Prince Georges bounty Merchant otherwise called Richard Ponsonby of Prince Georges bounty and State of Maryland was summoned to answer unto Samuel Beall in a plea that he render unto him the sum of five thousand three hundred and seventy six pounds fifteen shillings and eight pence specie current money of Maryland which to him he owes and unjustly detains and so forth - And whereupon the samuel by Richard Potts his attorney saith that whereas the aforesaid Richard Ponsonby on the tenth day of April in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty four at Prince Georges bounty aforesaid by his certain writing obligatory - acknowledged himself to be held and firmly bound unto him the said Samuel in the aforesaid sum of five thousand three hundred and seventy six pounds fifteen shillings and eight pence specie current money of Maryland to be paid to the said Samuel when afterwards he the said Richard Ponsonby should be thereunto required - Nevertheless the aforesaid Richard Ponsonby (although often required) hath not paid to the said Samuel the said sum of five thousand three hundred and seventy six pounds fifteen shillings and eight pence nor any part thereof but hitherto hath altogether refused and still doth refuse to render the same wherefore the said Samuel saith he is the worse and hath damage to the value of five thousand pounds current money of Maryland and therefore he brings suit and so forth - and brings here into court the writing obligatory aforesaid sealed with the seal of the aforesaid Richard Ponsonby which the debt aforesaid in form aforesaid witnesseth the date whereof is the day and year aforesaid and so forth -

R. Potts for the plaintiff pledges &c. forth .. { John Doe and Richard Roe

A copy of which aforegoing declaration was made and sent with the writ that issued in the plea aforesaid -- At which said second tuesday of May to wit the 10th day of the same month Anno Domini 1785. being the day of the return of the aforegoing writ comes the said Samuel Beall by his attorney aforesaid and the sheriff of Prince Georges bounty to whom the said writ was directed likewise comes and makes return thereof to the court here thus Indorsed Viz.t

Cepi. out of time - - I Beall Shff -

And the said Sheriff although solemnly called to bring into court the body of the said Richard Ponsonby according to the return of the writ aforesaid brings him not in but makes default whereupon it is adjudged by the court here that the said sheriff be amerced the debt and costs of suit in the action aforesaid unless he have the body of the said Richard Ponsonby here next court - At which said next court to wit the 11th day of October Anno Domini 1785 comes into the general court here the said Samuel Beall by his attorney aforesaid and the sheriff aforesaid being solemnly called upon to bring in the body of the said Richard Ponsonby according to the return of the writ aforesaid brings him in. therefore it is ordered by the court that the said amercement be struck out - And the said Richard Ponsonby by Jeremiah Townley Chase his attorney appears

and at the prayer of the plaintiff it is adjudged that the said Richard Ponsonby give special bail to the action aforesaid. thereupon John Brown. John Hayman Nichols and Edward Burgess of Montgomery bounty Gentlemen present here in court undertakes for the said Richard Ponsonby that in case the said Samuel Beall shall recover judgment against the said Richard Ponsonby in the plea aforesaid or that the said Richard Ponsonby shall be therein legally convict that then the said Richard Ponsonby shall pay the condemnation of the court thereupon or render his body to the custody of the sheriff of Prince Georges bounty in satisfaction thereof or that the said John Brown, John Hayman Nichols and Edward Burgess will do the same for him - And the aforesaid Richard Ponsonby by his attorney aforesaid comes and defends the force and injury when and so forth and prays leave to imparle here unto until next court and he hath it and the same day is given to the plaintiff also - At which said next court to wit the 9th day of May Anno Domini 1786 come again the said parties plaintiff and defendant by their attornies aforesaid and the said defendant by his said attorney prays further leave to imparle here unto until next court and he hath it and the same day is given to the plaintiff also - at which said next court to wit the 10th day of October Anno Domini 1786 come again as well the said Samuel Beall by his attorney aforesaid as the said Richard Ponsonby by his attorney aforesaid and the said Richard Ponsonby by his said attorney further comes and defends the force and Injury when and so forth and prays an hearing of the writing obligatory aforesaid and the condition thereof and he hath it in these words to wit - "Know all men by these presents that we Richard Ponsonby of Prince Georges bounty and State of Maryland and Edward Burgess of Montgomery bounty and said state are held and firmly bound unto Samuel Beall of the city of Williamsburg and State of Virginia merchant in the full and just sum of five thousand three hundred and seventy six pounds fifteen shillings and eight pence specie current money of Maryland to be paid unto the said Samuel Beall his certain attorney his heirs Executors, administrators or assigns to the which payment well and truly to be made and done we bind our selves our heirs Executors and Administrators jointly and severally in full and for the whole firmly by these presents sealed with our seals and dated this tenth day of April Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and eighty four - the Condition of the above Obligation is such that if the above bound Richard Ponsonby and Edward Burgess their heirs, Executors or administrators do and shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said Samuel Beall his certain attorney his heirs Executors, administrators or assigns on or before the first day of June next ensuing the date here of the full and just sum of two thousand six hundred and eighty eight pounds seven shillings and ten pence specie current money of Maryland with legal Interest for the same from the first Instant April then the above obligation to be void else to remain in full force and virtue in law

Which being read and heard the same Richard Ponsonby saith that the said Samuel Beall his action aforesaid gainst him to have or maintain ought not because he saith that he the said Richard before the impetration of the original writ of him the said Samuel to wit the thirteenth day of April in the year seventeen hundred and eighty five at the bounty of Prince Georges did pay to him the said Samuel the aforesaid sum of money in the said condition specified together with all the Interest thereon due according to the form of the statute in that case made and provided and this he is ready to verify wherefore he prays