Venire facias to the Sherriffe of Charles County Directed who appearing in Court in his Propper person was presented by the Grand Inquest in manner and forme as followeth

Gilbert Clark presented

Memorandum that on Tuesday the twenty second Day of February in the year of Our Lord One thousand six hundred Eighty & six Before the Justices of the Lord Prop^ty at the Citty of St Maries in St Maries County by the Oath of fifteen Jurors for the said Lord Prop^ty sworne to Inquire It was presented that Gilbert Clark late of St Maries County Gent: the last Day of December in the year of Our Lord One thousand six hundred Eighty and four at the Citty of St Maries in St Maries County being Vnder Sherriffe to one Joshua Doyne then high Sherriffe of the said County had delivered to him the said Gilbert a certain Writt of Capias ad Satisfaciendum to the said Sherriffe Directed by which said Writt the Lord Prop^ty did comand the said Sherriffe that he should take one Thomas Jackson late of St Maries County Merchant if he should be found in his Baliwick and him safe keep for that he should have his body before this Lord^ps Justices of St Maries County Court to be held at Newtowne the first Tuesday in Jan^ry then next to Satisfie unto One William Blankstein as well three thousand three hundred pounds of tobacco and five hundred and fifty pounds of tobacco for his Cost and Charges in that behalf laid out and Expended and thereof he should not faile at his perrill as by the said Writt remaining upon Record may appear Which said Writt of Capias ad Satisf: then and there was Delivered to him the said Gilbert then being underSherriffe as aforesaid in force of Law to be Executed And the said Jurors further on their Oaths do^ty say that he the said Gilbert not weighing the duty of his place nor his Oath taken for the due Execution of the same but indeavouring fraudulently and Deceitfully not only to abuse the said Court but unjustly to Charge and greive the said Thomas Jackson he the said Gilbert then and there did Obliterate in the said Writt a certain word Three and in stead thereof with his owne propper hand did write the word Nine and so made the words three thousand three hundred pounds of tobacco to be three thousand Nine hundred pounds of tobacco and thereupon him the said Thomas Jackson by Coulour of the said Writt so Colled out and altered for the summe of three thousand Nine hundred pounds of tobacco debt with Costs aforesaid in Execution did take and the same three thousand Nine hundred pounds of tobacco with the Costs aforesaid of

Indicted

him the said Thomas Jackson on that pretext had and received in Deceipt of the Law and of him the said Thomas Jackson and against the peace &c

And now here at this Day to with the second Day of March in the year aforesaid this same Court before the said Justices came the said Gilbert Clark in his propper person And presently it being demanded of the said Gilbert how he would acquitt himself of the premises and whether he would

Traverse

Submitt or Traverse the Indictment aforesaid Traversed the same and humbly Craved Councill to be assigned him that he might the better Defend such matter in Law as upon the tryall of the premises would arise

Councill assigned

and it is granted him And hereupon the said Gilbert Clark by William

plea

Dent his Attorney by the special favour of the Court admitted cometh and Defendeth the force and Injury when &c And saith that with the Indictment aforesaid he ought not to be further Because he saith he is in noe waies Guilty thereof And of this he puts himself upon the Country

Issue

And Thomas Burford Attorney Gen^ll of the Lord Prop^ty who for the said Lord Prop^ty in this behalf doth prosecute likewise Therefore it is Comanded the Sherriffe of St Maries County that immediately he Cause to Come here twelve

Venire

&c who neither &c to Recognize &c Because as well &c And now here at this Day to with the 2^d Day of March aforesaid in the year aforesaid Came the said Thomas Burford Attorney Gen^ll of the said Lord Prop^ty who for the said Lord Prop^ty in this behalf doth prosecute and the said Gilbert Clark by his Attorney aforesaid admitted and the Jur^rs thereon impannelled being called

Jury appears

likewise came (vizt) Thomas Smithson John Chiverell Miles Gray Robert Scofield James yore Abraham Rhodes Johannes Dietrich Sr. John Simmons Edward Morgan Joseph Weeks Junr Richard Jones Junr & Thomas Stroud who to speak the truth Concerning the premises being Elected tryed and sworne

special verdict

doe upon their Oath say that if Thomas Jackson who is Concerned in the matter be as good and firme an Evidence in Law as any of the other Evidences then they find Gilbert Clark Guilty of Obliterateing the word three and Interlineing the word Nine but if he is not soe good Evidence as the rest in Law then they found him not Guilty upon which the said Thomas Burford Attorney Gen^ll for the said Lord Prop^ty prayed his Judgm^t to him by the Court here to be rendred on the Verdict aforesaid And the said Gilbert Clark by his Attorney aforesaid saith that the Court here ought not to proceed to render their Judgm^t upon the Verdict aforesaid because he saith the returne of

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