

that live and settle under the government of Her Royal Majesty and the Swedish crown, the Governor shall not disturb them in the indulgence granted them as to the exercise of the Reformed religion according to the aforesaid Royal Charter.

"27. In all else which cannot here be set down in writing, the Governor shall conduct himself as is suitable and becoming to a faithful patriot, and take into due consideration whatever is correspondent to his office, according to the best of his understanding and with the greatest zeal and care, also regulating himself in accordance with that which may be here communicated to him by word of mouth; and there is herewith given him a special list of the people who accompany him, and of the means and equipment of his office.

"28. Finally, Her Royal Majesty is also well satisfied that the said office of his government shall continue and exist for three years, after the lapse of which he, the said John Printz, shall be free to return hither again, after the necessary arrangements have been made in regard to his successor, or some substitute in the said service. Should he, the said John Printz, have a desire to continue longer in this charge, he shall have the preference over others therefor, provided that the advantage and service of Her Majesty and the crown, and of the Company, so demand. Given as above.

"PAEHR BRAHE, HERMAN WRANGEL,
CLAES FLEMMING, AXEL OXENSTIERNA,
GABRIEL BENGTTSSON OXENSTIERNA.*
AND. GYLLENKLOU." †

The voyage to New Sweden was at that time quite long. The watery way to the West was not yet well discovered, and, therefore, for fear of the sand-banks off Newfoundland, they kept their course to the east and south as far as to what were then called the Brazates.‡ The ships which went under the command of Governor Printz sailed along the coast of Portugal, and down the coast of Africa, until they found the eastern passage, then directly over to America, leaving the

*[These five names are historical. They formed at that time the Swedish Council of State, who carried on the government immediately after the death of Gustavus Adolphus and during the minority of his daughter Christina, who was not quite six years old at the time of her father's death (Nov. 6, 1632), and, consequently, in her seventeenth year at the date of this document. She ascended the throne as actual sovereign on her eighteenth birthday; namely, Dec. 6, 1644. The Swedish colony in America was, undoubtedly, the work of the great Chancellor Axel Oxenstiern, though first suggested by Gustavus Adolphus.]

† [GyllenkloU was secretary of the Council.]

‡ [The Azores?]