Thousand seven hundred and eighty one and before the Impetration of this Writ. And that the said Thomas Bladen never did become a Subject of this State or of any of the United States nor had he an Attorney in fact acknowledging himself as such for the purpose of receiving debts always from the first day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Seventy six until the passing the Act aforesaid. And Constantly residing in the State from the said first day of September in the year one thousand Seven hundred and Seventy six until the passing of the said Act of Assembly — That on the twenty eighth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six a Convention of Delegates of Maryland made the following Resolution to wit "Resolved unanimously that the "Deputies of this Colony attending in Congress or a Majority of them or any three or more "of them be authorised and empowered to concur with the other United States or a Majority of "them in declaring the United States free and Independent States" That on the fourth day of July in the year one thousand seven hundred and Seventy six the Congress made the following Declaration of the Independence of the States of New Hampshire &c &c —

A Declaration by the Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled — When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the Causes which impel them to the Separation —

We hold these truths to be self evident; that all Men are Created equal that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights: that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights governments are Instituted among Men deriving their just powers from the Consent of the governed that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends it is the Right of the people to alter or abolish it; and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and happiness. Prudence indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations pursuing invariably the same object evinces a Design to Reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide New Guards for their future Security; Such has been the Patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains

them to alter their present systems of Government the History of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and impositions all having in direct object the Establishment of an absolute tyranny over these States, To prove this let facts be submitted to a Candid World. He has Refused his Assent to Laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained and when so Suspended, he has utterly Neglected to attend to them. He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formable to Tyrants only. He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual — uncomfortable and distant from the depository of their public Records for the sole purpose of — fatiguing them into compliance with his Measures. He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly for opposing with manly firmness his Invasions on the rights of the people. He has refused for a Long time after such dissolutions to cause others to be elected, whereby the legislative powers — Incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise: the State remaining in the meantime exposed to all the dangers of Invasion from without and Convulsions within. — He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migrations hither; and raising the Conditions of New appropriations of Lands. He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers. He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and payment of their Salaries. He has erected a Multitude of New Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harrass our people and eat out their Substance. He has kept among us in times of peace Standing Armies without the Consent of Our Legislatures. He has affected to render the Military independent of and Superior to the Civil power. He has Combined with others to Subject us to a Jurisdiction — foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowled by our Laws giving his Assent to their act of — pretended legislation. For Quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us; For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States. For Cutting off our Trade with all parts of the World. for imposing Taxes on us without our Consent. For depriving us in many Cases of the benefits of Trial by Jury For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended Offences. For abolishing the free — System of English Laws in a Neighbouring province establishing therein an Arbitrary Government and enlarging its boundaries, so as to Render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for — Introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies. For taking away our Charters, abolishing Our most Valuable Laws and Altering fundamentally the forms of our Governments. For suspending our Own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in