Their Letts Patents bearing date at Westminster in the County of Middlesex the first day of April in the third year of their Reigns and in the year of our Lord 1691 did give and grant unto the said Sr Thomas Laurence the office or place of Secretary of this Province of Maryland and him the said Sr Thomas Laurence Bart of this Province did by those Presents make ordain and constitute to have hold Exercise and injoy the said office or place of Secty unto the said Sr Thomas by himself or sufficient deputy during their Majtys pleasure and the residence of him the said Sr Thomas in the said Province together with all Rights priviledges profitts perquisites and Advantages to the said office belonging and due and of right ought to belong in such Manner and form as any Secretary of any of their Majtys Provinces in America for or by reason of their powers and Execution of such office and place may lawfully have receive and injoy as by the said Letts Patents recorded in the Records of this Province may more at large appear and the said Sr Thomas Laurence arriving in this Province upon the Fifteenth day of September 1692 and taking upon him the Execution of the said office and place of Secty of this Province and having by virtue of being Secretary of this Province amongst other rights and priviledges to the said office of Secretary belonging the custody and Care of the Records of the high Court of Chancery the Prov[ince] Court Office as also the Land Records of the said Province and nominating and appointing under him the said Sr Thomas Regrs and Clerks of the said offices and finding that the said William had been by the governt of this Province put in as Regr of the said Prov[ince] Court of the high Court of Chancery and Clk of the said Records as aforesaid and had the keeping of the Records of the said Courts and Offices and was then alsoe and Sr Thomas his Arrival in possession thereof he the said Sr Thomas upon the Fifteenth day of September aforesaid at St Marys aforesaid in Consideration that the said William Saylard at the especiall instance and request of the said Sr Thomas Laurence would continue to be Register and officiate under him the said Sr Thomas Laurence the the places and offices of Regr of the high Court of Chancery Clk of the Prov[ince] Court and Land Records aforesaid and doe and perform by himself and under him what to the duty and office of those places and offices did belong and appertain and alsoe would take care of the Records of the said Courts and Offices and alsoe would find and provide such and soe many Clks to be Assistants to him the said Wm Saylard in the Employments and offices aforesaid as he the said Wm Saylard in the Execution of the aforesaid places as he should see Convenient for such and soe long time as the said Sr Thomas Laurence should think fitt to employ him the said Wm Saylard in the Employment and office aforesaid the said Sr Thomas did Assume upon himself and to the said William did then and there faithfully promise that he the said Sr Thomas Laurence would well and truly Content and pay to the said William Saylard when he should be thereunto required soe much Tobacco as he the said

William as well for his owne Labour Care and Paines in Executing and officiating as Regr and Clk of the said office and Regr of the high Court of Chancery aforesaid as alsoe for the Fallary and payment of Tobacco to his under Clks as he the said William Saylard in that behalf should reasonably deserve and the said William in Fact saith that in pursuance of the promise and Assumption aforesaid of the said Sr Thomas Laurence did upon the Fifteenth day of September aforesaid Regr and Clk of the high Court of Chancery Clk of the Prov[ince] Court and Land Records aforesaid and did provide and supply the said office with under Clks to be his Assistants and the said office and places the said Wm Saylard did by himself and by the hands of such Assistants Executors and officials and faithfully and well and truly under him the said Sr Thomas Laurence all things that to the duty of his office or places of Regr of the high Court of Chancery Clk of the Prov[ince] Court and Land Records did belong and appertain from the said Fifteenth day of September 1692 aforesaid until the Fifteenth day of May 1694 being in all one whole year and eight months and that he doth reasonably deserve for his Fallary care Labour and paines as well for providing maintaining & paying under Clks his Assistants in the said office and as for his Executing and officiating as Regr and Clk of the said office and Records as is aforesaid for the time aforesaid the Rate of thirtieth hundred pounds of Tobacco & Annum which all that said for the said one year and eight months amounts unto the Sume of fifty hundred pounds of Tobacco yet notwithstanding the said Sr Thomas Laurence his promise and Assumption aforesaid but devising and fraudulently intending him the said William therein to aggrieve and craftily and subtilly to defraud and deceive the Sume of fifty hundred pounds of Tobacco to him the said Wm Saylard hath not yet paid satisfyed or brought to him the said Sr Thomas Laurence tho the said William at St Marys City and other places hath been thereunto requested but the said to pay hath hitherto denyed and still doth denye to pay the said to the damage of him the said William Saylard fifty hundred pounds of Tobacco and therefore he brings his suit &c And the said Sr Thomas Laurence Baronett by Wm Dent his Attry comes and defends the force and Injury when &c and for plea saith that he did not Assume upon him the said in such Manner and form as in the Declaration aforesaid is set forth and of this he puts himself upon the Court and the Plaintiff alsoe

Hereupon at this day to wit the Fifteenth day of November Anno Domini 1698 came as well the said Wm Saylard in his owne proper person as the said Sr Thomas Laurence by Wm Dent his Attry and it being moved & appear to the Court the places and offices aforesaid in the Declaration set forth have been founded and officiated for the Fallary of twenty thousand pounds of Tobacco & Annum it is adjudged that the said Wm Saylard be allowed for such his one year and eight Months Fallary the Sum of thirty four