At which said June January in September term, in the year Seventeen hundred and eighty nine, Came here again the parties aforesaid by their attorneys aforesaid, and the said Thomas Bruff, Mary Bruff, Joseph Bruff and Susanna Bruff, his wife, executors as aforesaid by William Maynard one of their attorneys aforesaid, offered their plea in answer to the declaration aforesaid in manner and form following to wit, And thereupon Thomas by William Maynard his attorney Comes and defends the force and injury when &c and prays Oyer of the original writ in this Cause and it is read to him in these words and figures following to wit, which being read and heard the said Thomas prays Judgment of the said writ because he saith that the said deceased Joseph Bruff, in his lifetime died in fee simple of the small tenements and parcels of land herein after mentioned and afterwards to wit the day of in the year of our Lord Seventeen hundred and at Talbot County aforesaid died seized as aforesaid thereof having first made and in due form of law executed his last will and Testament whereby he did devise all and every the said lots and parcels of land to his wife and Children in the manner and in and by the lines following that is to say to his dear and well beloved wife Mary the full fee and entire use of all his Estate both real and personal to be by her possessed and enjoyed wholly and solely for and during her natural life excepting thereout Nevertheless all his working tools used in carrying on and prosecuting handicraft Business; to the said Thomas his son his Dwelling House and the lot whereon it stands and is thereunto belonging together with all the other houses thereon it being and lying at Talbot County Court House and part of a lot or parcel of ground he the said Joseph purchased of Joshua Clarke beginning at the outsides of a cedar post at the south east Corner of his (the said Josephs) garden marked E, one hundred and one feet three Inches north from the first boundary stone of the aforesaid lot or parcel of ground marked A. and running North ninety eight feet to a second Corner post of the said garden marked F. then west with the Paling of the aforesaid garden two hundred and sixty four feet four inches to a boundary stone marked G. then south one hundred and ninety nine feet three Inches to a Boundary stone marked D. then East forty six feet, then north one hundred and one feet to a boundary stone marked I. then east two hundred and eighteen feet four inches to the beginning post marked E, to him and to his heirs forever reserving Nevertheless the use of the whole of the said lot and houses unto his wife during her Natural life as aforesaid, to his son Joseph his (the said deceased Josephs) lot of ground lying and being at Talbot Court house aforesaid then to the house of William Graves Beginning at a boundary stone marked A. running north one hundred and one feet three Inches to a hundred Post marked E. the beginning of the first mentioned lot, then west with the aforesaid lot two hundred and eighteen feet four Inches to a boundary stone marked I. then south one hundred and one feet three Inches intersecting the East line of the Lot before this Division then East with the aforesaid line two hundred and eighteen feet four inches to the first boundary marked A. together with the Tavern and all other houses thereon to him and to his heirs forever, reserving Nevertheless the use of the whole thereof unto his wife during her natural life as aforesaid, and to his Daughter Susanna his lot of ground lying and being at Talbot Court house aforesaid, and on the North side of the Lot first mentioned and described Beginning at the second Boundary Post marked F. of the aforesaid first mentioned lot and running North twenty seven feet eight Inches to a Boundary stone marked B, thence west two hundred and forty five feet four Inches to a Boundary stone marked C, then south to the third boundary of the first

mentioned lot marked G. twenty seven feet eight Inches then East two hundred and sixty four feet four Inches to the Beginning Boundary marked F. together with the stables Shop and all the other houses thereon and to his heirs forever reserving Nevertheless the use of the whole of the said lot and houses unto his wife during her natural life as aforesaid, and also reserving nine feet from Inches underneath the feet East end of the said lot from East to west adjoining and running with the east line of the lot first mentioned as willed and bequeathed to his son Thomas as aforesaid which should be made use of as an alley in Common between the two lots of and the said Joseph the deceased Testator did by his said last will and Testament devise and Change the said last lot or parcel of land so as aforesaid devised to the said Thomas with a payment to the said Susanna of the sum of sixty pounds specie in the manner and intent by the following words that is to say He gave and bequeathed unto his said Daughter Susanna the sum of sixty pounds specie to be paid to her within six months after her arrival to the age of eighteen years or the day of her marriage which should first happen Provided nevertheless that should his said Dearly beloved wife Mary be living and a widow at the time aforementioned for the payment of the said sum of sixty pounds to his said Daughter Susanna and through her Circumstances will not admit of such payment it may be postponed till one year and no longer after her decease to be paid by the said Thomas or who may be in possession of his said house and lot devised to his said son Thomas as his true intent and meaning was the Orphans Court to be liable for and touching with the same any thing in the said will contained to the contrary Notwithstanding as by an attested Copy of the said last will and Testament from the Register's Office of the Orphans Court of Talbot County hereunto found brought, more fully appeareth, and the said Thomas in fact saith and doth aver that the said Joseph the Testator was not at the time of his death seized of any other Lands than those herein before mentioned and by his said will so as aforesaid devised and Changed and that he the said Thomas hath not any Lands or Tenements by descent as heir to the said Joseph the Testator nor had on the day of Obtaining the said Original writ of the said John Bowman, William French and John Crawford, Obligees of John Bowman, William French, George Crawford, and John Crawford, nor at any time since and further the aforesaid Thomas Bruff in fact saith and doth aver that the said Mary widow and Devisee of the said Joseph son and Devisee and the Susanna Daughter and Devisee as of the said Joseph the deceased Testator are and each and any of them is now in full life and this he is ready to verify, whereof for that the said Thomas hath not any Lands or Tenements by descent as heir to the said deceased Testator in fee simple nor had on the day of Obtaining the said Original writ nor at any time since and for that the said Mary the widow and devisee the said Joseph the son and Devisee and the said Susanna the Daughter and Devisee as of are in full life and are not named in the said writ the said Thomas prays Judgment of the said writ and that the said writ may be quashed &c — Maynard for Deft

Whereupon this Cause standing ready for trial, further process of and upon the premises aforesaid between the parties aforesaid by Consent of the said parties and their attorneys aforesaid and by Order of the Court here thereon was Continued until the second Tuesday in April then next following — At which said second Tuesday in April to wit, in the year Seventeen hundred and ninety one, Came here again the parties aforesaid by their attorneys and the process of and upon the premises aforesaid, between the said parties and their said attorneys and by order of the said Court was thereupon further Continued until the second Tuesday in September then next following —