

Thomas Bell & Philip ffrench & Comp ^a ag ^t John Rawlings	}	John Rawlings late of Dorchester County otherwise called John Rawlings of Dorches- ter County in the Province of Maryland Boatewright was Sumoned to answer unto Thomas Bell and Philip ffrench & Company	Liber N N p. 151
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of London merchants of a plea that he render unto them the full & just quantity of twenty foure thousand pounds of good sound merchantable tobacco & caske which to them he oweth and unjustly deteineth.

And whereupon the said Thomas Bell & Philip ffrench & Comp^a by Robert Ridgely their Attorney say that whereas the said John Rawlings the two & twentieth day of January 1674 by his certaine writeing Obligatory sealed with the seale of him the said John & here in Court pduced whose date is the day and yeare aforesaid did acknowledge and confesse himselfe to Owe & stand indebted unto the said Thomas & Philip and Comp^a the just & full quantity of twenty foure thousand pounds of good sound merchantable tobacco & caske due to be paid at the then dwelling house of the said John in Dorchester County at or before the tenth day of October then next ensueing the date of the same writeing Obligatory unto the said Thomas and Philip & company or either of their heirs executors or administrators or ffactors To the which payment well & truly to be made he the said John did bind himselfe his heirs executors and administrators firmly by those presents Yet the said John Rawlings the said twenty foure thousand pounds of tobacco to them the said Thomas and Philip and Company according to the tenor of the said writeing Obligatory though often thereunto required hath not paid but the same to pay hath denyed and as yet doth deny whereupon the said Thomas and Philip and Comp^a say they are damnified and have lost to the value of thirty thousand pounds of tobacco and thereupon they produce their suite.

And the aforesaid John Rawlings in his proper person cometh & defendeth the force & injury when &c & the said John prayeth the heareing of the said writeing Obligatory and it read unto him he also prayeth the heareing of the Condition of the said writeing Obligatory and it is read unto him in these words The Condition of the above Obligation is such that if the abovebound John Rawlings his heirs executors & adm^{rs} shall well & truly pay or cause to be paid at the place abovementioned twelve thousand two hundred and three pounds of good sound merchantable tobacco & caske at or before the tenth day of October next unto M^r Thomas Bell & Philip ffrench & Company or ffactor without fraud or covin that then this Obligation to be void & of none effect else to remaine in full force & vertue to the which I have sett my hand & seale the day and yeare abovewritten. Which being read & heard the said John as to the said summe of twelve thousand two hundred and three pounds of tobacco in the