Levin LeCompte and Walter Rawley Executors of John LeCompte ---- against Thomas Barnett ----

The defendant in this Cause by Nicholas Hammond his attorney sued out of our General Court here the State of Maryland a writ of Habeas Corpus which here issues as follows;

The State of Maryland, &c: To the Justices and Sheriff of Dorchester County Greeting; whereas a certain Thomas Barnett, late of Dorchester County is detained in the prison of our said County under the custody of you, our said Sheriff, at the suit of a certain Levin LeCompte and Walter Rawley Executors of John LeCompte of a plea of debt and so forth which said plea, as it is said, still depends before you, our said Justices undetermined; and we being willing for divers causes, that the plea aforesaid, undetermined as aforesaid should be heard and determined before the Judges of our General Court; therefore we command you that you have the body of the said Thomas Barnett by whatsoever name or names he may be called in the plea aforesaid, together with the cause of his caption and detention, and all things thereunto relating before the Judges of our General Court, to be held for the Eastern shore of this State at Easton in Talbot County, at the Court house in the same County the second Tuesday of April next that our said Judges of our said General Court may further proceed therein, as to Justice appertains and so forth. Hereof fail not at your peril, and have you then and there this writ witness the honorable Samuel Chase Esquire, Chief Judge of our said Court the tenth day of September Anno Domini 1790.

Issued the 14th day of October Anno Domini 1790.

N. Hammond, James Earle Junr Clk

At which said second Tuesday in April to wit in the year Seventeen hundred and ninety four, being the day for the return of the aforesaid writ of Habeas Corpus come into Court here the said Levin LeCompte and Walter Rawley by Josiah Bayly their attorney and the Justices and Sheriff of Dorchester County in Obedience to the Command of the said writ made return of the same with the following record and proceedings thereto annexed;

In the Records and proceedings of Dorchester County it is amongst other things enrolled as follows to wit;

Dorchester County, to wit, At a Court found of the State of Maryland held for Dorchester County aforesaid at Cambridge in the said County on Monday the twenty eighth day of October in the year seventeen hundred and ninety three before the honorable John Done Esquire chief associate the said State's Justices of the same county Court duly commissioned and assigned to keep the peace in the same County of whom were present

John Done, Esquire Chief Justice
Robert Harrison Esq.r } Associate Justices
Moses LeCompte Esq.r }
Charles Hodson Shff R. Dickinson Clk

Levin LeCompte Walter Rawley Executors of John LeCompte ---- against Thomas Barnett ---- } Command was given to the Sheriff of Dorchester County on the fifteenth day of October in the year seventeen hundred and ninety two that he should take Thomas Barnett late of Dorchester County planter if he should be found in his bailiwick and him in his custody safely keep so that he should have his body before the Justices of Dorchester County Court to be holden at Cambridge in the said County the fourth Monday in October then next following to answer unto Levin LeCompte and Walter Rawley Executors of the last will and Testament of John LeCompte Deceased, of a plea that he render unto them the full and just sum of one hundred and twenty pounds current money which from them he unjustly detains &c. And that he should then and there have that writ. At which day to wit, the said fourth Monday in October here came into Court the said Levin LeCompte and Walter Rawley by Josiah Bayly their attorney and Charles Hodson the Sheriff of the County aforesaid to the Court here made return that he had taken the body of the said Thomas Barnett and the same has ready according to the exigence of the said writ, and the said Thomas Barnett, by Nicholas Hammond his attorney came here into court and thereupon the said Thomas Barnett at the prayer of the said Levin LeCompte and Walter Rawley was ruled to give special bail in the plea aforesaid. Whereupon Nathaniel Manning of Dorchester County planter, came here into Court in his proper person and became pledge and mainprize for the