

Liber W. C.

said Lord Proprietary that now is, & in the yeare of our Lord One thousand six hundred and eighty at the Ridge in Ann Arundell County at the Court house there, The same being the Court day & the said Thomas busy in discourseing with Seaverall of his Clients about their Causes then under his care and Mannagement in the said Courts then and their depending, in p<sup>r</sup>sence of the Justices of the said County of Ann Arrundell then present in Court (and the said Richard being one of his Lops Justices of the said County of Ann Arrund<sup>l</sup> & then and there sitting) The said Thomas makeing a Motion to the said Court on behalfe of one of his Clients as it was lawfull for him to doe, The said Richard then and there in the hearing of the said Justices & all the suitors to the said Court w<sup>th</sup> an audible voyce did say affirme speake & publish these false feigned scandalous lyeing and Malicious words viz That the Lord Prop<sup>ry</sup> (meaning the Right Hono<sup>ble</sup> Charles Lord Baltimore Lord Prop<sup>ry</sup> of this Province) had Declared that the said Thomas Bland (the said Thomas the Plantiffe meaneing) should be noe longer an Attorney or plead in any Court of this Province, and that the said Bland (Meaning the Plt) made it his businesse to make and urge men to goe to Law, By reason of w<sup>ch</sup> speakeing and Proclaiming of the aforesaid false lyeing & scandalous words hee the said Thomas is not onely in his good Name fame Credit trust and Estimacōn aforesaid greatly hurt & scandalized, but doth also thereby stand deprived and utterly spoyled of his said Employment of being an Attorney in the Courts aforesaid so that by Reason of the said words The said Justices of Ann Arundell County the day and yeare aforesaid at the Court aforesaid refused to pmit the said Thomas to Plead his Clients Cawses. And thereupon all the Clients of the said Thomas forthwith Demanded their paps, and hee the said Thomas by reason of the words aforesaid of his Trade practice and Livelyhood Remaines absolutely spoyled & Deprived, and all his Clients and other hono<sup>ble</sup> and Venerable psons of this Province have withdrawne themselves from the Company of the said Thomas and have utterly refused and still doe refuse in any wise to Deale or have ffellowship w<sup>th</sup> the said Thomas after the speakeing and Publishing of the said false feigned and scandalous words aforesaid By meanes whereof the said Thomas hath not onely Remained much troubled and unquieted in his minde but is also Deprived of his Empolyment and Maintenance aforesaid Whereupon he saith he is Damnified and hath losse to the Vallue of One hundred Thousand pounds of Tobacco and thereupon hee brings his suite

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And the said Richard Hill by Thomas Burford his Attorney Cometh and Defendeth the force and injury when &c, and Prayeth Liberty to imparle hereunto untill next Provinciaall Court and it is granted unto him The same Date is given to the plt Likewise

Now here at this Day to witt the thirtyeth day of Aprill in the