

Mr. Denton came to New England with Sir Richard Saltonstall and Robert Field, who brought over a large party of emigrants about 1680. Prior to that time he was the curate of Coley Chapel, Hipperholme, in Yorkshire, where Saltonstall and Field lived. It is probable that Elias Bayley and many of the Long Island settlers came in the same company.

By permission of the Dutch governor, the settlement of the town now called Jamaica was commenced about 1656. In 1660 a more formal patent was granted by Gov. Stuyvesant, in which it was incorporated by the name of Rusdorpe, from a town of that name in Holland. After the conquest by the English in 1664 the name was changed to Jamaica.

The following is an abstract from the Town Records, March 13, 1662. "It is ordered and agreed by the town that John Bayles shall keep an ordinary in the town of Rusdorpe for the entertaining of strangers, and that he shall forthwith set upon the work to provide for strangers, and to give entertainment to such strangers, as shall come." March 16, 1662. It was ordered by the town that the townsmen (select men or magistrate) shall look after the procuring of a minister. The Townsmen who were charged with the aforesaid business were John Bayles, Nathaniel Denton and Thomas Foster.

A petition to Gov. Nichols, dated Jamaica, Sept. 26, 1664, asking permission to purchase from the Indians a large tract of land in New Jersey, signed by John Bailies, Daniel Denton, Thomas Benedict, Nathaniel Denton, John Foster and Luke Watson, was favorably considered by the Governor, and permission was granted Oct. 28 the same year. The purchase was soon after made and was confirmed by the Governor, December 2, 1664.

The deed from the Indians, which is on record in the office of Secretary of State, Trenton, New Jersey, conveys to John Baylies, Daniel Denton, Luke Watson and associates the tract of land, Staten Island, from the main land and to run northward up after Cull Bay till we come att the first river which setts westward (Passaic) out of the Bay aforesaid. And to run Westward into the Country twice the length as it is broad from the North to the South of the above mentioned bounds (about 200,000 acres.)

The consideration for this land mentioned in the deed was "Twenty fathoms of Trayden Cloth, two made cotes, two gunnes, two kettles, ten barrs of lead, twenty handfulls of powder, and four hundred fathoms of white wampon."

Sept. 8, 1665, John Bayles sold to Philip Carteret, then Governor of New Jersey, his interest in the above purchase, the deed of which is also recorded in Trenton, New Jersey, and is as follows: