goods and chattels that then this obligation to be void and of none effect or else to stand remain and be in full force power and virtue in Law.
Sealed and delivered in presence of us
Ignatius Wheeler, Charles Jenenghan

Clare Slye (Seal)
Raphael Steale (Seal)
Jeremiah Steale (Seal)

In Testimony that the within is a true Copy taken from the records of the orphans Court for Saint Marys County I have hereunto Set my hand and affixed the public Seal of my office this twenty seventh day of March anno Domini Seventeen hundred & Eighty Seven.

Seal

Jeremiah Jordan Regr. Wills
for Saint Marys County.

And Thereupon the said State by John Allen Thomas its attorney aforesaid says that should the defendants to this his action pray Leave hereof to imparle that in May and by the Court it is ruled that the defendants to his declaration in the plea aforesaid may be compelled peremptorily to plead on the second day of the next County Court a that in default thereof that judgment be entered against them according to Declaration and the said defendants by their said attorney prays and has yet further liberty hereof to imparle unto the next County court to be held at Leonard Town on the Monday before the first Tuesday in September then next following and the same day is given to the plaintiff now here also.

At which said Monday before the first Tuesday in September Come again the parties plaintiff & Defendants by their said attornies and the said defendants by their said attorney according to the rule made and enlarged into the preceding Court Comes and files his plea in the action aforesaid close in these words following (to wit).

at suit of the State which sues for the use of Edmond Plowden Francis Plowden & Henry Steale } and the aforesaid Defendants by Michael Senefen Stone their attorney Comes and defend the force and injury when and wherefore they pray an hearing of the writing obligatory aforesaid

and it is read to them and they also pray an hearing of the condition of the same and they have it in writing as follows to wit ——

which being read and by them heard the said Defendants say that the said State which sues in this behalf for the use of Edmond Plowden, Francis Plowden and Henry Steale the action aforesaid against them to have & maintain ought not because they say that the said Clare Slye in the said Condition mentioned all the matters and things in the condition aforesaid above specified to be by him done and performed according to form force and effect of the same did do and perform (to wit) at Saint Marys County aforesaid and this the said defendants are ready to verify wherefore they pray Judgment if the said State ought to maintain the action aforesaid against them

M. J. Stone for Defendants

and the said defendants with leave of the Court here and according to the form of the statute in such Case made and provided Come by their attorney aforesaid and further defend the force and injury when and wherefore and pray that the State aforesaid which sues in this behalf for the use of the said Edmond Plowden Francis Plowden and Henry Steale the action aforesaid against the said Defendants to have & maintain ought not because they say that the aforesaid Clare Slye in the Condition above named after making the writing obligatory aforesaid did make a true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the goods chattels rights and credits which were of the same George Slye also mentioned in the condition aforesaid at the time of his death according to Law appraised in current money together with a list of Debts sperate and desperate & the same so made did exhibit to the Commissary General of the province of Maryland in the perogative office of the said province before the day of ensuing the date of the aforesaid writing obligatory to wit on the day of the same and the same goods and chattels did well and truly administer according to Law to wit did pay the Debts of the Deceased aforesaid which he did owe at the time of his death with the said Chattels and credits so far forth as the Law required and would charge and further did make a true and just account of and upon their said at a before the day of next ensuing the date of the said writing obligatory to wit on the day of the same in the year one Thousand seven hundred and and such parcel and portion of the goods and chattels and credits as was found remaining upon such account the same being first examined and adjusted by Jeremiah Jordan Esquire register of Wills and by the orphans Court of Saint Marys County did distribute and dispose of according to Law and the true intent and meaning of the Will of the said George Slye and according to the form and effect of the condition aforesaid and this they are ready to verify wherefore they pray Judgment whether the said State the action against them for the use of the said Edmond Plowden Francis Plowden and Henry Steale should have & maintain &c.

M. J. Stone for Defs.

and the said Defendants by Michael Senefen Stone their attorney prays the Court that it may, and by the Court it is ruled that the plaintiff by his attorney aforesaid be compelled peremptorily to reply to this his plea in the action aforesaid brought by the twenty fifth day of December next following or that in default thereof that the plaintiff for the use of the said Edmond Plowden Francis Plowden & Henry Steale from thence action brought may be precluded according to the form of the statute in that case

(made)