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 John Erskine and John Thomas late of Talbot County Administrators of all and singular the Goods and Chattels, Rights and Credits which were of the said Richard Johns, Deceased; And such summons accordingly issued, Commanding the Sheriff of Talbot County to summon John Erskine and John Thomas late of the County aforesaid, Administrators of Richard Johns late of the same County, Deceased, that all excuses and delays set aside, they 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 & provided, to cause themselves to be made a party in a certain Action of Debt, then depending in our said Court, wherein the State of Maryland was Plaintiff, and the said Richard Johns was Defendant, or the Judges of our said Court on their default would proceed to judgment thereon — And the same day was given to the said State of Maryland, then and there &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 same John Erskine and John Thomas, Administrators of Richard Johns dec.d in pursuance of the summons aforesaid, also came into Court by Thomas James Bartlett Esquire their Attorney, and defended the wrong and injury when &c, and prayed leave of the Court to imparle untill 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 John Erskine and John Thomas Administrators as aforesaid by their Attorney aforesaid further defended the wrong and injury when &c, and prayed leave of the Court to imparle untill the next Term, and they 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 again into Court the parties aforesaid by their Attornies aforesaid; And the said John Erskine and John Thomas by their Attorney aforesaid further defended the wrong and injury when &c and prayed leave of the Court to imparle untill 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 eight, came again into Court the parties aforesaid by their Attornies aforesaid; And the said John Erskine and John Thomas by their Attorney aforesaid further defended

the wrong and injury when &c — and prayed leave of the Court to imparle untill the next Term, and they 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 nine came again into Court the parties aforesaid by their Attornies aforesaid: And thereupon on motion of the said John Erskine and John Thomas by their Attorney aforesaid, it was ruled by the Court that the said State of Maryland Declare against them the said John Erskine and John Thomas in the plea aforesaid by the second Tuesday of September then next following: And the same day was given to the said John Erskine and John Thomas 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 its Attorney aforesaid Declares against the said John Erskine and John Thomas in the plea aforesaid in manner and form following, to wit; — State of Maryland vs. John Erskine & John Thomas Adm.rs of Richard Johns — Richard Johns late of Talbot County Gentleman was summoned to answer unto the State of Maryland &c pleas that he render to the said State the full and just sum of three thousand and eighty six pounds five shillings and three pence half penny Current money which to the said State he owes and unjustly detains and so forth. — And whereupon the said State by Luther Martin its Attorney saith that whereas the said Richard Johns in his lifetime to wit on the ninteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety three, at the County aforesaid acknowledged himself to be bound unto the said State in the aforesaid sum of three thousand and eighty six pounds five shillings and five pence half penny Current money of Maryland, to be paid to the said State whenever the said Johns should afterwards by the said State be required. — Nevertheless, the said Johns in his lifetime, or the said Erskine and Thomas since his Death (altho often requested) have not paid the said sum of money to the said State, but the said Johns in his lifetime, and the said Erskine and Thomas since his Death, hitherto altogether have refused so to do, and the said Erskine and Thomas yet do refuse so to do, wherefore the said State saith that it is injured, and hath Damage to the value of one thousand pounds Current money of Maryland, and therefore the said State brings its suit &c — And brings here into the said Court, the writing Obligatory, Sealed with the Seal of the said Johns, the date of which is the day and year aforesaid, which testifies &c and also brings here into Court the Letters of Administration aforesaid which shewes &c — &c — Pledges of Prosecuting, John Doe and Richard Roe — Luther Martin, Attorney for the State. —

The writing Obligatory in the Declaration aforesaid mentioned runneth as follows, to wit, — Know all men by these presents that we Richard Johns, Daniel Powell Cox, and Wm Barwick, all of Talbot County and State of Maryland are held and firmly bound unto the Justices of the Peace for Talbot County, in the full and just sum of three thousand, eighty six pounds, five, and three pence half penny, Current money, to which payment well and truly to be made and done, we do bind ourselves, and every of us, our, and every of our Heirs, Executors and Administrators, jointly and severally