The same day was given to the said State of Maryland, then, &c. At which said second Tuesday of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety six, came again into Court the said State of Maryland by its Attorney aforesaid, And thereupon, further process &c. and upon the premises aforesaid, was by Order of Court continued unto the second Tuesday of September then next following. The same day was given to the said State of Maryland, then, &c. At which said second Tuesday of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety six, came again into Court the said State of Maryland by its Attorney aforesaid. Whereupon, it was ordered by the Court at the prayer of the said State of Maryland, by its Attorney aforesaid, that a summons be forthwith issued returnable to the then next Term, directed to a certain Joseph Martin Executor of the Testament and last Will of the said John Stevens, Deceased, And such summons accordingly issued, Commanding the Sheriff of Talbot County, to Summon the said Joseph Martin late of Talbot County, Executor of John Stevens late of the County aforesd. Deceased, who was Executor of Benjamin Stevens late of said County, Deceased, that all excuses and delays set aside he should be, and appear before the Judges of our General Court, to be held for the Eastern Shore of the State of Maryland, at Easton, in Talbot County on the second Tuesday of April then next, and then and there agreeably to an Act of Assembly in such cases lately made and provided to cause himself to be made a party in a certain Action of Debt, then depending in the said Court, wherein the said State of Maryland was Plaintiff, and the said John Stevens was Defendant, or the Judges of our said Court on his Default, would proceed to Judgment thereon. The same day was given to the said State of Maryland, then, &c. At which said second Tuesday of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, came again into Court the said State of Maryland by its Attorney aforesaid; And the said Joseph Martin in pursuance of the summons aforesaid also came into Court by Thomas Laurence Bullitt Esquire his Attorney and defended the wrong 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 State of Maryland then, &c. At which said next Term, to wit, the second Tuesday of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, came again into Court the parties aforesaid by their Attornies aforesaid; And the said Joseph Martin Executor as aforesaid by his Attorney aforesaid further defended the wrong 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 State of Maryland 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 into Court again, the parties aforesaid by their Attornies aforesaid, And the said Joseph Martin Executor as aforesaid by his Attorney aforesaid further defended the wrong 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 State of Maryland &c. At which said next Term, to wit, the second Tuesday of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven

hundred and ninety eight came again into Court the parties aforesaid by their Attornies aforesaid: And the said Joseph Martin by his Attorney aforesaid 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 State of Maryland, then, &c. so forth. At which said next Term, to wit, the second Tuesday of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine, came again into Court the parties aforesd. by their Attornies aforesaid: And thereupon, on motion of the said Joseph Martin Executor as aforesaid by his Attorney aforesaid, it was ruled by the Court that the said State of Maryland declare against him the said Joseph Martin in the plea aforesaid by the second Tuesday of September then next following. The same day was given to the said Joseph Martin, 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 nine, comes again into Court the parties aforesaid by their Attornies aforesaid: And the said State of Maryland by her Attorney aforesaid Declares against the said Joseph Martin in the plea aforesaid, in manner and form following, to wit. State of Maryland, Talbot County &c. John Stevens Executor of the Testament and last Will of Benjamin Stevens late of Talbot County, Deceased, was summoned to answer unto the State of Maryland, of a plea that he render unto the said State the full sum and just quantity of two hundred thousand pounds of good, sound, Merchantable leaf Tobacco and Cash, which from the said State he unjustly detains and so forth. And whereupon the said State by Luther Martin its Attorney saith, that the aforesaid Benjamin in his lifetime, to wit, on the first day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two, at the County aforesaid, acknowledged himself to be bound unto the said State in the sum of two hundred thousand pounds of good, sound, Merchantable leaf Tobacco and Cash, to be paid to the said State, whenever he the said Stevens should be afterwards by the said State required. Nevertheless the said Benjamin in his lifetime, or the said John in his lifetime, after the death of the said Benjamin, or the said Joseph after the death of the said John (although often requested) have not paid the said sum of Tobacco to the said State, but the said Benjamin in his lifetime, and the said John, in his lifetime after the death of the said Benjamin, and the said Joseph, since the death of the said John have hitherto utterly refused, and so do, and the said Joseph yet doth refuse so to do; Wherefore the said State saith that it is injured, and hath Damage to the value of five hundred pounds Current money of the said State, brings its suit &c. and brings here into Court the writing Obligatory aforesd. Sealed with the Seal of the said Benjamin, the date of which is the day & year aforesaid, which proves the Debt aforesaid &c. And also brings here into Court the Letters Testamentary aforesaid, which prove &c. &c.

L. Martin for the State. — Pledges of prosecuting — John Doe & Richard Roe.

The writing Obligatory in the Declaration aforesd. mentioned, comes as follows, to wit. Maryland SS. Know all men by these presents that we Richard Johns, Benjamin Stevens, Samuel Bowman, John Harwood and Richard Dudley of Talbot County, in the State of Maryland, are holden and firmly to the State of Maryland, in the full