of the County of Calvert did behave himself well and honestly to all Persons according to the best of his power skill and knowledge to wit at Calvert County aforesaid and this they are ready to verify &c. wherefore they pray Judgment if the said Attorney General for the said Lord Proprietary the Action aforesaid against them the said Esther and Young Ought to have or maintain —

And the said Esther and Young by Leave of the Court here and according to the form of the Statute in such Case made and Provided further by their said Attorney defend the force and Injury when &c. and say that the said Attorney General for the said Lord Proprietary that now is the Action aforesaid against them to have or maintain ought not because they say that a certain Act in a Gennal Assembly of this Province of Maryland held at Annapolis in the County of Anne Arundel on the Day of in the Year of our Lord Seventeen hundred and among other things it was Enacted by the Authority of the said General Assembly that all Actions hereafter to be brought on Sheriffs bonds thereafter to be passed Should be sued or brought within the Space of five Years after the passing such Bond and not afterwards as by the said Act among other things more fully appears and the said Esther and Young further say that the Sheriffs Bond aforesaid upon which the Action aforesaid hath been brought was passed after making and Enacting the Act aforesaid to wit on the Day of In the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and at Calvert County aforesaid and that the said Action was not sued or brought on the said Sheriffs Bond within the Space of five Years after passing the same and this the said Esther and Young are ready to verify &c. Therefore they pray Judgment if the said Attorney General for the said Lord Proprietary the Action aforesaid against them the said Esther and Young to have or maintain Ought &c. —

And as to the first plea and the aforesaid Attorney for the said Lord Proprietary that now is in like manner and so forth —

And as to the Second Plea aforesaid of the aforesaid Esther and Young above pleaded the said Attorney General saith that the said Lord Proprietary that now is by any thing therein Alledged from having his Action aforesaid to be precluded ought not because he saith that the aforesaid John Parran in his Lifetime was from the aforesaid twenty Ninth day of September Seventeen hundred and forty to the twenty Ninth day of September Seventeen hundred and forty one Sheriff of Calvert County to wit at the said County and that during the Continuance of the said John in the said Office 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 Seventeen hundred and forty entituled an Act for raising and issuing Money for maintaining his Majesty's forces to be raised in this Province and for transporting them to the Place of Randezvous in the West Indies he the said John as Sheriff of the same County at the County aforesaid was required and Obliged by Virtue of his said Office to receive and Collect from the Several Ordinary Keepers in the same County in the Sum of twelve pounds ten Shillings Current Money to be by them paid for Obtaining Licences to keep Ordinary in the County aforesaid and the same to pay to the Commissioners or Trustees for Emitting the Bills of Credit established by Act of Assembly for which Collecting and paying the aforesaid John was by the said Act impowered to take and receive a Commission after the rate of five pounds per Centum and no more as by the said Act Relation being thereunto had may (amongst other things) more fully appear which Sum of twelve pounds ten Shillings Current Money he the (said)

said John in his Lifetime afterwards to wit on the twenty Ninth Day of September Seventeen hundred and forty one aforesaid at the County aforesaid as Sheriff as aforesaid ought from the Several Ordinary Keepers in the said County did receive and Collect and which last mentioned Sum the said John Ought by the Duty of his said Office (after deducting twelve Shillings and Six pence Current Money thereout for his said Commission) to have paid to the said Commissioners or Trustees Nevertheless neither the aforesaid John Parran in his Lifetime nor the aforesaid Esther whilst She was Sole and Young before the Espousals between them the aforesaid Esther and the aforesaid John Gray Celebrated nor the aforesaid John Gray and Esther and Young after the Espousals aforesaid Celebrated nor either of them (Altho often required) the Sum of Eleven Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Six pence Current Money Residue of the aforesaid Sum of twelve pounds ten Shillings Current Money to the Commissioners or Trustees aforesaid have paid but the same to them to pay have always hitherto refused and the aforesaid Esther and Young still do refuse Contrary to the true Intent and meaning of the Condition aforesaid and this the said Attorney General is ready to verify and so forth and therefore prays Judgment for the Debt aforesaid together with the Damages Sustained by Occasion of the Detention of that Debt to the said Lord Proprietary to be adjudged and so forth —

And as to the third plea aforesaid of the aforesaid Esther and Young above pleaded the said Attorney General saith that the said Lord Proprietary that now is from having and maintaining his Action aforesaid for any thing therein alledged to be precluded ought not because he saith that by an Act of Assembly of this Province made and passed at a Session of Assembly begun and held at the City of Annapolis in Maryland the Second Day of October Seventeen hundred and fifty three entituled an Act for Securing and recovering the Money therein mentioned reciting that Several large and Considerable Sums of Money had theretofore been received by Sundry Sheriffs within this Province on Account of Ordinary Licences and for the use of the publick which then remained due from and unpaid by such Sheriffs and that it was apprehended that in Case of Suits brought against such Sheriffs the Length of Time since the Receipt of such Money might be a bar to such Suits to prevent which it is Enacted that in any Action or Actions to be Commenced upon any Sheriffs Bond within this Province or Scire facias to be prosecuted upon any Judgment on such Bond for Money or Tobacco theretofore received by such Sheriff on Account of Ordinary Licences and for the use of the Publick of this Province such Sheriff and his Heirs Executors and Administrators should not be entituled to or have any Benefit or Advantage of any Act or Acts of Limitation any Law to the Contrary notwithstanding and the aforesaid Attorney General further saith that the writing Obligatory aforesaid of the aforesaid John Parran as Sheriff of Calvert County aforesaid was made and the aforesaid John Parran as Sheriff aforesaid in his Life time did receive the aforesaid Sum of Twelve pounds Current Money on Account of Ordinary Licences and for the Use of the Publick of this Province before the Making and passing the Act of Assembly aforesaid to wit at Calvert County aforesaid and this the said Attorney General is ready to Verify and so forth and therefore pray Judgment for the Debt aforesaid together with the Damages Sustained by Occasion of the Detention of that Debt to the said Lord Proprietary to be adjudged and so forth —

And the said Esther and Young as to the Replication of the said Attorney General as to the Second Plea of them Protesting that the said John in the Condition of the writing Obligatory aforesaid mentioned as Sheriff of Calvert County did not receive of and from the Inhabitants of the said County taking Ordinary (Licences)