he should take Nathaniel Manning late of Dorchester County planter, if in his Bailiwick he shoulde be found and him in his custody safely keep, so that he might have his body before the Justices of the said County Court at Cambridge in the said County the third Monday in March instant to answer unto Esther Lecompte of a plea that he render unto her the full and just sum of eighty pounds current money which to her he owes and from her unjustly detains &c. and that he should then and there have that writ. At which said third Monday in March seventeen hundred & ninety seven here came into Court the said Esther Lecompte by Josiah Bayly her Attorney and then Doctr. then the Sheriff of the County aforesd. to the Court here made return that he had taken the body of the said Nathaniel Manning and the same had ready according to the exigence of the said writ. And the said Nathaniel Manning by William Bond Martin his Attorney came here into Court, and thereupon the said Nathaniel Manning at the prayer of the said Esther Lecompte was ruled to give special Bail in this plea aforesd. Whereupon Thomas Fitchett of Dorchester County planter came here into Court in his proper person, and became Pledge and mainprizer for the aforesd. Nathaniel Manning, that if it should happen that Judgment by the Court here for the aforesd. Esther Lecompte against the said Nathaniel Manning should be rendered then he the same Thomas Fitchett granted that as well the debt aforesd. as all such damages costs & charges which unto the aforesd. Esther Lecompte within his suit should by the Court be adjudged of his Lands and Chattels should be made and to the use of the said Esther Lecompte levied, if it should happen that the said Nathaniel Manning the said debt, damages & costs unto the aforesd. Esther Lecompte should not pay or his body in Execution of & for such Judgment to the public prison of Dorchester County by that occasion should not render. At which day to wit, the said fourth Monday in October here came again as well the said Esther Lecompte as the said Nathaniel Manning by their Attorneys aforesd. and the said Esther Lecompte by her Attorney aforesd. offered her Declaration in the plea aforesd. against the said Nathaniel Manning in manner and form following to wit. Dorchester County, to wit. Nathaniel Manning late of Dorchester County planter was summoned to answer unto Esther Lecompte of a plea that he render unto her the full and just sum of Eighty pounds current money which to her he owes and from her he unjustly detains &c. And whereupon the said Esther Lecompte by Josiah Bayly her Attorney saith that the said Nathaniel Manning on the twenty eighth day of July in the year of our Lord Seventeen hundred and ninety six at the County aforesd. by his certain writing obligatory sealed with his Seal of the said Nathaniel Manning and here in Court now brought the date whereof is the same day and year aforesd. acknowledged himself to be held and firmly bound unto the said Esther Lecompte in the aforesd. full and just sum of Eighty pounds current money of Maryland to be paid to the said Esther Lecompte when the said Nathaniel Manning should be thereunto afterwards required. Nevertheless the said Nathaniel Manning the aforesd. sum of money or any part thereof unto her the said Esther Lecompte yet hath not rendered or paid although thereto often required but the same to her to render or pay altogether hath refused and still doth refuse to the damage of the

Esther Lecompte one hundred and fifty pounds current money of Maryland and thereupon the bringer suit &c. — John Doe &c. / Richard Roe &c. pledges &c.

Josiah Bayly Atty for the Plff.

The writing obligatory mentioned in the aforegoing Declaration purports in the following words and figures to wit. Know all men by these presents that I Nathaniel Manning of Dorchester County and State of Maryland am held and firmly bound unto Esther Lecompte of the same County and State aforesd. in the sum of Eighty pounds to be paid in Spanish milled Dollars rating them at seven shillings and six pence, to be paid to the said Esther Lecompte her Heirs Executors, Administrators or Assigns, to which Payment well and truly to be made and done, I bind myself my Heirs Executors and Administrators firmly by these presents. Sealed with my Seal and dated this twenty eighth day of July 1796. The Condition of the above Obligation is such that if the above bound Nathaniel Manning his Heirs Executors or Administrators do well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said Esther Lecompte her Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns, the sum of Forty pounds in Spanish milled Dollars rating them at seven shillings and six pence each, with legal Interest thereon. Then the above Obligation to be void and of no effect, else to remain in full force and virtue in Law. Witness my hand and seal the day and year above written. — Witness. Joseph Payne & John Spencer. — Nathaniel Manning (Seal)

And the said Nathaniel Manning by his Attorney aforesd. defended the wrong and injury when &c. and prays the liberty of imparling thereof until the third Monday in March then next following and it is granted unto him the same day was given to the said Esther Lecompte then &c. And now here at this day to wit, the third Monday in March Seventeen hundred and ninety eight come again into Court the parties aforesd. by their Attorneys aforesd. and the said Nathaniel Manning by his Attorney aforesd. craved his plea against the said Esther Lecompte in manner and form following to wit. —

Nathaniel Manning } D. Plaintiff. And the said Nathaniel by William Bond Martin his Attorney comes and defends the force and injury when &c. and prays an hearing of the penal obligatory aforesd. and its condition in these words following to wit. Know all men by these presents that I Nathaniel Manning of Dorchester County and State of Maryland am held and firmly bound unto Esther Lecompte of the same County and State aforesd. in the sum of eighty pounds to be paid in Spanish milled Dollars rating them at seven shillings and six pence each, to be paid to the said Esther Lecompte her Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns. To which payment well and truly to be made and done I bind myself my Heirs Executors and Administrators firmly by these presents. Sealed with my Seal and dated this twenty eighth day of July 1796. He also prays an hearing of the Condition of the said penal obligatory and its tenor was read to him in these words following to wit. The Condition of the above Obligation is such that if the above bound Nathaniel Manning his Heirs Executors or Administrators do well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the said Esther Lecompte her Heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns the sum of Forty pounds