had four hundred and fifty three legal Ballots, a certain Thomas Jones four hundred and forty three legal Ballots and a certain Cuthbert Hall five hundred and seventy six, whereby it appeared that the said Benjamin Hatchison had a Majority of legal Ballots, and the said Benjamin declares that he was an Inhabitant of the said County, above the Age of twenty One Years and had real and personal Property in the state above the Value of one thousand pounds Current Money and was in all respects qualified at the Time of said Election as the Constitution and form of Government afs. in required of all which the said Judges then and there had Notice to Wit. At Kent County aforesaid in the Examination of said Judges of the Qualification of the Candidates by reason whereof and by Virtue of the Constitution and form of Government aforesaid he the said Benjamin Hatchison became intitled to have been declared duly elected Sheriff of Kent County aforesaid by the said Judges, and to have been returned by the said Judges as having had the greatest Number of legal Ballots with Thomas Jones Esquire having the next highest poll to the Governor and Council as sheriff of Kent County agreeably to the Form of Government in that Case provided whereby the said Benjamin Hatchison would have been Commissioned by the Governor as Sheriff of Kent County to which he had been duly elected and for which he was qualified as the the form of Government aforesaid requires Yet the said Judges to wit. the said Mannaduke Tilden and John Bradley disregarding the Duties of their Office as Judges of said Sheriffs Election and the Constitutional Rights of the said Benjamin Hatchison in order to deprive the said Benjamin of the Office of Sheriff to which he had been elected by a Majority of Ballots as aforesaid and for which he was duly qualified as the Constitution and form of Government requires as aforesaid did falsely and maliciously certify and return to the Governor and Council that the said Thomas Jones and Cuthbert Hall had at the said Election a Majority of Ballots and as Judges of the said Election of Sheriff did declare the said Thomas Jones and Cuthbert Hall to be duly elected to the Office of Sheriff for Kent County and did accordingly so return them to wit on the fifteenth Day of November seventeen hundred and ninety four at Kent County aforesaid whereby the said Thomas Jones got the Commission of sheriff of Kent County and where by the said Benjamin Hatchison was Deprived of the same Commission to which he was intitled as afs. whereupon the said Benjamin saith he is injured and hath sustained Damage to the Value of five thousand pounds Current Money and therefore he brings suit and so forth. Robert Wright pro ptiff

John Doe and Richard Roe

And thereupon the said Benjamin Hatchison by his Attorneys aforesaid prayed that the said Mannaduke Tilden and John Bradley might answer to the declaration

of him the said Benjamin Hatchison in the plea aforesaid; whereupon it was ruled by the Court that the said Mannaduke Tilden and John Bradley answer to the declaration of the said Benjamin Hatchison in the plea aforesaid, and if the said Mannaduke Tilden doth not answer to the declaration of the said Benjamin Hatchison in the plea aforesaid, Judgment will be rendered against them by default; and the said Mannaduke Tilden and John Bradley by their said Attorneys, defended the force and Injury, when &c. And prayed leave of the Court to imparle until the second Tuesday of September then next to answer to the declaration of the said Benjamin Hatchison in the plea aforesaid, and they had it; the same day was given to the said Benjamin Hatchison 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 parties aforesaid by their Attorneys aforesaid. And the said Mannaduke Tilden and John Bradley by their Attorneys, further defended the force and Injury, when &c. and said, that they are not Guilty of the premises above on them imposed, in manner and form as the said Benjamin Hatchison hath above complained against them, and of this they put themselves upon the Country &c. And the said Benjamin Hatchison in like manner. &c. Therefore to try issue aforesaid ~~Jurors~~ between the parties aforesaid above joined let a Jury thereon appear before our said Court on the second Tuesday of April then next, by whom &c. and who neither &c. to recognize &c. be cause as well &c. the same day was given to the parties aforesaid 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 parties aforesaid by their Attorneys aforesaid,

And thereupon the said Benjamin Hatchison by his Attorneys aforesaid, prayed leave of the Court according to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided, to amend his declaration aforesaid, and declare anew against the said Mannaduke Tilden and John Bradley in the plea aforesaid and it was granted him. Thereupon further process of and upon the premises aforesaid, between the parties aforesaid by consent of the said parties and their Attornies aforesaid and by order of the Court thereon was further continued untill the second Tuesday of september then next. At which said 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 Attorneys aforesaid. And there upon the said Benjamin Hatchison by his