

and was a good true & faithfull Subject of our now Sovereign Lady, Queen Anne and of her noble  
 predecessors since y<sup>e</sup> time of his Nativitie being a Son of generous education honest name  
 and as such from y<sup>e</sup> time of his arrivall in this Province hath hitherto excellently behaved  
 himselfe and likewise of good name fame reputation honor estimation credit &  
 dignity amongst all her Maj<sup>ties</sup> Officers in this Province both Civil & Military and very many  
 of her other good sober & faithfull Subjects ever since his arrivall here so that since he first  
 came of season yeares was knowne called had & reputed and by y<sup>e</sup> whole time a<sup>ft</sup> he hath lived  
 & remained here free from any manner of falsity deceit forswearing or perjury or  
 y<sup>e</sup> ~~any~~ suspicion of y<sup>e</sup> same or blamish of any other wicked or hurtfull crime And  
 whereas y<sup>e</sup> a<sup>ft</sup> W<sup>ill</sup><sup>m</sup> in further & full Testimony of this his a<sup>ft</sup> knowne fidelity  
 & integritie honest behavior & other good worthy eminent parts & suitable Quali-  
 fications hath lately beene commissioned to serve her Maj<sup>ties</sup> people not only as a  
 Cap<sup>t</sup> of Foot in Military affairs but also in Civil viz<sup>t</sup> in y<sup>e</sup> Office of Justice of  
 Peace for y<sup>e</sup> County of Cecil in this Governm<sup>t</sup> as it stood lately undevidee And whereas  
 y<sup>e</sup> a<sup>ft</sup> W<sup>ill</sup><sup>m</sup> before y<sup>e</sup> division of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> County as a<sup>ft</sup> and during his authority &  
 power of Justice of Peace there viz<sup>t</sup> in y<sup>e</sup> yeares of our Lord one thousand seven hundred  
 six and thousand seven hundred & seven did use y<sup>e</sup> utmost of his endeavors to concile  
 Neighbours w<sup>th</sup> in his Jurisdiction & to suppress vexatious & unneccessary Law Sutes so far as  
 he could or ought in a legall & due Admin<sup>str</sup>ation of Justice and y<sup>e</sup> when there a certaine  
 difference happened betwene a certaine Woman <sup>named</sup> Joane y<sup>e</sup> Wife of W<sup>ill</sup><sup>m</sup> Duerly &  
 Mary y<sup>e</sup> Wife of Anthony Knowlman both being Inhabitants of s<sup>d</sup> County & Neigh<sup>bo</sup>  
 to him & to each other there w<sup>ch</sup> s<sup>d</sup> matter of difference being duly & regularly bro-  
 discussed and fairly upon Tryall before him as Justice of Peace a<sup>ft</sup> he endeavoured to  
 terminate & put an end to, or otherwise Act therein according to his discretion viz<sup>t</sup> w<sup>th</sup>  
 due regard to order & direction of Law & his owne limited power & authority And  
 whereas in y<sup>e</sup> very structure of time of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Tryall she y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mary being then Complain<sup>t</sup> ag<sup>st</sup>  
 y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Joane upon some compliances & satisfaction then given to her y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mary by y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Joane  
 w<sup>ch</sup> was instantly by y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mary unto him y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>ill</sup><sup>m</sup> voluntarily & knowne becom<sup>e</sup> she y<sup>e</sup>  
 s<sup>d</sup> Mary from further examination of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Controversie did cause y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>ill</sup><sup>m</sup> to surcease  
 And whereas after wards upon revivall of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Difference in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> County Co<sup>rt</sup> by y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mary  
 ag<sup>st</sup> y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Joane y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>ill</sup><sup>m</sup> having beene Justice of Peace a<sup>ft</sup> and thereby as a<sup>ft</sup> well  
 apprized of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> matter was obliged and did goe into y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> County Co<sup>rt</sup> and there openly  
 declare and upon Try<sup>al</sup> certifye y<sup>e</sup> manner & forme truth & certainty of y<sup>e</sup> Agreem<sup>t</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>  
 difference before him in manner above recited and did thereby justly overthrow y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Plea  
 & Action The Law not admitting of two satisfactions for one Debt Yett y<sup>e</sup> a<sup>ft</sup> Eliz<sup>ab</sup> being  
 not ignorant of y<sup>e</sup> integritie & singular Justice of him y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>ill</sup><sup>m</sup> in every of y<sup>e</sup> premises &  
 transactions above. But out of her meer evil malice devising to hurt & defraude  
 & render itterly to destroy y<sup>e</sup> name fame estimation credit & dignity of him y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>ill</sup><sup>m</sup> and  
 bring him into Contempt trouble vexation scandall & infamy and to render him as a<sup>ft</sup> a  
 Dom<sup>est</sup> of Justice & Esposur of Causes did openly & publically in y<sup>e</sup> presence & hearing of  
 Hannah y<sup>e</sup> Wife of Benj<sup>m</sup> Blackbath & many others of her Maj<sup>ties</sup> Lige people several  
 times after wards at Kent County a<sup>ft</sup> w<sup>th</sup> in y<sup>e</sup> Jurisdiction of this Co<sup>rt</sup> viz<sup>t</sup> in this present yeare  
 of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & seven say repeat affirms publickly & pronounce  
 of false & scandalous words following upon a communication ab<sup>ove</sup> y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Account in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Co<sup>rt</sup>  
 of Cecil viz<sup>t</sup> If it had not beene for Justice D<sup>or</sup> (meaning y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> W<sup>ill</sup><sup>m</sup>) false & a<sup>ft</sup>  
 (meaning y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Judiciale declaratur as above) Knowlman (meaning y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Mary) had  
 sayd y<sup>e</sup> Cause ag<sup>st</sup> Duerly (meaning y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Joane) By reason of y<sup>e</sup> saying & pronouncing