And that thereof he the said Sheriff should not fail at his peril, and should have then and there that Writ &c — At which said second Tuesday of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven (being the day for the return of the aforesaid Writ) came into Court the said James Earle by Richard Tilghman Earle Esquire his Attorney and the Sheriff of Queen Ann's County, to whom the same Writ was, in form aforesaid directed, likewise came, and made return thereof to our said Court thus endorsed, to wit. — "Cepi. Phil: C. Blake Shff. Q. A. County" — And the said Richard Hale being called, appeared in Court by Joseph Hopper Nicholson Esquire his Attorney; and thereupon, on motion of the said James Earle by his Attorney aforesaid it was ruled by the Court that the said Richard Hale should give special bail in the plea aforesaid. — Whereupon, a certain William H. Nicholson of Queen Ann's County, came into Court in his own proper person, and with the consent of the said James Earle by his Attorney aforesaid became pledge and bail for the said Richard Hale that if it should happen that the said Richard Hale should be convicted at the suit of the said James Earle in the plea aforesaid then the said William H. Nicholson consented that as well the Debt aforesaid, as also such Damages, Costs and Charges as should be adjudged unto the said James Earle in this behalf, should be made of his body, lands and chattels, and levied to the use of the said James Earle, if it should happen that the said Richard Hale should not pay the said Debt, Damages, Costs and Charges, or render himself to the prison and custody of the Sheriff of the County aforesaid on that occasion. — And the said Richard Hale by his Attorney aforesaid defended the force and injury when &c — and prayed leave of the Court to imparle unto the next Term, and he had it; The same day was given to the said James Earle, then &c — At which said next Term, to wit, the second Tuesday of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight, came again into Court the parties aforesaid by their Attorneys aforesaid — And the said James Earle by his Attorney aforesaid declared against the said Richard Hale in the plea aforesaid in manner, and form following, to wit. —

Eastern Shore of Maryland, Queen Ann's County, to wit; Richard Hale late of the County aforesaid Farmer, was summoned to answer unto James Earle of a plea that he render unto him the sum of two hundred pounds Current money, which to him he owes, and from him unjustly detains and &c. — And whereupon the aforesaid James, by Richard Tilghman Earle his Attorney, saith, that whereas the aforesaid Richard Hale on the twelfth day of September in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety five, at the County aforesaid by his certain writing Obligatory, sealed with the seal of the said Richard Hale, and to the Court here shewn, the date of which is the same day and year, acknowledged himself to be held and firmly bound to the said James in the sum of two hundred pounds Current money, to be paid to the said James, when afterwards he should be thereunto required — Nevertheless the aforesaid Richard Hale (although often thereunto required) the aforesaid sum of two hundred pounds Current money, or any part thereof, to the said James hath not paid, but the same to pay he hath altogether refused, and still doth refuse, to the Damage of the said James

one hundred pounds Current money, and therefore he brings suit and &c &c — Richard Tilghman Earle for Plff. Pledge &c — John Doe and Richard Roe. — Oyer of writing Obligatory follows — Know all men by these presents that we Isaac Dulany free Negro, and Richard Hale of Queen Ann's County in the State of Maryland, are held and firmly bound unto James Earle of Talbot County and same State, in the full and just sum of two hundred pounds Current money of Maryland, to be paid to the said James Earle, his certain Attorney, Executors, Administrators and Assigns: To the which payment well and truly to be made and done, we hereby bind ourselves, and each of us, our, and each of our Heirs, Executors and Administrators in and for the whole sum jointly and severally, firmly by these presents, sealed with our Seals, and dated this twelfth day of September Anno Domini 1795 — The Condition of the above Obligation is such, that if the above bound Isaac Dulany, or Richard Hale, or either of them, their, or either of their Heirs, Executors or Administrators, do and shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid unto the above named James Earle, his certain Attorney, Executors, Administrators and Assigns the full and just sum of one hundred pounds Current money of Maryland, on or before the first day of January next, with legal Interest thereon, from the first day of June last past — Then the above Obligation to be void, and of no effect, else to be and remain in full force and virtue in Law. — Sealed and Delivered, in the presence of Richard T. Earle, John Cavadine — Isaac his Mark Dulany (Seal) — Richard Hale (Seal)

On the said writing it was thus endorsed — I hereby assign, transfer, and make over all my right, claim and Interest, to the above, and within Bond unto my Son Richard Earle with the Interest thereon due for, and in full satisfaction of one hundred pounds Current money, as so much left him by his Aunt, the late Anna Maria Ringgold, w.ch he loaned to me; As witness my hand this twenty first April 1796. — James Earle. — Thereupon, it was ruled by the Court at the prayer of the said James Earle by his Attorney aforesaid, that the said Richard Hale answer to the Declaration aff.d of the said James Earle in the plea aforesaid — And the said Richard Hale by his Attorney aff.d further defended the force and injury when &c and prayed leave of the Court to imparle unto the next Term, and he had it; The same day was given to the said James Earle, then &c. — And now here, at this day, to wit the second Tuesday of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight comes again into Court the parties aforesaid by their Attornies aforesaid; And the said Richard Hale by his Attorney aforesaid, says, that he cannot gainsay the action aforesaid of the said James Earle, so as aforesaid against him brought nor can he deny but that he owes to the said James Earle the full and just sum of two hundred pounds Current money in manner and form as he the said James Earle above thereof against him complains — Therefore it is considered by the Court here that the said James Earle recover against the said Richard Hale as well the said sum of two hundred pounds Current money his Debt aforesaid in form aforesaid acknowledged, as also the quantity of six hundred and forty five pounds of Tobacco for his Damages which he hath sustained as well by occasion of the detention of that Debt, as for his Costs and Charges by him about his suit in this behalf laid out and expended — Adjudged by the Court here unto the said James Earle with his Assent — And the said Richard Hale in mercy &c —

Test, James Earle Junr. Clerk —