The State of Maryland ss. At a General Court for the Western Shore of the said state begun and held at the city of Annapolis on the second tuesday of May being the ninth day of the same month in the year of our lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty six.— Were present

The Honorable { Robert Hanson Harrison Esquire Chief Judge. Alexander Contee Hanson and Robert Goldsborough Junior } Esquires Judges.

David Steward Esquire Sheriff. Thomas B. Hodgkin Cl.

Amongst other proceedings was the following to wit.

A.R. Thomas Willing, Robert Morris and John Swanwick. vs Igs. Philip Thomas Exor of Philip Thomas. — Be it Remembered that heretofore to wit on the thirteenth day of September one thousand seven hundred and eighty four Command was given to the sheriff of Ann Arundel County that he should take Philip Thomas late of Ann Arundel County Gentleman Executor in his own wrong of the last will and testament of Philip Thomas late of the same county deceased if he should be found in his bailiwick and him should safe keep so that he might have his body before the judges of our General court to be held at the city of Annapolis on the second tuesday of October then next to answer unto Thomas Willing, Robert Morris and John Swanwick of a plea of trespass on the case and so forth. and that thereof he the said Sheriff should not fail and that he should have then and there that writ. Duplicate of which writ was made and sent at the same time in the plea aforesaid to the Sheriff of Calvert County. At which said second tuesday of October to wit the 12th day of the same month anno Domini 1784 being the day of the return of the aforegoing writ comes the said Thomas Willing, Robert Morris and John Swanwick by Richard Ridgely their Attorney and the sheriff of Ann Arundel County to whom the said writ was directed likewise comes and makes return thereof to the court here thus indorsed — viz.t Cepi — A Harwood for.t Sheriff —

The Sheriff of Calvert County to whom the duplicate aforesaid was directed makes no return thereof to the court here. And the said Thomas Willing, Robert Morris and John Swanwick by their Attorney aforesaid declared against the aforesaid Philip Thomas in the plea aforesaid as follows to wit. Western Shore of Maryland Ann Arundel County, to wit. Philip Thomas late of Ann Arundel County Gentleman Executor in his own wrong of the last will and testament of Philip Thomas late of the same county deceased was attached to answer unto Thomas Willing, Robert Morris and John Swanwick of a plea of trespass on the case and so forth. And whereupon the said Thomas Willing, Robert Morris and John Swanwick, by Richard Ridgely their Attorney complains that whereas a certain Samuel Hepburn being a person trading, merchandizing and using commerce within this State to wit at Ann Arundel County aforesaid did on the fifteenth day of March in the year seventeen hundred and seventy six, at the County aforesaid according to the usage and custom of merchants, in Great Britain and this State time out of mind used and approved make and with his proper

hand subscribe his certain first bill of Exchange in writing bearing date the day and year aforesaid and the same directed to certain William and Robert Molleson, merchants in London in Great Britain aforesaid and by the said bill the said Samuel Hepburn requested the said William and Robert Molleson at sixty days sight of that his first bill of Exchange (second no third paid) to pay unto the said Philip Thomas in his life time by the name of Philip Thomas or order the sum of two hundred and sixty pounds Sterling money of Great Britain, value received of him, and place the same to account of the Estate of John Hepburn Esquire, and the aforesaid Philip Thomas afterwards to wit in his life time on the day and year aforesaid at the County aforesaid, by his Indorsement on the said Bill of Exchange made and with his proper hand subscribed, according to the usage and custom of merchants in this State time out of mind used and approved ordered the said William and Molleson to the said Bill of Exchange to the aforesaid Willing, Morris, and Swanwicke, by the names of Willing, Morris and Company or order, the said Philip Thomas then and there still residing trading merchandizing and using commerce within this State to wit at the County aforesaid which said Bill so as aforesaid made subscribed and directed with the Indorsement thereon as aforesaid, after the making thereof as aforesaid, and after the Indorsement thereon as aforesaid made to wit, on the twentyninth day of June in the year seventeen hundred and seventy six, at London aforesaid, was by the order and for the use of them the said Willing, ~~Morris~~, and Swanwick exhibited and shewn to the said William and Robert Molleson, were then and there by the order aforesaid by virtue of the Indorsement aforesaid, according to the usage and custom of merchants, requested to pay the said bill to the order and for the use of the said Willing, Morris and Swanwick, by reason whereof the said bill of Exchange, afterwards to wit on the day and year last aforesaid at London aforesaid, according to the usage and custom of merchants aforesaid the said William and Robert Molleson having before that time had sixty days sight thereof with the Indorsement thereon to wit from the twentieth day of April then last past at London aforesaid and the second and third bills of the same tenor and date being unpaid was protested, whereof the said Philip Thomas in his life, to wit, in the first day of June in the year seventeen hundred and seventy eight at Ann Arundel County aforesaid had notice — by reason of which premises the aforesaid Philip Thomas in his life time according to the usage and custom of merchants became liable for and chargeable to pay unto them the said Willing, Morris and Swanwick, the aforesaid sum of two hundred and sixty pounds Sterling together with all lawfull costs damages and Interest; by them the said Willing, Morris and Swanwick, suffered and sustained by reason of the non payment of the aforesaid sum of two hundred and sixty pounds Sterling and protest thereof, as aforesaid and being so therewith chargeable the aforesaid Philip Thomas in his life time, afterwards to wit on the day and year last aforesaid in consideration thereof upon himself assumed and to the said Willing, Morris and Swanwick, then and there faithfully promised that he the said Philip Thomas in his life time, the aforesaid sum of two hundred and sixty pounds Sterling money together with all lawfull costs damages and Interest by the said Willing, Morris and Swanwick, suffered and sustained by reason of the non payment of the aforesaid Sum of two hundred and sixty pounds Sterling, contained in the bill aforesaid, as protest thereof as aforesaid to them the said Willing, Morris and Swanwick, when afterwards he the said Philip should be thereto required would well and truly content and pay, and the aforesaid Willing, Morris and Swanwick in fact say that the lawfull cost damages and Interest of them the said Willing, Morris and Swanwick, suffered and sustained by Occasion of the non payment of the said bill of Exchange, and the contents thereof and protest as aforesaid amount to the sum of fifty two