Singular his said Lordships Rights and Dues & to his Officers a true and Just Account of their fees that he shall or maybe Entrusted with by his said Lordships Governor and other his Officers within this Province to Receive and Collect and his Account to his said Lordship his Heirs and Successors and to his and their Governor here for the time being for the fines and forfeitures and other Dues belonging to his said Lordships Governor as also his Account of all fees dues and Sums of Money or Tobacco due to any of the good People within this Province for any Sum or Sums of Money or Tobacco wherewith the said Sheriff shall be Entrusted during the time of his Shrievalty for this Present or to such of them as shall Require the same shall pass and Render by the tenth Day of May next Ensuing the Date hereof and in all other things as Sheriff of the County of Talbot shall behave himself well and honestly to all Persons according to the best of his Power Skill and Knowledge then this Obligation to be Void and of none Effect or else to stand in full force Strength and Virtue

He also Prays an Hearing of the Original Writ of the said Lord Propry in the Plea afs. And he hath it in the words and figures following Viz.t Maryland ss Charles Absolute Lord and Propry of the Provinces of Maryland and Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore &c. To the Sheriff of Talbot County Greeting We Command you that you take John Coward late of Talbot County Gentleman otherwise called John Coward of Talbott County in the Province afore said if he shall be found in your Bailiwick and him safe keep so that you have his Body before the Justices of our Provincial Court to be held at Annapolis the Second Tuesday of September next to Answer unto Us of a Plea that he render unto Us the full Sum and Just Quantity of Two Hundred Thousand Pounds of Good Sound Merchantable leaf Tob.co in Cask which to Us he Owes and unjustly Detains &c. Hereof fail not at your Peril And have you then and there this Writ Witness Benjamin Young Esq.r Chief Justice of our Provincial Court the 26th Day of April in the 32d Year of our Dominion &c. Anno Dom.i 1746 (H Darnall) R Burdett Clk

Issued July 1st 1746

He likewise Prays an hearing of the Indorsement on the afs. Writ and it is read unto him in the words and figures following to wit

Mem.d the within Writ is Issued on Rich.d Porters Sheriffs Bond Dated the 3.d day of November 1743 by Order of the Governor at the Request of the Lower House of Assembly of the Province of Maryland Test R Burdett Clk

Which being Read and heard the said John Coward by his Attorney afs. Saving to himself all Advantages as well to the Writ as to the Declaration afs. Prays Leave to Imparle hereunto untill next Court and he hath it and the same Day is given to Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. also

At which said next Court to wit the 14th Day of April Anno Dom.i 1747 comes again as well Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. as the said John Coward by his Attorney afs. And the said John Coward by his said Attorney Prays further Leave to Imparle hereunto untill next Court and he hath it and the same Day is given to Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. also

At which said next Court to wit the 20th Day of October Anno Dom.i 1747 comes again as well Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. as the said John Coward by his Attorney afs. And the said John Coward by his Attorney afs. Prays

(further)

Prays further Leave to Imparle hereunto untill next Court and he hath it and the same Day is given to Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. also

At which said next Court to wit the 17th Day of May Anno Dom.i 1748 comes again as well Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. as the said John Coward by his Attorney afs. And the said John Coward by his said Attorney prays further Leave to Imparle hereunto untill next Court and he hath it and the same Day is given to Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. also

At which said next Court to wit the 18th Day of October Anno Dom.i 1748 comes again as well Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. as the said John Coward by his Attorney afs. Whereupon as well Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. as the said John Coward by his Attorney afs. Suggest to the Court here that a Material Evidence in the said Cause is Beyond Sea as withheld whose Testimony they cannot come to Trial Whereupon the said Cause is Continued untill next Court

At which said next Court to wit the 16th Day of May Anno Dom.i 1749 comes again as well Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. as the said John Coward by his Attorney afs. And the said John Coward by his said Attorney Prays further Leave to Imparle hereunto untill next Court and he hath it and the same Day is given to Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. also

At which said next Court to wit the 17th Day of October 1749 comes again as well Henry Darnall Esq.r his Lordships Attorney General who &c. as the said John Coward by his Attorney afs. And the said John Coward by his said Attorney as before Defends the force and Injury when &c. And saith that the said Lord Propry his Action afs. against him to have or maintain ought not Because he saith that the same Richard Porter in the Condition afs. named during all the time of his Shrievalty in the same Condition mentioned did well and truly serve the said Right Honourable the Lord Propry in the Office of High Sheriff of the County of Talbot within the Province afs. and in all things well and faithfully did Execute the same Office and also did Render unto his said Lordship and other his Officers a true faithfull and Perfect Account of all and Singular his said Lordships Rights and Dues and to his Officers a true and Just Account of their fees that during that time he was Entrusted with by his said Lordships Governor and other his Officers within this Province to Receive and Collect and his Account to his said Lordship and to his Governor here for the time being for the fines and forfeitures and other Dues belonging to his said Lordships Governor as also his Account of all fees Dues and Sums of Money &c. Tobacco due to any of the good people within this Province for any Sum or Sums of Money or Tobacco wherewith the said Richard was Entrusted during the time of his Shrievalty for that Present did pass and Render by the tenth Day of May next Ensuing the Date of the Writing Obligatory afs. and in all other things as Sheriff of Talbot County did behave himself well and honestly to all Persons according to the best of his Power Skill and Knowledge then at Talbot County afs. and this he is Ready to Verify Wherefore he prays Judgment if the afs. Lord Propry his Action afs. against him to have or maintain ought &c.

And the said Attorney General saith that the said Lord Propry by anything above in Pleading alledged from having his Action afs. ought not to be precluded because he saith that the afs. Richard was from the afs.d third Day of November in the Year of our Lord seventeen hundred and forty three to the third Day of November then next Ensuing Sheriff of Talbot County afs.d to wit at the said County And that during the Continuance of the said Richard in the said Office he the said Richard by An Act of Assembly of this Province made and Passed at a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis the Seventh Day of July in the Year of seventeen hundred and forty Entitled an Act for Raising and Issuing Money for Maintaining his Majestys Forces to be Raised in this Province and for Transporting them

(to)