Patrick Hamilton
against
John Witson Browning

Be it remembered that on the Eighteenth day of February in the year Seventeen hundred and eighty eight Command was given to the Sheriff of Kent County that he should John Witson Browning, late of Kent County, Farmer, if he should be found in his Bailiwick and him safe keep, so that he might have his body before the Judges of the General Court to be held for the Eastern Shore of this State at Talbot County Court House, the second Tuesday of April then next, to answer unto Patrick Hamilton of a plea that he render unto him the sum of Six hundred and ninety three pounds sixteen shillings in Spanish milled dollars at seven shillings and six pence each Current money which to him he owes and unjustly detains and so forth — And that thereof he the said Sheriff should not fail at his peril & that he should have then and there that writ witness and so forth —

And the said Patrick Hamilton by Pugine Lethbury his Attorney affixed his Declaration in the plea aforesaid against the said John Witson Browning, which ensues as follows, to wit; "Gen.l Court E Shore of Maryland Kent County, to wit John Witson Browning late of Kent County Farmer was summoned to answer unto Patrick Hamilton of a plea that he render unto him the sum of Six hundred and Ninety three pounds, sixteen shillings in Spanish Milled Dollars at seven shillings and six pence each, current money, which to him he owes and unjustly detains, and so forth. And whereupon the said Patrick Hamilton by Pere: Lethbury his Attorney says, that whereas the aforesaid John Witson Browning on the tenth day of March in the year Seventeen hundred and eighty seven, at Kent County aforesaid by his certain writing obligatory acknowledged himself to be held and firmly bound unto the said Patrick Hamilton in the aforesaid sum of Six hundred & ninety three pounds sixteen shillings current money, to be paid to the said Patrick Hamilton when afterwards he should be thereunto required: Nevertheless the aforesaid John Witson Browning (although often thereunto required) the aforesaid sum of six hundred and ninety three pounds sixteen shillings current Money, to the said Patrick Hamilton hath not rendered or paid, but the same to him hitherto to render or pay he hath altogether refused, and still doth refuse wherefore he saith he is the worse and hath damage to the value of ten pounds current money aforesaid, and therefore he brings suit, and so forth: And brings hereinto Court the writing obligatory aforesaid: Sealed with the seal of the said John Witson Browning which the debt aforesaid in form aforesaid, witnesseth the date whereof is the day and year aforesaid, and so forth — Pere Lethbury for the Plaintiff. Pledges and so forth John Doe and Richard Roe

And the said John Witson Browning by Samuel Earle his Attorney comes and defends the force and injury when and so forth, and prays an hearing of the writing obligatory aforesaid, and the Condition thereof and he hath it as follows, to wit.

"Know all men by these presents that we Daniel Cornelius and John Witson Browning both of Kent County in the State of Maryland Farmers, are held & firmly bound unto Patrick Hamilton of Charles Town in Cecil County & same State Gentleman in the full and just sum of Six hundred and ninety three pounds sixteen shillings in Spanish milled Dollars at seven shillings & six pence each to be paid to the said Patrick Hamilton or to his certain Attorney Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns, to the which payment well and truly to be made and done we bind ourselves our Heirs Executors and Administrators each and every of them jointly and severally firmly by these presents sealed with our seals and dated this tenth day of March One thousand Seven hundred and eighty seven,

The Condition of the above obligation is such that if the above bound Daniel Cornelius and John Witson Browning their Heirs Executors and Administrators or either of them do and shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said Patrick Hamilton or to his certain Attorney Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns the full and just sum of Three hundred and forty six pounds Eighteen shillings in Spanish milled Silver dollars at seven shillings and six pence each or in Gold half Johanes at sixty shillings each, or in any other Gold and Silver coin of equal value on or before the first day of January One thousand Seven hundred and eighty eight with legal Interest thereon from the first day of January one thousand Seven hundred and eighty seven, then the above obligation to be void and of none effect else to be and remain in full force and Virtue in Law —

Daniel Cornelius — (Seal)
John Witson Browning (Seal)
Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of }
Hughes John Ireland —

On the Back of the aforegoing Bond was the following endorsement, to wit —
Received 29th January 1788. from Daniel Cornelius six pounds five shillings —
Copies of the aforegoing Declaration & Bond were made and sent with the writ —

At which said second Tuesday in April in the year Seventeen hundred and Eighty eight, being the day of the return of the aforesaid writ here came the said Patrick Hamilton by his Attorney aforesaid, and the Sheriff of Kent County aforesaid, to whom the said writ was directed, likewise came, and made return thereof to the Court here thus endorsed, to wit "Cepi Geo: Hanson Shff."