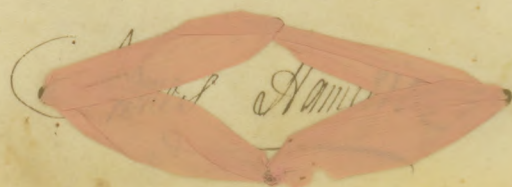


Thomas Penn and Richard Penn

Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex on Delaware To all persons to whom these Presents shall come greeting **Whereas** the wellbeing of a Society depends on the Education of their Youth as well as in great measure the eternal welfare of every Individual by impressing on their tender minds Principles of Morality and Religion, instructing them in the several Duties they owe to the Society in which they live, and one towards another, giving them the Knowledge of Languages & other parts of useful Learning necessary thereto, in order to render them serviceable in the several publick Stations to which they may be called **And Whereas** it hath been represented to us by Thomas Lawrence, William Allen, John Inglis, Tench Francis, William Masters, Lloyd Lachary, Samuel M'Call junior, Joseph Turner, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Leech, William Shippen, Robert Suttle, Philip Syng, Charles Willing, Phineas Bond, Richard Peters, Abraham Taylor, Thomas Bond, Joshua Maddox, William Plumsted, Thomas White, William Coleman, Isaac Norris & Thomas Cadwalader of our City of Philadelphia Gentlemen that for the erecting establishing and maintaining an Academy within our said City as well to instruct Youth for Reward, as poor Children whose indigent & helpless Circumstances demand the Charity of the opulent part of Mankind, several Benevolent & Charitable Persons have generously paid and by Subscriptions promised hereafter to pay into their Hands as Trustees for the use of this said Academy divers Sums of money; which Sums already paid, they the said Trustees have expended in the purchase of Lands well situated & a Building commodious for the Uses aforesaid within our said City in maintaining an Academy there as well for the Instruction of poor Children on Charity, as others whose Circumstances have enabled them to pay for their Learning, for some time past, and in furnishing the said Academy with Books Maps, Mathematical Instruments, and other Necessaries of General use therein according to the Intentions of the Donors **And Whereas** the said Trustees, to facilitate the progress of so good a Work and to perfect & perpetuate the same have humbly besought us to incorporate them and their Successors **Now know ye** that We favouring such pious Useful Generous & Charitable Designs, hoping through the favour of Almighty God this Academy may prove a Nursery of Virtue & Wisdom, and that it will produce Men of Dispositions & Capacities beneficial to Mankind in the various occupations of Life, but more particularly suited to the Infant State of North America in General, and for other Causes & Considerations Us hereto specially moving **Have** granted, Ordained, Declared, Constituted & Appointed, And by these Presents **We do** for us our Heirs & Successors, Grant, Ordain, Declare, Constitute and Appoint that the said Thomas Lawrence, William Allen, John Inglis, Tench Francis, William Masters, Lloyd Lachary, Samuel M'Call junior, Joseph Turner, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Leech, William Shippen, Robert Suttle, Philip Syng, Charles Willing, Phineas Bond, Richard Peters, Abraham Taylor, Thomas Bond, Joshua Maddox, William Plumsted, Thomas White, William Coleman, Isaac Norris & Thomas Cadwalader and such others as shall be from time to time chosen, nominated or elected in their place & stead, shall be one Community Corporation & Body Politick to have Continuance for ever by the name of **The Trustees of the Academy and Charitable School in the Province of Pennsylvania** and that by the same name they shall have perpetual Succession; and that they & their Successors by that Name shall be able and Capable in Law to purchase, have, take, receive and enjoy to them & their Successors in fee & in perpetuity or for any other or lesser Estate or Estates any Manors Lands Tenements Rents Annuities Pensions or other Hereditaments within the said Province of Pennsylvania or three lower Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex by the Gift, Grant, Bargain, Sale, Alienation, Infeoffment, Release, Confirmation, or Devise of any Person or Persons Bodies Politick or Corporate capable to make the same **And further** that they may take & receive any Sum or Sums of Money or any kind manner or Portion of Goods or Chattels that shall to them be given granted or bequeathed by any Person or Persons, Bodies Politick or Corporate capable to make a Gift Grant or Bequest thereof and therewith to erect set-up maintain and support an Academy or any other kind of Seminary of Learning in any place within the said Province of Pennsylvania where they shall judge the same to be most necessary & convenient for the Instruction Improvement & Education of Youth in any kind of Literature Tradition Arts & Sciences which they shall think fitting & proper to be taught **And We do** hereby grant and ordain that the said Trustees and their Successors by the Name aforesaid shall be able in Law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any Court or Courts before any Judge Judges or Justices within the said Province of Pennsylvania, the three lower Counties of Newcastle Kent & Sussex, and elsewhere in all and all manner of Suits, Complaints, Pleas, Causes, Matters and demands of whatsoever kind, nature or form they be; and all and every other matters and things therein to do in as full ample & effectual a manner as any other Person or Persons, Bodies Politick or Corporate within that part of the Kingdom of Great Britain called England or within the said Province of Pennsylvania or three lower Counties in the like Cases may or can do **And We do** hereby give and grant unto the said Trustees and their Successors full Power and Authority to make have and use a Common Seal with such Stamp & Inscription as they shall think proper and the same to change break alter and renew at their Pleasure **And further** in order to continue & perpetuate this Community & Corporation **We do** Grant Ordain & declare, that when any one or more of the present or future Trustees of this Academy & School shall remove his or their Habitation or Habitations and shall dwell at the distance of Five Miles from the Seat of the said Academy at that time or shall go and reside out of the Province of Pennsylvania although at a place nearer to the said Academy than Five Miles or shall happen to die or be otherwise naturally disabled from performing the Office and Duty of a Trustee or Trustees, the other Trustees shall as soon after as they conveniently can proceed to elect and choose one or more Person or Persons then residing within Five Miles of the said Academy, and within the said Province to fill the place or places of such absenting, deceased or disabled person or persons. **And We do also** for us our Heirs and Successors Give and Grant to the said Trustees and Corporation and their Successors full Power and Authority in all time and times coming to make ordain & enact all such Rules Ordinances Laws and Statutes, and from time to time to alter and amend the same, as they shall judge most convenient reasonable & needful for the good Government of the said Community, the management of the Affairs thereof & the effectual promotion of the good Ends hereby intended **Provided always** that the said Rules Ordinances Laws and Statutes be not repugnant to the Laws & Statutes then in force in the Kingdom of Great Britain or to the Laws then in force in our said Province of Pennsylvania **And Lastly** We do for us and our Successors Grant Declare and Ordain that these our Letters Patent and Charter and every Clause Sentence and Article herein contained shall be in all things firm, valid, sufficient, and effectual in the Law unto the said Trustees, Community and Corporation and their Successors according to the Purpose and Tenor hereof, without any further Grant or Toleration from us our Heirs or Successors to be procured or obtained **In Witness** whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent. Witness James Hamilton Esquire our Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the said Province of Pennsylvania at the City of Philadelphia the Thirteenth day of July in the Twenty seventh Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the second who now is King of Great Britain France and Ireland &c. and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred & fifty three 1753.

Entered in the Halls Office at Philadelphia
in Commission Book. N. Vol. 2. Page 150 &c. The 11.
Day of July A. D. 1753. Jm. Bradford M. D.



Thomas Penn and Richard Penn

*The Charter of Privileges granted to the
Trustees of the Academy in Philadelphia*

Dated 13 July 1753

