aforesaid prosecuted the said James prosecuted with this Intention that the said William might by virtue of the said writ be taken and arrested and that the said Lawrence Oneale the sheriff of the County aforesaid might have the body of him the said William before the Justices of the provincial Court aforesaid on the said second Tuesday of April in the year Seventeen hundred and seventy three so that at the day of the return of the said writ the said William might be committed to the safe custody of the said Sheriff according to Law and the custom of the Court aforesaid so that the said William before that he should to at large out of such custody might be compelled to put in sufficient bail at the suit of the said James in the action by him the said James against him the said William on the writing obligatory aforesaid of him the said William, And whereas also the said James did also deliver together with the said writ a copy of a Declaration filed in the said provincial Court at the day of the Impetration of the writ aforesaid setting fourth the Cause of action on the part of him the said James against the said William to be served on the said William or left at his last place of abode at least twenty days before the return of the said writ according to the form of the act of assembly in such case made and provided, And whereas also the said Lawrence afterwards on the day of the return of the said writ to wit on the said second Tuesday of April in the year of our Lord Seventeen hundred and Seventy three brought into the said provincial Court the writ aforesaid and made a return of the same having indorsed thereon bepi, Copy left 10th February 1773 Lawrence Oneale Sheriff, Nevertheless the said Lawrence not regarding his office of Sheriff in the Law and Just Execution thereof, but contriving and fraudulently intending to hinder the said James of his proper remedy for the recovery of the said sum of two hundred and fifty pounds sterling, had not the body of the said William before the Justices of the provincial Court of the said Lord proprietary on the said day of the return day of the said writ nor at the next succeeding provincial Court held on the second Tuesday of September in the year last aforesaid at the said City of Annapolis, nor at any time after or before but but on the said second Tuesday of April before mentioned at the City of Annapolis neglected to have the body of the said William before the said Justices there according to the Command of the said writ whereby the said William was not committed to the custody of the Sheriff aforesaid nor obliged to put in any bail at the suit of the said James, and the said William immediately after the said day of the return of the writ aforesaid to places to the said James entirely unknown escaped and ever after hitherto hath eloined

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absconded and absented himself so that the said James is totally deprived and hindered of his remedy for the recovery of the said sum of two hundred and fifty pounds sterling to the Damage of him the said James in the sum of fifteen hundred pounds current money of Maryland whereupon he brought suit and soforth, and the said Lawrence Oneall came into our General Court before the Judges thereof and defended the force and injury when and soforth, and said that the said James his action aforesaid thereof against him the said Lawrence to have or maintain ought not because he saith that the original writ of him the said James in this Cause was issued on the twentieth day of September in the year one Thousand seven hundred and eighty five and not before and that he the said Lawrence at any time within three years next before the issuing of the said writ of him the said James in this Cause was not guilty of the premises in the Declaration aforesaid above charged on him as the said James above thereof against him complains and this he the said Lawrence is ready to verify and soforth wherefore he prays Judgment if the said James ought to have or maintain his action aforesaid thereof against him and soforth, And the aforesaid Lawrence with the leave of the Court here and according to the form of the statute in such case made and provided further came and defended the force and injury when and soforth, and said that the said James his action aforesaid thereof against him the said Lawrence to have or maintain ought not because he said that the Cause of action of him the said James in his declaration aforesaid mentioned did not accrue to him the said James at any time within three years next before the day of the issuing the writ of him the said James in this Cause and this the said Lawrence is ready to verify wherefore he prays Judgment if the said James ought to have or maintain his aforesaid action thereof against him the said Lawrence and soforth. And the said James French says that the first plea aforesaid by the said Lawrence Oneale in manner and form above pleaded, and the matter in the same contained are not sufficient in Law to preclude him the said James from his action aforesaid against him the said Lawrence had, and that he the said James hath no necessity nor is bound by the law of the land, in any way to answer to that plea in manner and form aforesaid first pleaded, and this he is ready to verify, wherefore for want of a sufficient plea in this behalf the same James prays Judgment and his damages by reason of the premises aforesaid to be adjudged to him &c. And the said James French says that to the second plea aforesaid by the said Lawrence Oneale in manner and form above pleaded, and the matter in the same contained, are not sufficient in Law to preclude him the said James from his action aforesaid against him the said Lawrence had, and that he the said James hath no necessity, nor is bound by the Law of the Land, in any way to answer to the said second plea in manner and form aforesaid pleaded, and this he is ready to verify, wherefore for want of a sufficient plea in this

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