

the Said office this Def^t cou'd not conceive any other design or ends the Said Gresham cou'd have by such proceedings except the drawing in this Defend^t to allow of that ballance Soe far Short of his due And therefore this Defend^t refused to Subscribe or allow of the Stateing the Acc^{ts} after that Manner but gave for answer that w^{soever} Tob^o the Said Gassaway Shou'd pay him on the Said Greshams Acc^t this Defendant when paid wou'd give the Said Gresham credit for and that this Defend^t Shou'd be ready to receive his Tob^o from any that wou'd pay it him on Said Gresham's Acc^t or used Words to that purpose that Soe litle Reason had this Def^t to Discharge the Said Gresham on the Said Gassaway's acc^t And Soe far was Either the Said Gresham or Gassaway from being ready to pay this Defend^t his due that altho' the Said Gresham well knew the Said Gassaway owed this Defend^t about Sixteen thousand pounds of Tob^o in December Seventeen hundred and fourteen as by a letter under the Said Greshams hand ready to be produced may appear yet on the first day of february then next as this Defendant had heard and beleives the Said Gresham refused to discount this Defend^{ts} note on Said Gassaway for the paym^t of two thousand four hundred and fifty pounds [383] of Tob^o to a Certain Tho^s Wells of Ann Arundell County Gent. who as this Defendant beleives and hopes to prove owed the Said Gresham about that Quantity and offered him the Said note wth his Endorsement thereof as pay and that the Said Gresham being then alsoe asked by Said Wells if he wou'd discount this Defend^{ts} note on him the Said Gresham payable to the Said Wells answered noe but that this Defend^{ts} note on Thomas Reynolds then Sheriff for the Said Sume wou'd doe well enough or to that Effect That about the last of Feb^y or beginning of March that Same year this Defend^t apprehending by this usage that the Said Jn^o Gresham having the ordering of this Defendants Tob^o in the Said Gassaways hands did not only design to keep him out of that but of his own Debt alsoe on or about the twenty fifth day of Feb^y. Seventeen hundred and fourteen Assigned to a Certain John Beard for this Defend^{ts} Use an order drawn by M^r Edward Butler as Rector of S^t Ann's parish in Ann Arundell County payable to this Def^t or order w^{ch} the Said Gassaway had Accepted or the Said Gresham for him about the twenty first of Feb^y Seventeen hundred and twelve and this Defendant procured the Said John Beard to demand payment thereof And hoped thereby to have prevailed on the Said Gresham and Gassaway or one of them to have condescended to let this Defend^t have part of w^t was due to him applied to his use; that this Defend^t Declares he took that Method to get five thousand pounds of his Said Tob^o on purpose to make the paym^t of Tob^o Easye to the Said Gassaway that year Tob^o being Scarce in the Country for that otherwise if this Defend^t had Sued the Said Gassaway on his Acc^t it must have been on his whole Acc^t w^{ch} this def^t thought might have been burthensome [384] to the Said Gresham or Gassaway and might have Seemed rigorous in this Defend^t tho this Defend^t was then Desirous to get his whole debt if either