

DEED OF TRUST FROM SAMUELL STAPLES ENDOWING AND FOUNDING

THE STAPLES FREE SCHOOL AND APPOINTING HIS FIRST TRUSTEES

TO ALL PEOPLE TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

WHEREAS, I Samuell Staples of the Town & County of Fairfield, in the State of Connecticut, have taken into consideration the great importance & benefit of a Public free School to be kept in the Town of Fairfield aforesaid, to promote in children, youth & mankind virtue & religion; and to instruct them in useful knowledge & learning, especially sober studious youth who have not estate sufficient to defray the expenses of education.' And I have a mind to create, establish, maintain & support a free School for that purpose in said Fairfield, and am willing to give & grant part of my estate therefor, the principal to be kept intire & the yearly incomes -thereof to be so applyed. And whereas it is necessary that there be trustees to have & hold said Estate forever for the use & benefit of said School in trust: and whereas a succession of Trustees will be necessary & such succession cannot take place unless said Trustees be incorporated by the General Assembly of this State: and whereas it is my desire that the learned languages & the liberal arts and sciences be taught in said School & proper instructors be employed from time to time for that purpose. And whereas I have thought proper to appoint the Revd. Robert Ross & Revd Samuel Sherwood & the Revd James Johnson all of said Fairfield to be my Trustees, & to empower them to elect other Trustees, all of whoa to be under oath, to faithfully discharge the trust reposed in them.

Now know ye that I the said Samuel Staples for and in consideration of the sum of fifty pounds lawful money by me already in hand, received to my full satisfaction of the said Robert Ross, Samuel Sherwood & James Johnson, do give, grant, bargain, sell, convey & confirm unto them the said Robert Ross, Samuell Sherwood and James Johnson and to their

assigns & successors in Trusteeship forever in Trust, all my right, title & interest in & unto the several tracts, or pieces of land following. Viz:

One piece of land lying and being in said Fairfield in quantity about two hundred and fifty acres of land, be the same more or less, bounded southerly in part on the third cross highway & in part on the land which belongs to the parish of North-fairfield whereon the meeting house stands, and easterly on land belonging to the heirs of Thomas Turney deed, and northerly on the 4th cross highway so called, and westerly on an upright highway called Hendrix highway as may more at large appear by the deeds given me thereof & recorded, reference thereto being had, also one tract or piece of land lying in said Fairfield in the parish of Northfairfield in quantity sixteen acres be the same more or less & bounded northerly & southerly on land belonging to Lieut Isaac Bennet, easterly on Turneys long lot so called & westerly on land belonging to the heirs of Thomas Turney deed, and one piece of land lying at a place called two mile rock in the first Society in said Fairfield in quantity twenty acres be the same more or less and is bounded westerly on highway or country road, and is a piece of land laid out in my right of common land & surveyed as may at large appear by the survey bill thereof recorded reference thereto being had, and one piece of land lying in said Fairfield being the homestead land whereon Samuel Silliman now dwells with the dwelling house & buildings thereon standing & being, and the same is bounded southerly on country road and is the same land which Samuel Silliman mortgaged to me as may appear by the deed recorded reference thereto being had, and also two pieces of land lying in said Fairfield with the buildings thereon standing, which James Jennings when in full life & now deceased conveyed to me by mortgaged deed in quantity and description as mentioned in said Deed reference thereto being had, and also one piece of land lying in said Fairfield and is the same Samuel Lord conveyed to me by mortgage deed in quantity & description as mentioned in said Deed reference thereto being had, and also one piece of land lying in Danbury in said County with the buildings thereon, it being the same whereon Nathaniel

Stephens dwells and is about thirty acres be the same more or less and the bounds all unknown, and one piece of land in said Fairfield in quantity about thirty acres be the same more or less with the dwelling house & buildings thereon standing & being & is bounded southerly on highway & westerly on highway called Wilsons highway, northerly on Samuel Thorps land, and easterly part on Joseph Lyons land and part on land of David Jennings and part on Samuel Jacksons land with all the privileges & appurtenances of each & every of said tracts of land belonging.

To have and to hold to them the said Robert Ross, Samuel Sherwood & James Johnson the above & foregoing bargained & described premises with all the privileges thereof, and to their assigns & successors in Trusteeship forever in trust for the use & purposes of erecting, maintaining & supporting a free School as aforesaid & above described without any let claim or molestation from me the said Samuell Staples my heirs, executors, administrators & assigns & from all and every person or persons whatever acting by or under me or them, or either of them —In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the 25th. day of April, AD 1781

Signed, sealed & delivered
in presence of us
ANDREW ROWLAND
EBENEZER SANFORD

SAMUEL STAPLES SEAL

Fairfield April 25th. Day AD 1781

Personally appeared Samuell Staples Signer & Sealer of the within and foregoing instrument & acknowledged the same to be his free act & deed
Before me Samuell Wakeman Jus.Peace.