the said State by Richard Ridgely who for the said State in this behalf prosecuteth saith that whereas the aforesaid Jonathan Sellman on the fourteenth day of December in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety six at Anne Arundel county aforesaid by his certain writing obligatory acknowledged himself to be held and firmly bound unto the aforesaid State in the aforesaid full and just sum of ten thousand pounds current money, to be paid to the said State when afterwards he should be thereunto required. Nevertheless the aforesaid Jonathan Sellman (although often thereunto required) the aforesaid sum of current money to the said State hath not rendered or paid but the same sum of current money to the said State hitherto to render or pay he hath altogether refused and still doth refuse: wherefore the said State is the worse and hath damage to the value of two thousand pounds current money and therefore the said State brings suit and so forth: and brings here into court the writing obligatory aforesaid sealed with the seal of the aforesaid Jonathan, which the debt aforesaid in form aforesaid witnesseth, the date whereof is the day and year aforesaid and so forth

Rd. Ridgely for the pltff pledges &c. { John Doe and Richard Roe

Maryland &c. Know all men by these presents that we Richard Harwood William Harwood Jonathan Sellman and David Stewart all of Anne Arundel county and State aforesaid are held and firmly bound unto the State of Maryland in the full and just sum of ten thousand pounds current money to be paid to the said State, to the which payment well and truly to be made and done we bind ourselves and each of us our and each of our heirs executors and administrators jointly and severally firmly by these presents sealed with our seals and dated this fourteenth day of December anno Domini seventeen hundred and ninety six. The condition of the above obligation is such that if the above bound Richard Harwood shall and well faithfully execute the Office of collector of the Tax levied by the Justices of Anne Arundel county court for the year seventeen hundred and ninety six and the several duties required of him by law and shall well and truly account for and pay to the Justices of the levy court or their order the several sums of money which he shall receive or be answerable for by law at such times as the law shall direct then the above obligation to be void else to remain in full force and virtue in law.

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of Thomas Hobbs James Maccubbin

Richard Harwood (seal)
Wm. Harwood (seal)
Jona. Sellman Junr. (seal)
David Stewart (seal)

At which mentioned second tuesday of May being the fourteenth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine and the day of the return of the aforegoing writ comes into the General Court here the aforesaid State by its attorney aforesaid, and the Sheriff of Anne Arundel county aforesaid to wit. John Welch Gentleman to whom the said aforegoing writ was in form aforesaid directed makes return thereof to the court here thus indorsed to wit

"Cepi copy left 22nd April Jno. Welch Shff

And the said Jonathan Sellman by Richard H. Harwood his attorney comes and defends the force and injury when and so forth and prays leave of the court here to Imparle until the second tuesday of October next and to him it is granted the same day is given to the said State of Maryland also.

At which mentioned second tuesday of May being the eighth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine to which said day the said Jonathan Sellman had leave to Imparle, come again into the General Court here, as well the said State by its attorney aforesaid and thereupon on motion of the said State by its attorney aforesaid. It is ruled by the court here that the said Jonathan Sellman answer to the Declaration aforesaid of the afsd. State in the plea aforesaid, or Judgment by the court here will be entered against him in default thereof: and the said Jonathan Sellman by his attorney aforesaid (as before) defends the force and injury when and so forth and prays further leave of the court here to Imparle until the second tuesday of May next, and then to answer to the Declaration aforesaid of the aforesaid State in the plea aforesaid and to him it is granted the same day is given to the aforesaid State also

At which said second tuesday of May being the thirteenth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred, to which said day the said Jonathan Sellman had further leave to Imparle and then to answer to the Declaration aforesaid of the aforesaid State in the plea aforesaid come again into the General Court here, as well the aforesaid State by its attorney aforesaid, as the said Jonathan Sellman by his attorney aforesaid: and the said Jonathan Sellman by his attorney aforesaid (as before) defends the force and injury when and so forth, and saith that the said State its action aforesaid against him to have or maintain ought not, because the said Jonathan saith that the said Richard before the Impetration of the original writ in this cause had well & truly performed observed and fulfilled all and every part of the condition of the said writing obligatory which by the said Richard were to be performed observed and fulfilled, and this he is ready to verify wherefore he prays Judgment if the said State its action aforesaid against him to have or maintain ought &c.

(and