Judgments.

And the said Benjamin Ringgold on the day of issuing the aforesaid Writ, declared against the said James Stoops as follows to wit Kent County Eastern Shore of Maryland To James Stoops late of Kent County State of Maryland Farmer, was summoned to answer unto Benjamin Ringgold on a plea that he render unto him the sum of four hundred and eighty six pounds, seven shillings & four pence current money of the State aforesaid which to him he owes and unjustly detains &c.

And whereupon the said Benjamin Ringgold by John Scott his attorney saith that whereas the aforesaid James Stoops on the twentieth day of February in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred & ninety seven at Kent County aforesaid by his certain writing obligatory, acknowledged himself to be held & firmly bound unto him the said Benjamin in the aforesaid sum of four hundred and eighty six pounds seven shillings and four pence current money as aforesaid to be paid to him the said Benjamin in the aforesaid sum of Four hundred and eighty six pounds seven shillings and four pence current money as aforesaid to be paid to him the said Benjamin when afterwards he should be thereunto required. Nevertheless the aforesaid James altho' often thereunto required the aforesaid sum of four hundred and eighty six pounds seven shillings & four pence current money as afor to him the said Benjamin hath not rendered or paid but the same to him hitherto to render or pay he hath altogether refused & still doth refuse wherefore he saith he is the worse and hath damage to the value of Forty pounds & therefore he brings Suit and so forth. and brings here into Court the writing obligatory aforesaid sealed with the seal of the aforesaid James which the debt aforesaid in form aforesaid witnesseth, whose date is the day and year aforesaid and so forth.

John Scott for plaintiff — pledges &c. J. Doe & R. Roe.

The writing obligatory whereof mention is made in the aforegoing Declaration recites as follows to wit

Know all men by these presents that I James Stoops of Kent County & State of Maryland am held and firmly bound unto Benjamin Ringgold in the full and just sum of four hundred & eighty six pounds seven shillings & four pence lawful money of the State aforesaid to be paid to the said Benjamin Ringgold his certain attorney Executors administrators or assigns, to which payment well & truly to be made and done I bind myself my heirs executors & administrators firmly by these presents sealed with my Seal and dated this twentieth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven. The condition of the above Obligation is such, that if the above bound James Stoops his heirs executors or administrators do and shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid unto the above named Benjamin Ringgold his heirs executors administrators or assigns the sum of Two hundred and forty three pounds, three shillings & eight pence with legal interest from the date hereof on or before the twentieth day of February in the year seventeen hundred & ninety eight, then the above Obligation to be void, or else to remain in full effect and virtue.

Signed sealed & delivered, in presence of Rich. Hughman Jr. — James Stoops (Seal)

Copies of which said Declaration & Bond were made and sent with the Writ in the plea aforesaid. At which said second Tuesday of April seventeen hundred and ninety eight, being the return day of the aforegoing Writ, comes into the General Court here the said Benjamin Ringgold by his attorney aforesaid and the Sheriff of the County aforesaid to whom the said Writ was in form aforesaid directed makes return thereof to the Court here thus endorsed to wit "Cepi Ben. Hatchison Shff."

And the said James Stoops being called appears in Court here by Robert Wright his attorney and thereupon on motion of the said Benjamin Ringgold by his attorney aforesaid its ruled by the Court that the said James Stoops give special Bail in the plea aforesaid; whereupon the said James Stoops by his said attorney files in Court here the following Bail piece, to wit.

Benjamin Ringgold, Plaintiff against James Stoops, Defendant. — Debt £486.7.4. Ct Money. You Peregrine Stoops & William Denson do jointly and severally acknowledge yourselves special Bail for the said James Stoops, at the suit of the said Benjamin Ringgold in an action of debt brought by the said Benjamin Ringgold against the said James Stoops in the General Court. They acknowledge themselves to be content therewith this seventh day of April 1798. before John Hupp — John Ireland

To the Honorable the Judges of the General Court.

Sir, Please to appear for me in the above action. To Robert Wright Esq. — Yrs James Stoops.

And the said James Stoops by his attorney aforesaid defends the force and injury when &c. and prays leave to imparle until the second Tuesday of September next and he hath it, the same day is given to the said Benjamin Ringgold also. At which said second Tuesday of September seventeen hundred & ninety eight comes again into the General Court here the said James Stoops by his attorney; and the said Benjamin Ringgold doth not come; and the said James Stoops suggests to the Court here, that since the continuance of the plea aforesaid, and before this time, the said Benjamin Ringgold the Plaintiff in this cause departed this life, and the same is not denied; thereupon day is given by the Court here, until the second Tuesday of April next, for the proper person to appear, according to the Act of Assembly in such cases made & provided to prosecute & and upon the premises in the plea aforesaid the same day is given to the said James Stoops &c. At which said second Tuesday of April seventeen hundred and ninety nine, comes again into the General Court here the said James Stoops by his attorney aforesaid, and now here also comes Samuel Ringgold, Administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels rights and credits which were of the said Benjamin Ringgold at the time of his death, by John Scott his attorney & offers himself against the said James Stoops according to the Act of Assembly aforesaid to prosecute & and upon the premises in the plea aforesaid &c. And thereupon on motion of the said Samuel Ringgold by his attorney aforesaid its ruled by the Court here that the said James Stoops answer to the Declaration aforesaid by the second Tuesday of September next, or Judgment by the Court here will be rendered against him in default thereof, the same day is given to the said Samuel Ringgold also. At which said second Tuesday of September seventeen hundred and ninety nine, comes again into the General Court here the parties aforesaid by their attornies aforesaid. And the said James Stoops by attorney aforesaid defends the force and injury when &c. and saith that the said Samuel Ringgold his action aforesaid thereof against him to have or maintain ought not, because he saith that he did well and truly pay to the said Benjamin Ringgold in his lifetime the aforesaid sum of four hundred and eighty six pounds seven shillings and four pence lawful money in the condition of the writing obligatory aforesaid mentioned, according to the form and effect of the same condition to wit at the County aforesaid this he is ready to verify wherefore he prays Judgment if the said Samuel Ringgold his action aforesaid thereof against him to have or maintain ought &c. And the aforesaid Samuel Ringgold, Administrator as aforesaid by his attorney aforesaid saith that he from having or maintaining his action aforesaid against the said James Stoops ought not to be precluded because he saith