Lordships Governor as also an Account of all Fees dues and Sums of Money and Tobacco due to any of the good People within the said Province for any Sum or Sums of Money or Tobacco wherewith the said William as Sheriff was Entrusted during the time of his Shrievalty for that present or to such of them as required the same did render by the Sixth day of May then next ensuing the date of the said Writing Obligatory and that he the said William in all other things as Sheriff of the County of Annarundel afsd did behave himself well and Honestly to all Persons — according to the best of his Power Skill and Knowledge to wit at the County afsd and this he is ready to Verify &c. wherefore he prays Judgment if the afsd Lord Propry. his action afsd against him the said William to have or maintain ought &c.

And the afsd Attorney General of the said Lord Propry. saith that he by any thing Pealleaged from maintaining the Action afsd against the said William Thornton he ought not to be Barred Because Protesting that he the said William Thornton hath not Observed Performed fulfilled or kept any of the Articles Clauses or things in the Condition afsd Specifyed for Plea or Replication the same Attorney General for the afsd Lord Propry. Nevertheless saith that the said William Thornton was and continued High Sheriff of the said Annarundel County from the nineteenth day of December in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred and forty seven untill the nineteenth day of December in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred forty and eight to wit at Annarundel County afsd and that by a certain Act of Assembly made at a session of Assembly begun and held at the Port of Annapolis in Annarundel County afsd on the sixteenth day of March in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred and one two Intitled An Act for the Establishment of Religious Worship in this Province according to the Church of England and for the Maintenance of Ministers It was amongst other things Enacted That the Church Wardens and Vestry of the respective Parishes in this Province should satisfy and pay the Parochial Charges and all necessary Repairs and Amendments of their respective Churches Chappels or Church Yards and cause the same at all times to be Repaired and Amended — as need should require out of such Gifts Goods and Chattels as should come to their hands for the Church or Parish Use and towards the Payment of which Parochial Charges all the Times Forfeitures and Mulets by this Law Incurred should be Levyed by the Church Wardens in each respective Parish and by them accordingly applyed and in Case they should not have sufficient Effects to pay Parochial Charges as afsd or to make such Necessary Repairs as were required then and not otherwise it should be Lawfull for the Justices of the County Courts upon Application of such Parish Vestry and Church Wardens to Assess the respective Parishes by a certain Sum of Tobacco not exceeding Ten Pounds of Tobacco by the Poll in any one Year such Assessment made by such County Court and a Certificate thereof under the County Seal should be sufficient to the Sheriff of such County to levy such Tax by the Poll on the Taxables of such Parishes in the same manner as other Publick Dues were Levyed and should not deduct above five per hundred for his Salary and pay the same to such Vestry for the Use aforesaid as by the Said Act now in full and Vigour more at large appears By Virtue whereof the Justices of the said Annarundel County Court held in and for the said County on the Tenth day of November in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred forty and Seven on the Application of the said Westminster Parish in the afsd County and the Vestry and Church Wardens thereof they the said Church Wardens and Vestry not having sufficient Effects to pay Parochial Charges as afsd or to make necessary Repairs did Assess the said Westminster Parish by the Quantity of five Pounds of Tobacco by the Poll for the Number of six hundred and twenty one Taxables which in the whole amounted to the Quantity of three thousand one hundred and five Pounds of Tobacco and which Assessment so as afsd made and a Certificate thereof under the Seal of the said Annarundel County were delivered on the twenty fifth day of

(December)

December in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred forty and seven in Annarundel County aforesaid to the Said William Thornton during his Continuance and Business of High Sheriff of Annarundel County afsd to be levyed by the Poll on the Taxables of the Said Westminster Parish and which said three thousand one hundred and five Pounds of Tobacco so Intrusted to him as afsd he the said William Thornton afterwards and during his Continuance of the Business and Office of high Sheriff of the Said Annarundel County to wit on the ninth day of May in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred forty and eight in Annarundel County afsd did Collect of and from the several Taxables and Inhabitants of and residing in the said Westminster Parish and altho the Said William Thornton did afterwards Account for and satisfy unto the Said Church Wardens and Vestry of the said Westminster Parish the Quantity of eighteen hundred and seventy five Pounds of Tobacco part of the Said three thousand one hundred and five Pounds of Tobacco Nevertheless the afsd William Thornton altho requested by the said Church Wardens and Vestry of the said Westminster Parish on the first day of August in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred forty and eight and often afterwards at Annarundel County afsd the Quantity of Twelve hundred and seventy five Pounds of Tobacco the residue and remaining part of the said three thousand one hundred and five Pounds of Tobacco after the deduction of the said five for every hundred Pounds of Tobacco allowed by the Said Act for Collection at and after the rate of five Pounds per cent hath not rendered an Account of & satisfyed and paid unto the said Church Wardens and Vestry of the said Westminster Parish for the Use of the said Parish and Purposes in the said Act of Assembly mentioned But the same Quantity of Twelve hundred and seventy five Pounds of Tobacco the said William Thornton to render an Account of and pay and satisfy to the said Church Wardens and Vestry of the said Westminster Parish for the Use of the said Parish and Purposes in the said Act of Assembly mentioned hitherto hath Neglected and refused and still doth refuse and unjustly detain Contrary to the Duty of his Office afsd and the form and effect of the Condition afsd and this the said Attorney General is ready to Verify for the said Lord Propry wherefore for the same Lord Propry he prayeth Judgment for the Debt afsd and the Damages Occasioned by detaining the said Debt unto the said Lord Propry. to be Adjudged and so forth

And the afsd William Protesting that there is not any such Act of Assembly as the afsd Attorney General hath in his Replication afsd set forth Protesting also that he the said William could Collect the five Pounds of Tobacco per Poll in the Said Replication mentioned upon no more than six hundred Taxables and Inhabitants of the Said Westminster Parish which in the whole amounts only unto the Sum of three thousand Pounds of Tobacco And also Protesting that the Replication afsd of the said Lord Propry. is Insufficient in Law nor is he the Said William by the Law of the Land bound thereto in any manner to Answer For Plea Nevertheless by way of Rejoinder he the said William saith that as to the Quantity of Three hundred and forty six Pounds of Tobacco part of the afsd Quantity of Twelve hundred and seventy five Pounds of Tobacco in the Replication afsd of him the Said Lord Propry. mentioned he doth not owe to the afsd Vestry of Westminster Parish afsd the afsd Quantity of Three hundred and forty six Pounds of Tobacco afsd nor any part thereof in such manner and form as the said Lord Propry. above by his Replication hath Alledged and of this he puts himself upon the Country and the afsd Lord Propry. in like manner And as to the Quantity of nine hundred and twenty nine Pounds of Tobacco residue of the afsd Quantity of twelve hundred and seventy five Pounds of Tobacco afsd he the said William saith That he the said William before the Impetration of the Original Writ of the Said Lord Propry. in this Cause to wit on the fifth day of May in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred and forty nine at Annarundel County afsd had the Quantity of nine hundred and ~~forty~~ twenty nine Pounds of Nett Tobacco ready in one Hogshead and then and there Offered the same to the Vestry of Westminster Parish afsd in Lieu of and satisfaction for the like Quantity of Tobacco in the afsd Replication mentioned as due from him the said William to the Said Vestry which nine hundred and twenty nine Pounds of Nett Tobacco was by the Said Vestry neglected to be received and the afsd William further saith

(That)