

And whereupon the said Theophilus Turford by Christopher Rousby his Attorney complaineth, that whereas by an Act of Assembly made att a Gen<sup>ll</sup> Assembly begun & held att the City of S<sup>t</sup> Maryes the        day of        & there continued by severall Adjournm<sup>ts</sup> & Prorogacōns till the        day of        And there continued till the        day of        one thousand Six hundred Seventy eight Itt was amongst other things Enacted by the right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lord Prop<sup>ry</sup> by & with the consent of the upper & lower houses of that p<sup>r</sup>sent Gen<sup>ll</sup> Assembly that what person soever shall dispose of any tobacco or other Goods seized on or received by Sheriffes for fines Leavyes or his Lordships rent or other publick Officers fees Or that shall alter or scratch out the marke of any tobacco so received, Or that shall alter or change the quality of tobacco so received or by any M<sup>r</sup>chant or other received either by uncaseing or otherwise without Lawfull order or warrant in writeing under hand of such sheriffe who received the same, or of such M<sup>r</sup>chant or other person who received & marked the same or for whose use the same was received & marked shall be lyable being convicted by confession or sufficient witnes in some Court of this Province to restore foure fold to the party grieved And to stand in the pillory two full houres dureing the Court tyme with his offence fairly written in a peice of paper & placed upon his back The said Theophilus in fact saith, that the said Christoph<sup>r</sup> Hassell not ignorant of the p<sup>r</sup>misses, but the said Act contemning, & the said Theophilus Turford in this behalfe craftily & subtly to defraud & deceive, did upon the Eighth day of ffebruary One thousand six hundred Seventy eight & att sundry other tymes untill the tenth day of April then next following receive dispose of take & carry away from severall houses in Petuxent river within the County aforesaid twenty foure severall hogsheads of tobacco of the proper Goods & Chattles of the said Theophilus Turford & by him & his receivers for his use formerly received & marked containing the neat quantity of tenn thousand foure hundred forty & one pounds of tobacco contrary to the said Act of Assembly, whereby action is accrued to the said Theophilus to have & demand of the said Christop<sup>r</sup> Hassel foure fold according to the said Act amounting to the Sum<sup>e</sup> of forty one thousand seven hundred & sixty foure pounds of tobacco & thereupon he brings his suite &c

Liber W. C.

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And the said Christopher Hassell by Robert Ridgely his Attorney cometh & defendeth the force & injury when &c and prayeth liberty to imparle hereunto untill next Provinciaall Court & itt is granted unto him, the same day is given to the plaintiffe also

Now here att this day to witt the ffifteenth day of Octob<sup>r</sup> in the fourth yeare of the Dominion of the right Hon<sup>ble</sup> Charles Lord Baltimore &c Annoq<sup>o</sup> Doni 1679 came the said parties by their Attorneys aforesaid And the said Christopher by his said Attorney saith that he is in no wise guilty of the p<sup>r</sup>misses above imposed upon