

the Custody of the said William Price the Said Joseph Spernon Liber W. C.
 haveing Notice of such Runawayes being there afterwards. to wit
 the One or two and twentyeth day of June aforesaid being Con-
 stable of Bohemia hundred aforesaid did (wth others whome for
 that purpose he comanded to assist him) goe to the house of the
 Said William Price and their Seized & apprehended the said Chris-
 topher Butler and Symon Staynes & in his custody them kept &
 Secured and from the house of the said William Price them did
 lead and Carry away But the said Joseph Spernon the said Act
 not at all Regarding the said Servants Soe in his Custody being
 did wilfully neglect to Carry the said servants before the next
 Majestrate or Justice as by the said Act is directed there to be
 disposed of according to Lawe, but did Carry them to his owne
 house in the hundred & County aforesaid & there did wittingly and
 willingly (Knowing them to be Runawayes as aforesaid) Enter-
 taine them in his said house & sett them on worke to weede out his
 Corne feild, & haveing Kept them for the space of foure days &
 nights did voluntarily Permitt & Suffer them to Escape and Run- p. 516
 away out of this Province Contrary to the said Act of Assembly
 By meanes whereof the said John hath not onely lost his Cropp
 for the said yeare 1680 but also all future Services of the said Serv-
 ants To the Damage of the said John Twelve thousand pounds of
 Tobacco and thereupon he bringeth his suite

And the said Joseph Spernon by Robert Ridgely his Attorney
 cometh and defendeth the force and Injury when &c and Prayeth
 Liberty to Imparle hereunto untill next Provincially Court and it
 is granted unto him the same day is given to both Partyes.

Att w^{ch} said next Provincially Court came the said partyes by
 their Attorneys aforesaid, and the said Joseph Spernon by his said
 Attorneys sayth: that he is in noe wise Guilty of the Premisses
 above Imposed upon him in manner and forme as the said John in
 his Declaracōn against him hath Complayned & of this he Putts
 himselfe upon the Country and the Plantiffe likewise Itt is there-
 fore comanded the sheriffe of st Maryes County that he Cause to
 come here Twelve &c^a by whome &c^a and who neither &c^a to Recog-
 nize &c. because as well &c.

Now here at this day to wit the seaventh day of November in
 sixth yeare of the Dominion of the Right Hono^{ble} Charles Lord
 Baltemore &c^a Annoq̄ Doni 1680 Came the said partyes by their
 Attorneys aforesaid and the Juro^{rs} Impannelled being called like-
 wise Came to wit, Raymond Stapleford William Thomas. Joseph
 Edloe Jacob Looton, William Smithson; Robert Graham William
 Cole Andrew Abington. Richard Cloud. Timothy Tracy Darby
 Dunavan & John Bailey. Who being Elected tryed and Sworne to
 Say the truth in the Premisses Upon their oathes doe say That the
 said Joseph Spernon is guilty of the Premisses above imposed upon
 him in manner and form as the said John in his Declaration afore-