

both in Law or Equity That this Defendant acknowledges the Said Gresham paid him or his order ab^t twenty Seven thousand Seven hundred and thirty one pounds of Tob^o and Remembers M^r Tho^s Reynolds gave this Defend^t notice that the Comp^{ts} in the year Seventeen hundred and fifteen after the abovesaid Sheriffs bond was put in Suit but not before, that the Said Gresham desired him to give this Defend^t credit for ab^t the Sume of three thousand four hundred and eighty Six pounds of Tob^o as the Ball^{ts} due from the Said Gresham to this Defendant w^{ch} the Said Reynolds offered to doe but this Defend^t owed the Said Reynolds noe Tob^o but the Said Reynolds owed this Defendant a Considerable Quantity And this proposal being long after the Suit on the Bond afd was Commenced and as this Defend^t apprehends wth design to take Some Advantage against him for Receiving part of his Debt after the Suit Commenced or in order to Conclude him by Such pretended ballance he refused to Accept of such Credit as pay That this Def^t has made the Comp^{ts} Severall very favourable offers of Compliances rather then go to Law which the Comp^{ts} at Some time Interpreted as proceeding from a Sence this Defend^t had of the badnesse of his Cause and at other times wholly rejected tho' this Def^t [389] for quietness Sake and to avoid Secret as well as publick revilings of the Complainant has offered to take far less then his due had his execution for twenty thousand pounds of tobacco Debt and one thousand and ninety one pounds of tobacco Costs Against the Said Gassaway the Complainants Surety about the letter end of November Seventeen hundred and Sixteen Yet this Defendant delayed issuing execution thereon till late in March following in hopes of a friendly accomodation in the interim And gave the Compl^t a friendly caution that it wou'd be for his interest to Comply and rather than be at longer Variance with him because tobacco was then Scarce and dear he wou'd take his Bills for one hundred pounds in full discharge, but the Complainant Still persisting in his obstinacy despised the offer and Said he wou'd Spend five hundred pounds first or to that effect; That then this defendant finding no fair means wou'd doe issued his execution but wth Instructions to the Sherriff that if he cou'd not get the Tobo As this Defendant believes he well Could not that he shou'd take Bills for one hundred and fifty pounds Sterling or to that effect which Sume this Defendant takes to be but about the Value of fifteen thousand pounds of Tobacco at that time Which this Defendant thought wou'd be an opportunity of doing the Said Gresham a favour undiserned, which he apprehended the said Gresham wou'd Scorn to accept if perceived but the Said Gresham Still persisting in giving this Defendant unnecessary Vexations and trouble and taking all this Defendants inclinations to peace to proceed from other causes and having rejected the friendly proposalls made him he therefore humbly hopes that Since this Defendants principal debt arose due to him chiefly by allowances in the publick and County levy Orders out of the forty per poll officers fees and Such like pub-