of the said Richard Gresham Smyth by the second Tuesday of April then next, or that Judgment should be rendered against the said John Elbert by default, the same day was given to the said Richard Gresham Smyth then &c so forth — And now here at this day, to wit, the said second Tuesday of April, in the year One thousand Seven hundred and eighty nine, come again the aforesaid Parties by their Attorneys aforesaid, and the said John Elbert by his Attorney afsd affles his Plea in answer to the Declaration aforesaid, which ensues as follows, to wit:

"Richard Gresham Smith } Debt £248..0..0. — And the same John by
John Elbert . . . . . } Gustavus Scott his Attorney comes & defends the force and injury when &c — & prays oyer of the writing obligatory aforesaid, & it is read to him in the words following, to wit ——— which being read and heard, he also prays oyer of the Condition thereof, which is read to him in the words following, to wit, ——— which being read and heard the the same John says, that the same Richard Gresham Smyth ought not to have or maintain his action aforesaid thereof against him, because he says that he the said John did pay to him the same Richard Gresham Smyth, the said sum of ——— which he to the same Richard Gresham Smyth ought to have paid, according to the form & effect of the said Condition of the writing obligatory aforesaid, to wit, at Talbot County afsd, & this he is ready to verify: wherefore he prays Judgment if the said Richard Gresham Smyth ought to have or maintain his action aforesaid against him &c — Gust.s Scott for the Deft."

Nevertheless the said John Elbert, by his Attorney afsd relinquishing the avoirment above by him in pleading pretended, saith, that he cannot gainsay the action aforesaid of the said Richard Gresham Smyth so as against him brought, nor can he deny but that the writing obligatory afsd is the deed of him the said John Elbert, nor but that he owes to the said Richard Gresham Smyth the aforesaid sum of Two hundred and forty eight pounds Current money in manner and form as the said Richard Gresham Smyth above against him hath declared: Therefore it is considered by the Court here that the said Richard Gresham Smyth do recover against the said John Elbert the Debt aforesaid, in form afsd acknowledged as also the quantity of Six hundred and thirty nine pounds of Tobacco, as well for his Damages which he hath sustained by occasion of the detention of that Debt as for his Costs and Charges by him about his suit in this behalf expended: Unto the

said Richard Gresham Smyth by the Court here with his Assent adjudged and so forth — And the said John Elbert in mercy &c so forth. James Earle Clk.

Judgment was rendered in this action on the eighteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and eighty nine, for Penalty and Costs. To be released on the payment of the Principal, Interest & Costs: Payments if any to be allowed — Stay of Execution till September Term next —

Levin Hughes against John Singleton } Be it remembered that on the thirteenth day of September Anno Domini fourteen hundred & eighty eight, Levin Hughes, by Robert Wright his Attorney preferred to the Court here the following Petition for Freedom, to wit. "To the Honorable the Judges of the General Court. The Petition of Levin Hughes most humbly sheweth that he is unlawfully detained as a Slave by a certain John Singleton of Talbot County. Your Petitioner therefore prayes that a writ of Subpoena may issue against the said John Singleton to appear at this Court to shew cause if any he hath why he detains your said Petitioner in Slavery and do therein what to your honors may seem just and right and as &c — Levin Hughes Robert Wright Pro Plff — Which said Petition being read and granted it was ordered by the Court here, that a Subpoena should be issued for the said John Singleton to appear before the Judges of the Court here immediately to answer to the said Petition: whereupon command was given to the Sheriff of Talbot County to summon John Singleton Esquire that all excuses and delays set aside he be and appear before the Judges of the General Court now sitting for the Eastern Shore of this State at Talbot County Court-House, the second Tuesday immediately to answer the Petition of Freedom of a certain Levin Hughes and he (the Sheriff afsd) should not fail at his peril and so forth — And the Sheriff of Talbot County afsd came and made return of the said Subpoena thus endorsed to wit, "summoned Daniel P Cox Shff." — And the said John Singleton by William Hayward his Attorney came here into Court, and thereupon day was given by the Court here to the said Parties, to hear the allegations and evidence as well on the part and behalf of the said Levin Hughes as the said John Singleton, being the second Tuesday in April then next following — And now here at this day to wit the said second Tuesday of April Anno Domini One thousand Seven hundred and eighty nine, come again the Parties afsd by their Attorneys afsd, and it is agreed that this petitioner is a child of Maria Hughes who Petitioned agt Henry Dickinson to obtain her freedom whose Petition has been dismissed, and that all the evidence in that case apply to this case —