things well truly & faithfully execute all and singular the duties matters and things which as collector aforesaid he ought to transact & execute then the above obligation to be void and of no effect else to remain in full force and virtue in Law.

Benjamin Howard (Seal)
Signed Sealed and delivered in the presence of } Richd Wells (Seal)
M Beard (Seal)
S G Worthington

At which said second Tuesday of May being the thirteenth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and ninety four: and the day of the return of the aforegoing writ, come into the general Court here the said State of Maryland by its attorney aforesaid and the sheriff of Anne Arundel County to whom the said writ was in form aforesaid directed make return thereof to the Court here thus endorsed to wit.

A true copy left March 28th 1794. Wm Goldsmith Sheriff."

and the said Martha Howard Executrix of Benjamin Howard by William Cooke and Gabriel Duvall her attorneys appears in court here and defends the force and injury when and so forth. and prays leave of the Court here to imparle untill the second Tuesday of October next and to her it is granted the same day is given to the said State of Maryland also.

At which said second Tuesday of October being the fourteenth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and ninety four. come again into the General Court here the parties aforesaid by their attorneys aforesaid. And Thereupon on motion of the said State of Maryland by its attorney aforesaid, It is ruled by the court here that the said Martha Howard Executrix as aforesaid answer to the Declaration aforesaid of the said State of Maryland in the plea aforesaid, or Judgment by the court here will be rendered against her in default thereof. and the said Martha Howard Executrix as aforesaid by her attorneys defends the force and injury to her and so forth. and prays leave of the court here to imparle untill the second Tuesday of may next, and then to answer to the Declaration aforesaid of the said State of maryland in the plea aforesaid, and to her it is granted, the same day is given to the said State of Maryland also.

At which said second Tuesday of May being the twelfth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and ninety five. come again into the General (Court)

court here the parties aforesaid by their attorneys aforesaid. and the said Martha Howard Executrix of Benjamin Howard by her attorneys aforesaid, as before defends the force and injury when and so forth and saith that the said State of Maryland the action aforesaid thereof against her ought to have a maintain ought not, because she saith that the said Benjamin Howard in the condition of the said writing obligatory mentioned, from the time of making the said writing obligatory, hath well and truly observed, performed, fulfilled and kept all and singular the matters and things in the condition of the said writing obligatory mentioned and contained, which he according to the force, form and effect of the same condition, ought to have observed, performed, fulfilled and kept to wit at Anne Arundel County aforesaid and this the said Martha Howard Executrix as aforesaid is ready to verify &c. wherefore she prays judgment, if the said State ought to have or maintain the action aforesaid thereof against her and so forth. Thereupon for the process of and upon the premises aforesaid between the parties aforesaid by order of the court here is continued untill the second Tuesday of October next.

At which said second Tuesday of October being the thirteenth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and ninety five. come again into the general court here the parties aforesaid by their attorneys aforesaid. And the said State of Maryland by its attorney aforesaid saith that the said State by any thing by the said Martha pre alleged from having and maintaining the action aforesaid against her to be precluded ought not, because protesting that the said Benjamin hath not performed any thing in the condition of the writing obligatory aforesaid specified on his part to be performed according to the form and effect of the condition aforesaid: for plea nevertheless the said State saith that by an act of the general assembly of the state of Maryland entitled an act to authorise the County Courts to impose an assessment to defray their County charges it was amongst other things enacted, that the justices of the several County Courts or any three or more of them in Court sitting should and they were thereby authorised and required at their respective June or august Courts to adjust the ordinary and necessary expences of their several Counties including an allowance for the poor of their Counties in real money estimating the rich milled Dollars at seven shillings and six pence each and for payment thereof (with the same commission for collection as might be allowed for the public) to impose an assessment or rate on all property within (their)