That the Testator in his Life time Delivered to the Libellant Thomas and Confirmed to him by Lett that the Goods were Appraised by Gerard Slye and Thomas Holley Goldsmith who are Reputable persons upon their Oath in the presence of the Libellants or Some of them And as the Respondent believes at their reall Value Considering the Oldness of the houshold Goods and Cattle of which Cattle Several Died with Age and poverty Notwithstanding the Respondents Utmost Care and Diligence That the respondent was & is so far from Desiring any thing more than his Due that he Some time in January last past Offered the Libellants to Deliver them what they Could of right Demand of the Dec.d his Estate provided they would give Security for refunding in Proportion to what they should receive in Case that any Debts should appear due from the Dec.d with the payment of which the Respondent should afterwards be Chargeable (which the Respondent is advised was but just and reasonable) without w.ch the Respondent Could not as he believes be Safe having Discovered by the Defendants papers that he Retained Attorney in Fact a great many years Since for one Chandler and a New England Trader And as the Respondent truly believes ye.t a far greate Quantity of Tobacco then the Ballance due to the Estate Amounts which the Respondent Cannot find or prove has been paid, That the Respond.t hath Acted justly and honestly in the Adm.n of the Testators Estate And Charged Nothing but what was just & true without that p.ticular Allegation Matters the Respondent is Ready to Aver And prays to be Dismist with his reasonable Cost most wrongfully Sustained &c

Ubgate Reeves the Respondent proved the aforegoing Answer in Common Form Sept 13th 1721 Moordley Com Gen

Thereupon the said Cause is further Continued untill next Court And the Same Day is given to the Libellants and the Libellee Also

Att which said Next Court to wit the 13th Day February Anno Dom 1721 Come again the said parties Libellants and Libellee by their procurators afores.d And It is Ord.d by the Court here that this Cause be Dismist with Cost to the Libellee Unless a hearing this Court or the Libellants proceed further in Order for a full hearing in this Case by Next Court

Afterwards in the same Court it is Ordered that Com.n Issue to Examine Evidences Directed to Samuel Williamson Justinian Jordan Gerard Slye and Matthew Mason or any three of them ye.t w.ch all Condemnent Speed which Issued Accordingly And thereupon p.tition is Continued untill next Court.

Att which said next Court to wit the Second Tuesday of April being the 10th day of the Same Month Come again the said parties by their procurators aforesaid and the said Libellants file in Court here the following Replication to the Answer aforesaid which follows in these words viz

The Replication of Thomas Reeves William Hoskins and Ann his Wife of St Mary's County to the Answer of Ubgate Reeves Defendant to the said Replyants Libelle Complaint

The said Replyants Saving to themselves all Advantages of Exception to the Uncertainties Untruths and Insufficiencies of the Defendants said Answer for Replication thereunto Saith that All and Singular the Matters and things in the Replyants said Libelle Contained Are true as the same are therein Alledged And that the Answer of the said Defendant to the said Libelle are very Untrue Imperfect and Insufficient to be replied unto And Are ready to Aver Maintain and prove the Same as this Honble Court shall Award And humbly pray as in their said Libelle they have prayed

Thereupon it is Ord.d peremptorily for a hearing this Court Unless the Comission be returned this Court by the Libellants w.ch is Afterwards Done. And it is Ordered to be renewed. which is accordingly Done And the said Action is further Continued untill Next Court

Att which said Next Court to wit the Second Tuesday of June being the Fourteenth Day of the same Month Come again the said parties Libellants and Libellee. by their procurators aforesaid And the Comissioners to whom the aff.d Comission was Directed make return thereof to the Court here. which is Ordered to be published & follows in these words. viz.t

Thomas