he the said Staats Long Morris, should pay to his, the testator's executors, or to either of them, the sum of £7000, lawful money of New York, in the manner in the said will more particularly specified; and reciting, that Staats Long Morris had taken the Estate so devised to him on condition, and had performed the said condition, as appears by the certificate thereof, under the hand and seal of the Hon. Richard Morris, one of the said executors, recorded in the office of the Secretary of the State of New York, whereby the said Estate became absolute in the said Staats Long Morris;

THEREFORE, in consideration of £10,000 lawful money of New York, Staats Long Morris conveys to Gouverneur Morris, the premises so devised and above mentioned, together with all the appurtenances, &c., in very full terms, with covenants of seizin, right to convey, and warranty.

This Deed includes the premises in question, and was signed, sealed and delivered by the Grantor, in presence of James Morris and Aaron Burr, as subscribing wit-

nesses; acknowledged April 4th 1787, before the Honorable Richard Morris, Chief Justice of the State of New York, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of Westchester County, on the 10th day of February, 1843, in Lib. 100 of Deeds.

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS

TO

THE HON. RICHARD MORRIS.

Mortgage, dated April 4th, 1787, to secure the payment of £2100; premises the same as described in the preceding deed; recorded in Lib. D. of

Mortgages, April 14th, 1787. This Mortgage was paid off on the 14th of January, 1788, as appears by the acknowledgment of satisfaction made by the mortgagee, on the 24th day of May, 1805, before Caleb Tompkins, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Westchester County.

It was cancelled of Record, February 10th, 1843.

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS
WITH

MISS ANN C. RANDOLPH.

ANTE-NUPTIAL CONTRACT, made in the year 1809, whereby, Mr. Morris secured to his intended wife, the sum of \$2400 per annum, during her natural life; for the payment of

which sum, he mortgaged his real estate and especially his Estate at Morrisania.

This Contract does not appear to have been recorded, but the above description of it, is derived from the will of Gouverneur Morris, and the release of Mrs. Morris.

(See below.)

Gouverneur Morris died Nov. 6th, 1816, leaving Mrs. Ann C. Morris, his wife, and an only son Gouverneur, him surviving.

By his last will and testament, bearing date the 26th day of October, 1816, recorded in the Surrogate's Office of Westchester County, March 4th, 1817, after naming his friend Moss Kent, and his wife Ann C. Morris, as the

executor and the executrix of his said will, and making an allowance of \$10,000 to the said Moss Kent, for his care and trouble in executing that office, Mr. Morris confirms the Ante-nuptial Contract above mentioned, and devises to his wife, his estate at Morrisania together with his plate, &c. &c.

He then gives to his son Gouverneur Morris, the whole of his estate, saving and reserving such bequests as are or might be made by him. He then makes a legacy of

\$25,000 to Gouverneur Morris Wilkins.

In February 1817, Mrs. Morris proved the above will, took out letters testamentary and qualified as executrix.

In 1818, Mr. Kent, the executor, also qualified. A bill in chancery was subsequently filed against him for an account, by Mrs. Morris and her son. (See 2nd Edwards Reports, 177.) In that suit, Mr. Kent's claims against the Estate were settled, and in that way, the pecuniary bequest of \$10,000 made to him, disposed of.

The legacy to Gouverneur M. Wilkins has been fully paid, as will appear by a letter from him, subjoined.

ANN C. Morris
TO
Gouverneur Morris.

Release and Discharge of the Ante-nuptial Contract above mentioned, dated October 3rd, 1834, Consideration \$1.00; fully discharges and releases all the estate,

whereof her husband died seized, and especially the estate of Morrisania, from the lien of the Ante-nuptial Contract, and cancels said contract.

Duly acknowledged, October 3rd, 1834, before Isaac H. Bronson, Supreme Court Commissioner in Jefferson County, and recorded in Westchester County Clerk's Office, in Lib. 67, of Deeds, page 371, &c., June 22nd, 1836.

Ann C. Morris

To

Gouverneur Morris.

Deed, dated 31st of March, 1835. Consideration, natural love and affection, and \$1.00. Releases and conveys to her son Gouverneur Morris, all the right, title and

interest, which she may have in the Estate of her late hus-

band at Morrisania, under and by virtue of the will or Ante-nuptial Contract before mentioned, or in any other way whatever.

Duly acknowledged, March 31st, 1835, and recorded in Westchester County Clerk's Office, in Lib. 67, of Deeds,

page 372, &c., June 22nd, 1836.

Under a Lease made in 1837, to run for thirteen years from April 1st, 1836, but which was not executed, Mr. Charles Bathgate held possession of a part of that portion of the Estate of Morrisania, lying between Mill Brook and the Post Road, including a part of the premises in question. He however, relinquished his possession of such part for the short remainder of the term, prior to the date of Mr. Morris' Deeds.

Gouverneur Morris

THE NEW YORK AND ALBANY RAIL ROAD COMPANY.

DEED, dated August 31st, 1838. Grants not exceeding four rods in width through grantor's lands in Morrisania. Recorded in Lib. 90, of Deeds, page 431, &c., October 2nd,

1840, in the Clerk's Office of Westchester County.

Gouverneur Morris

THE NEW YORK AND HARLEM RAIL ROAD COMPANY.

Deed, dated November 10th, 1840. For description of premises conveyed by this Deed for the use of the said Rail Road, see return of the Clerk of Westchester County

hereto subjoined. Recorded in Lib. 90, of Deeds, page 518, Nov. 22nd, 1840, in the Clerk's Office of Westchester County.

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS,
PATSEY JEFFERSON CAREY,
ORLANDO FAIRFAX.

INDENTURE TRI-PARTITE: Ante-nuptial Contract, dated January 8th, 1842, secures an annuity of \$2,000 to Miss Carey,

party of the second part, about to be Mrs. Morris, during

her life, in case she shall survive said Gouverneur Morris, party of the first part; the first half yearly payment to be made six months after the decease of said G. Morris.

The party of the second part, agrees to accept such annuity in lieu of dower, in all land and real estate, where-

of the party of the first part, is or shall be seized.

The party of the first part, covenants for payment of the aunuity, and to secure the same mortgages to the party of the third part, all that part of Morrisania lying to the south and east of the Southern Westchester Turnpike Road.

(This mortgage does not include the premises under consideration, embraced in the first above mentioned maps.)

In consideration thereof, the party of the second part, renounces all dower and right of dower, &c., and covenants to execute, do and perform any other acts and deeds for the extinguishment of her dower, if such shall be requisite.

Acknowledged by the several parties, January 10, 1842, before William Cranch, Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of the United States, for the District of Columbia. The parties having been first identified by Henry Morris, a

subscribing witness, known to that officer.

Recorded in the Clerk's Office of Westchester County,

in Lib. 95, of Deeds, page 297, January 21st, 1842.

Re-acknowledged, March 10th, 1849, and re-recorded in said Clerk's Office of Westchester County, March 15th, 1849, in Lib. 134, of Deeds, page 250, &c.

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS

TO

JOHN W. SCHMIDT, JR.

Mortgage extending over a part of the premises in question, dated February 4th, 1843, to secure the payment of the sum of \$10,000, payable on the 1st

day of February, 1846, with interest half yearly at seven per centum per annum.

Acknowledged and recorded in Westchester County Clerk's Office, February 6th, 1843, in Lib. 69, of Mortgages, page 258, &c.

Satisfaction thereof, acknowledged by the said Mortgagee, on the 5th day of September, 1848, and said Mortgage cancelled of record, September 13th, 1848.

SEARCHES.

Full searches are hereunto annexed, from which it appears, that the only incumbrances existing upon the premises under consideration, prior to the conveyances thereof by Mr. Morris, bearing date the eighth day of September, 1848, and the first day of January, 1849, to Nicholas McGraw and others; were, the lease to Charles Bathgate above mentioned; and the one to C. L. Mathews and Charles Wood described in the return of the Clerk of Westchester County hereto annexed; the terms of each of which had about expired, and possession under which had been given up; the mortgage to Doct. Schmidt, satisfaction of which had been by him acknowledged; and the grants to the New York and Albany and New York and Harlem Rail Road Companies.

The only judgments returned, are those upon the certificate from the Clerk's Office of the City and County of New York, and these, as appears by the affidavit of Mr. Morris, are *not* against him.

I am of opinion, that the Title of Mr. Morris to the first above mentioned tract, on the said eighth day of September, 1848, and to the last above mentioned tract, on the said first day of January, 1849, was good, and that the same was conveyed by him, to the several grantees in the Deeds above referred to, free and clear of all incumbrances.

L. Holmes, of Counsel, &c.
11 Wall Street, New York.

THE CLERK of the County of Westchester will please search in his office for Conveyances, Mortgages and Incumbrances, of the following lots or pieces of land, viz.:

That certain piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of West Farms, in the said County of Westchester, a map whereof, entitled "Map of the Village of Morrisania, situated one and a half miles from Harlem River, in the Manor of Morrisania, in the Township of West Farms, County of Westchester and State of New York," made by Andrew Findlay, surveyor, dated West Farms, August 10th, 1848, is filed in the office of the Clerk of the said County of Westchester at White Plains; the said premises being bounded as follows on the said map.

On the north-east, by "Land of Charles Bathgate," on the east and south-east, by "Land formerly of B. Kelly," now of "Armstrong," and the "Post Road from New York to Boston," or "Morse Avenue" and the Road from Harlem River to Fordham or "Fordham Avenue," and on the south-west, west and north-west, by "Mill Brook,"

containing about two hundred acres of land.

And also of the following piece or parcel of land, likewise situate, lying and being in the said Town of West Farms, a map whereof, entitled "Map of the Village of Upper Morrisania, in the town of West Farms, in the County of Westchester and State of New York," made by Andrew Findlay, surveyor, dated West Farms, November 11th, 1848, is filed in the office of the said Clerk of the County of Westchester; the said last mentioned premises being bounded as follows on the said map:

On the north, by a Road from Land of Jacob Burckout, (known as the Quarry Road,) marked "Road to West Farms," on the south-east, by the Road from Harlem River to Fordham or "Fordham Avenue," on the south-west, by "Land of Charles, John and Alexander Bathgate," and on the north-west, by "Mill Brook" and "Land of Jacob Burckout" aforesaid, containing about sixty-four and one-

fourth acres of Land.

The said above mentioned and described Lots or pieces of land, being parcels of the property known as Morrisania, which was conveyed by Deed, bearing date the 4th day of April, 1787, by Staats Long Morris to Gouverneur Morris, and by the said Gouverneur Morris, by his last will and testament, bearing date the 26th day of October,

1816, devised to his son Gouverneur Morris, now of Morrisania aforesaid.

(A map of said property, entitled "Map of Land in Morrisania, in the Town and County of Westchester, belonging to the Hon. Gouverneur Morris," made by John Randell, Jr., in 1816, is on file in the office of the Clerk of the said County of Westchester.)

- Search—Against Gouverneur Morris, from the 1st day of March, 1787, to the date of your certificate.
- And—Against Moss Kent and Ann C. Morris, executor and executrix of Gouverneur Morris, deceased, for Conveyances, Mortgages and Incumbrances of the above described parcels of land, by them or either of them, as executors, guardians or otherwise,

From October 25th, 1816, To July 1st, 1836.

Notices of Lis-pendens against Moss Kent and Ann C. Morris, executor and executrix of Gouverneur Morris,

From October 25th, 1816, To July 1st, 1836.

- Search—Against Gouverneur Morris, (present proprietor,) for Conveyances, Mortgages or Incumbrances of the said pieces or parcels of land,
 - And—for Judgments, Transcripts, Decrees and Notices of Lis-pendens,

From March 1st, 1835,

To September 8th, 1848, on the first above described piece or parcel of land, and

To January 1st, 1849, on the last above described piece or parcel of land, for

N. McGraw,

J. L. Morr, and

C. W. Houghton, Committee, &c.

> L. Holmes, Of Counsel, 11 Wall Street, New York.

STAATS LONG MORRIS
TO

Gouverneur Morris.

DEED dated April 4th, 1787, Reciting that, whereas, Lewis Morris, late of Morrisania in the County of Westchester, &c., the father of the parties to this Deed, by his

last will and testament, dated the nineteenth day of November, 1760, devised all that part of Morrisania, being the farm whereon the testator then lived, lying to the eastward of Mill Brook, and the stream leading from the Bronks Kill to the Grist Mill, which then stood on the said Mill Brook, to the head thereof, to his wife Sarah Morris, for her life; and from and after the death of his said wife, to his son Staats Long Morris, if he should survive her, and to his heirs and assigns forever, upon condition that he the said Staats Long Morris, should pay to his, the testator's executors, or to either of them, the sum of £7000, lawful money of New York, in the manner in the said will more particularly specified; and reciting, that the said Staats Long Morris had taken the Estate so devised to him on condition, and had performed the said condition, as appears by the certificate thereof, under the hand and seal of the Hon. Richard Morris, one of the said executors, recorded in the office of the Secretary of the State of New York, whereby the said Estate became absolute in the said Staats Long Therefore, in consideration of £10,000 lawful money of New York, Staats Long Morris conveys to Gouverneur Morris, the premises so devised, (of which the premises herein above described, are parcels,) together with all the appurtenances, &c.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of James Morris and Aaron Burr; acknowledged before the Honorable Richard Morris, Chief Justice of the

State of New York, April 4th, 1787.

Recorded, February 10th, 1843, in Lib. 100, of Deeds.

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS

TO

THE HON. RICHARD MORRIS.

MORTGAGE, dated April 4th, 1787, for £2100; upon all that part of Morrisania, being the farm which Lewis Morris, late of

Morrisania, in the County of Westchester and State of New York, Esq., deceased, the father of the parties hereunto—did, by his last will, devise to Sarah Morris, the wife of the testator, and which is in the said will described to be the farm whereon he the testator lived, and lying to the eastward of Mill Brook, and the stream leading from the Bronks Kill to the Grist Mill, which in the lifetime of the testator, stood on the said Mill Brook, to the head thereof, as the same was lately occupied and possessed by the said Sarah Morris, deceased, and all the houses, &c.

Recorded in Lib. D. of Mortgages, page 7, &c. April 14th, 1787.

Cancelled of Record, Satisfied, February 10th, 1843.

ANN C. Morris

TO

Gouverneur Morris.

Release of Ante-nuptial Contract made between Gouverneur Morris and Miss Ann C. Randolph, for the payment of an annuity.

Recorded in Lib. 67, of Deeds, page 371, &c., June 22nd, 1836.

ANN C. Morris

TO

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS.

Release, dated March 31st, 1835, for "all the right, title and interest, which she the said Ann C. Morris, hath or may have, or to which she may in any way be entitled"

in the Estate of Gouverneur Morris, deceased, at Morrisania.

Recorded in Lib. 67, of Deeds, page 372, &c., June 22nd, 1836.

Gouverneur Morris and Ann C. Morris

TO

CHAS. L. MATTHEWS AND CHAS. WOODS.

Lease, dated February 25th, 1834, for that certain Marble Quarry, situate on the upper end of the farm belonging to the parties of the first

part, for the term of fifteen years from the date thereof. Recorded in Lib. 67, of Deeds, page 374, &c., July 2nd, 1836. ANN C. Morris.

TO

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS

Assignment of foregoing Lease, dated August 15th, 1834, for "all my right, title and interest."

Recorded in Lib. 67, of Deeds, page 382, June 22nd, 1836.

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS

THE NEW YORK AND ALBANY RAIL ROAD COMPANY.

RELEASE dated August 31st, 1838. This Grant to said Company shall not exceed four rods in width through my lands in Morrisania, and with the condition

that the said Company shall pay to the said G. Morris, \$5.00 per rod, for making and keeping in repair, a stone or other fence, upon each side of said road.

Recorded in Lib. 90, of Deeds, page 431, &c.

Gouverneur Morris

THE NEW YORK AND HARLEM RAIL ROAD COMPANY.

Release dated November 10th, 1840, for lands in Morrisania, commencing at a stake in the centre of a Bridge across Mill Brook, at Station 84 of N. Y. and H.

R. R., and proceeding South 34° and 30′, E. fifteen and a half feet, thence N. 55° and 30′ E. one hundred feet, thence on a Radius of 2865 feet, fourteen hundred feet, thence N. 61° and 15′ W. fifteen and a half feet, to a stake marked 170 and 91; thence from said stake, N. 61° and 15′ W. fifty and a half feet, thence S. 28° and 45′ W. seven thousand one hundred and ninety-one feet, thence on a Radius of 2865 feet, fourteen hundred feet, thence S. 55° and 30′ W. one hundred feet, thence S. 34° and 30′ E. fifty-five and a half feet, to place of beginning, with same agreement relating to fence, as in last described grant.

Recorded in Lib. 90, of Deeds, page 518, &c., Nov. 22nd, 1840.

GOUVERNEUR MORRIS, Party of 1st part,
PATSEY JEFFERSON CAREY, " " 2nd "
ORLANDO FAIRFAX. " " 3rd "

MARRIAGE CONTRACT, dated January 8th, 1842, to secure to Patsey Jefferson Carey, an annuity of \$2,000, during her life, in case she shall survive Gouverneur Morris, to be paid in half yearly payments. whereas, said party of the 2nd part, has agreed to accept such annuity in lieu of dower, in all real estate which the said party of the 1st part, is or shall be seized of, or entitled to, This Indenture further witnesseth, that further to secure the due payment of the said aunuity, consideration of \$10.00 to him in hand paid, by the said party of the 3rd part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged; the said party of the 1st part, hath bargained, granted and sold, &c., all that part of the land now belonging to the said party of the 1st part, at Morrisania in the County of Westchester, lying to the south and east of the Southern Westchester Turnpike Road, &c.

Recorded in Lib. 95, of Deeds, page 297, &c., Janu-

ary 22nd, 1842.

Re-recorded in Lib. 134, of Deeds, page 250, &c., March 15th, 1849.

Gouverneur Morris

JOHN W. SCHMIDT, JR.

MORTGAGE, including a portion of the premises above mentioned, (at the commencement,) dated February 4th, 1843, to secure \$10,000, payable on the 1st

day of February, 1846, with interest half yearly at seven per centum per annum, payable to the Mortgagee in the City of New York, on the 1st days of August and February, each year.

Recorded in Lib. 69, of Mortgages, page 258, &c.,

February 6th, 1843.

Satisfaction Acknowledged, September 5th, 1848, and said Mortgage Cancelled of Record, September 13th, 1848.

Nothing else found.

Munson J. Lockwood, Clerk.

The Clerks of the Circuit and District Courts of the United States for the Southern District of New York, Will please search for Judgments from the organization of the Courts to January 1st, 1849, against Gouverneur Morris,

And certify the result in writing, for

N. McGraw,

J. L. Mott and

C. W. Houghton, Committee, &c.

L. Holmes, 11 Wall Street, New York.

None found, January 1st, 1849.

George H. Morton, Searcher, District Court, U. S.

None found, January 1st, 1849.

ALEX. GARDNER, Clerk, Circuit Court, U. S.

THE CLERK of the City and County of New York, will please search in his office for

JUDGMENTS AND TRANSCRIPTS from the late Supreme Court, against

Gouverneur Morris,

From September 1st, 1838, *To June 1st, 1840, And certify the result in writing, for

N. McGraw,
J. L. Mott and
C. W. Houghton,

Committee, &c.

L. Holmes, of Counsel, 11 Wall Street, New York.

^{*} By an Act of the Legislature passed May 14, 1840, to take effect on and after June 1st, 1840, "No Judgment or Decree which shall be entered after this Act takes effect, shall be a lien upon real estate, unless the same shall be docketed in books to be provided and kept for that purpose, by the County Clerk of the County where the lands are situated."

New York, Gouverneur Morris ads. William P. Cune, \$1000 Debt, \$18.28, D. & C. Dec. 12, 1839, D. E. Wheeler.

do. same, ads. William Martin and Charles A. Coe, \$118.29, D. & C. May 4, 1840, E. C. Gray.

do. Gouverneur Morris and Albert S Nesmith ads. same,

\$170.42, D. & C. May 4, 1840, E. C. Gray.

Albany, Gouverneur Morris ads. James H. Gilmore, \$161 33, D. & C. May 4, 1840, A. & A. J. Parker.

do. Gouverneur Morris and Albert S. Nesmith ads. same,

\$352 81, D. & C. same time and attorneys.

No other found for the period.

JAMES CONNER, Clerk.

(See Mr. Morris' affidavit.)

GENT'N,

I have the pleasure to say, in reply to your inquiry, that the Legacy of twenty-five thousand dollars left to me by my uncle, the late Gouverneur Morris, has been fully paid off, and no longer constitutes any claim against his estate.

Very resp'y your ob't serv't, Gouv'r Mor's Wilkins.

MESSRS. N. McGRAW,

J. L. Morr and

C. W. HOUGHTON,

Committee, &c.

L. Holmes, Esq.

11 Wall Street.

State of New York City and County of New York, \ ss.

Gouverneur Morris of Morrisania, in the Town of West Farms, County of Westchester and State of New York, being by me duly sworn, doth depose and say, that he was, on the *10th day of September, 1848, the true, lawful and only owner, of the premises, situate, lying and being in the Town of West Farms aforesaid, containing one hundred and ninety-nine and 78-100ths acres of land; a map whereof, entitled "Map of the Village of Morrisania, situated one and a half miles from Harlem River, in the manor of Morrisania, in the Township of West Farms, County of Westchester and State of New York," by Andrew Findlay, surveyor, dated West Farms, August 10th, 1848, is filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester at White Plains; the Title thereto, on the 10th day of September, 1848, was good and valid in this deponent, as he fully believes.

And this deponent further saith, that he was, on the 1st day of January, 1849, the true, lawful and only owner of the premises, likewise situate, lying and being in the said Town of West Farms aforesaid, containing sixty-four acres and about one-fourth of an acre of land; a map whereof, entitled "Map of the Village of Upper Morrisania, in the Town of West Farms, County of Westchester and State of New York," made by Andrew Findlay, surveyor, dated West Farms, November 11th, 1848, is filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Westchester at White Plains; and that the Title to the said last mentioned premises, on the said 1st day of January 1849, was good and valid in this deponent, as he fully believes.

And this deponent further says, that he has been in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said above mentioned premises, by himself and tenants, for thirteen years and upwards, last past; that the same was always held and possessed by him, under the Title by him enjoyed as aforesaid, and that he has never heard the same questioned or disputed in any manner whatsoever.

And deponent further saith, that the said first above mentioned premises, containing one hundred and ninety-

^{*} The Deeds, by which Mr. Morris conveyed the several Lots embraced in the tract first mentioned in the above affidavit, though dated on the eighth day of September, were not delivered until the tenth of September 1848.

nine and 78-100ths acres of land, were, on the said 10th day of September, 1848, and that the said last above mentioned premises, containing sixty-four and about one-fourth acres of land, were, on the said 1st day of January, 1849, wholly free from incumbrances of every description, whether by way of Judgment, Mortgage, Bond, Execution, Taxes, Assessments, Charges or otherwise, whatsoever.

And this deponent further saith, that he is not the Gouverneur Morris, against whom certain judgments in the late Supreme Court, are returned upon the certificate of the searcher, as having been obtained in the years 1839 and 1840, and that said judgments are not against this deponent.

Gouverneur Morris,

Of Morrisania.

Sworn and subscribed, this 28th day of December, 1849, before me,

ROBERT C. EMBREE,

Com'r of Deeds.

A true copy of the original Abstract.

L. Holmes,

11 Wall Street.

1849.