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 Governours here for the Time being for the Fines and forfeitures and other Dues belonging to his Said Lordships Governour as also his Account for 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 where with the Said Sheriff Shall be entrusted during the Time of his Shrivalty for this Present or to Such of them as Shall require the Same Shall pass and render by the last day of June next ensuing the date here of and in all other things as Sheriff of the County of Cecil 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 and Vertue

The Indorsement on the Writ aft. is as follows, Memor.d This Writ is Issued on the Defend.ts Sher.ff Bond dated 16th November 1756 by order of the Governour & Council on the address of the Lower house of Assembly Test Beverley Whiselon Clk

Which being Read and heard the Said William Hedges by his Attorney aforesaid Prays leave to Imparle here unto until next Court and he hath it and the Same day is given to the Plaintiff also

At which Said next Court to wit the 10th day of April Anno Domini 1759 come again the Said Parties Plaintiff & Defend.t by their Attorneys aforesaid and the Said Defendant by his Said Attorney Prays further Leave to Imparle here unto until next Court and he hath it and the Same day is given to the Plaintiff also

At which Said next Court to wit the 11th Day of September Anno Domini 1759 come again the Said Parties Plaintiff and Defendant by their Attorneys aforesaid and the Said Defendant by his Said Attorney Prays further Leave to Imparle here unto until next Court and he hath it and the Same day is given to the Plaintiff also

At which Said next Court to wit the 8th day of April Anno Domini 1760 come again the Said Parties Plaintiff & Defendant by their Attorneys aforesaid and the Said Defendant by his Said Attorney Prays further leave to Imparle here unto until next Court and he hath it and the Same day is given to the Plaintiff also

And now here at this day to wit the 9th day of September Anno Domini 1760 come again to wait the Said Attorney General for the Lord Proprietary as the Said William Hedges by his Said Attorney And the Said William Hedges by his Attorney aforesaid for Plea further defends the force and Injury when and Wherefore, and Saith that he with the Debt &c by Vertue of the Writing aforesaid to be charged ought not Because he Saith that that writing is not his Deed, and of this he puts himself upon the Country and Se forth And the Said Attorney General for the Said Lord Proprietary in like manner and Se forth And the aft William by Leave of the Court here according to the form of the Statute in Such Case made and Provided further by his Said Attorney defends the force and Injury when &c and Saith that the Said Attorney General the action afores.d against him the Said William to have or maintain ought not Because he Saith that after making the writing aft and before the issuing the writ aforesaid in the Plea

aforesaid

aforesaid, He the Said William, did well and truly Serve his Said Lordship in the Office of high Sheriff of the County of Cecil within the Province aforesaid also did render unto his Said Lordship and other his Officers a true faithfull and Perfect Account of all and Singular his Said Lordships right and Dues and to his Officers a true and just Account of their Fees, that he was entrusted with by his Said Lordships Governour and other his Officers within this Province to receive and Collect, and his Account to his Said Lordship and to his Governour here for the Time being for the Fines and Forfeitures and other Dues belonging to his Said Lordship's Governour 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 he was Entrusted during the Time of his Shrivalty for that Present or to Such of them as did require the Same did pass and render by the last day of June next ensuing the date of the Said Writing Obligatory and in all things as Sheriff of the County of Cecil did behave himself well and truly to all Persons according to the Best of his Power Skill and Knowledge to wit at Cecil County aforesaid and this he is ready to verify Wherefore he prays Judgment If the Said Attorney General the action aft against him to maintain ought &c

And as to the Said William by the Leave of the Court here according to the Form of the Statute in Such Case made and Provided further defends the force and Injury when and Se forth and Saith that he with the Debt aforesaid by Vertue of the writing Obligatory aft to be charged ought not because he Saith that by a certain Act in the Assembly of the Right Hble the Lord Propry that now is begun and held at Annapolis in the County of Ann Arundel on the in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Fifty Six among other things it was Enacted by the authority of the Said Assembly that all and every charter Party Bond Bill or other Obligatory Instrument under the Seal of the Party Except those taken in the Loan Office which Should after the Twentieth day of June next after the Said Act be made in this Province Should be made and wrote on Paper or Parchment which before the Writing thereon Should be Stamped by Some County Clerk within this Province with the Seal of the Court whereof he is Clerk and where on Such Clerk hath wrote Duly Paid and Signed his name and by the said Act it was also further among other things Enacted that all and every Charter Party Bill Bond or other Obligatory Instrument under the Seal of the Party which Should after the Twentieth day of of June next after the Said Act be made in this Province and Should be wrote on any Parchment or Paper which at the Time of the making and Executing thereof Should not be Stamped and Certified in manner aft by Some County Clerk in this Province Should be Utterly void & of no Effect, and Should not be Pleadable or admitted in Evidence in any Court in this Province or before any Magistrate any Law usage or Custom to the Contrary notwithstanding as in the Said Act among other things more fully is contained, And the Said William further Saith that after the making and Passing the Said Act and also after the Twentieth day of June in the Said Act mentioned as aft to wit on the Seventh day of November in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and fifty Six at Cecil

County.