four fifths of a pound of Tobacco by the Court here unto him on his agent adjudged as well for his damages sustained by occasion of the detention of that debt as for his Costs and charges by him about his suit in this behalf laid out and expended and the said Defendant in mercy &c. — Memorandum, The Plaintiff releases the penalty on payment of the principal Interest and Costs of suit and agrees to stay execution until the first day of August next payments if any to be allowed.

18/2 Ed. Test. John Gwinn Clk.

Richard Harwood Jun.r against John Merriken Sen.r

Be it remembered that heretofore to wit on the tenth day of September Anno Domini seventeen hundred and eighty seven the Plaintiff by Jeremiah Townly Chase his Attorney sued out of the Court here the State of Maryland's writ of Capias ad respondendum directed to the Sheriff of Ann Arundel County in the words and figures following to wit

The State of Maryland Sct. To the Sheriff of Ann Arundel County Greeting We command you that you take John Merriken Senior late of Ann Arundel County Planter otherwise called John Merriken Senior of Ann Arundel County in the State of Maryland if he shall be found in your bailiwick and him safe keep, so that you have his body before the Judges of our General Court, to be held at the city of Annapolis on the second tuesday of October next to answer unto Richard Harwood Jun.r in a plea that he render unto him the sum of two thousand five hundred pounds current money of Maryland, which to him he owes and unjustly detains and so forth. Hereof fail not at your peril, and have you then and there this writ Witness Robert Hanson Harrison Esquire chief Judge of our said Court, the 25th. day of May Anno Domini 1787. Issued the 10th. day of Septem.r 1787. (S.T.C.) (Tho.s B. Hodgkin Clk.

And the aforesaid Richard Harwood Jun.r by his Attorney aforesaid declared against the aforesaid John Merriken sen.r in the plea aforesaid as follows to wit

Maryland Ann Arundel County Sct. John Merriken senior late of Ann Arundel County planter otherwise called John Merriken senior of Ann Arundel County in the State of Maryland was summoned to Answer unto Richard Harwood Junior in a plea that he render unto him the sum of two thousand five hundred pounds current money of Maryland which to him he owes and unjustly detains &c. &c. &c.

And whereupon the said Richard by Jeremiah Townley Chase his Attorney saith that whereas the aforesaid John on the sixteenth day of August in the year seventeen hundred and eighty three at Ann Arundel County aforesaid by his certain writing obligatory acknowledged himself to be held and firmly bound unto the said Richard in the aforesaid sum of two thousand five hundred pounds current money of Maryland to be paid to the said Richard when afterwards he the said John should be thereunto required, Nevertheless the said John (altho' often thereunto required) the aforesaid sum of two thousand five hundred pounds current money as aforesaid or any part thereof to him the said Richard hath not rendered or paid but the same to him hitherto to render or pay he hath altogether refused and still doth refuse Wherefore the said Richard saith he is the worse and hath damage to the value of

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three thousand five hundred pounds current money of Maryland and therefore he brings suit &c. &c. and brings here into Court the writing obligatory aforesaid sealed with the seal of him the said John the date whereof is the day and year aforesaid which the Debt aforesaid in form aforesaid Witnesseth and so forth.

J. T. Chase for Plff.t Pledges &c. John Doe and Richard Roe.

And the aforesaid John by his Attorney comes and defends the force and injury when and so forth and prays an hearing of the Writing obligatory and the Condition thereof, and he hath them as follows to wit, Know all men by these presents that we Thomas Purdy, John Merriken senior and Joseph Merriken all of Ann Arundel County in the State of Maryland are each of us jointly and severally holden & firmly bound unto Richard Harwood Jun.r of the County and State aforesaid High Sheriff and Collector of said County in the full and just sum of two thousand five hundred pounds current money to be paid to the said Richard Harwood Jun.r his heirs executors Administrators or assigns to the which payment well and truly to be made and done we do each of us — jointly and severally bind ourselve and each of us our heirs executors and Administrators jointly and severally for the whole and in the whole firmly by these presents, Sealed with our seals and dated this sixteenth day of August one thousand seven hundred & eighty three

The Condition of the above Obligation is such that if the above bound Thomas Purdy shall well and faithfully execute and perform the several duties required of him as deputy sheriff and deputy Collector of Ann Arundel County in the State of Maryland and in all things well and faithfully execute the said Offices and shall also render to the said Richard Harwood Jun.r a true and faithfull Account of all Matter and things that shall be put into his hands monthly then the above obligation to be void, else to remain in full force.

Thomas Purdy (seal)
John Merriken sen.r (seal)
Joseph Merriken (seal)

Signed Sealed & Delivered in the presences of
Test. John Merriken Jun.r George Packer.

A Copy of which aforegoing Declaration and Oyer was made and sent with the writ which issued in this plea aforesaid; And now here at this day to wit the said second tuesday of October being the ninth day of the same month Anno Domini seventeen hundred and eighty seven and the day of the return of the aforegoing writ comes the aforesaid Richard Harwood Jun.r by his Attorney aforesaid and the Sheriff of Ann Arundel County to whom the same writ was made and directed likewise comes and makes return thereof to the Court here thus endorsed to wit —

Cepi Copy left out of time Sept. 27th. 1787. D. Stewart Shff.

And the aforesaid John Merriken senior being called upon appears and at the prayer of the aforesaid Richard Harwood Junior by his Attorney aforesaid the said John Merriken is adjudged to give special Bail to the Action aforesaid, Whereupon a certain Joseph Maccubbin of Ann Arundel County Gentleman present here in Court in his proper person undertakes for the said John Merriken senior that in case the said Richard Harwood Junior shall recover Judgment against the said John Merriken senior in the plea aforesaid or that the said John Merriken senior shall be therein legally convict that then the said John Merriken senior shall pay the condemnation of the Court thereupon or render his body to the Custody of the Sheriff of

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