

Seige Subjects of the sd Lord of King that know then and there being present & hearing openly and publicly with a loud voice did speake said & spread published and spread abroad of the said pt. these false signed scandalous & malicious English words, to wit that is to say Thomas Jor (the sd Thomas Jor the now pt. meaning) is a thief & felon in these words following viz Thomas Jor of sd pt. meaning stole a Mare in S. Jones County (meaning in Kent County upon Delaware ap) and brought her (the sd Mare meaning) down into Kent County (meaning Kent County in Maryland ap) within the Jurisdiction of this Court And also those words following viz Thomas Jor (the sd Thomas Jor the now pt. meaning) stole a Mare in S. Jones County in Kent County upon Delaware ap meaning and brought her the said Mare - meaning down into Kent County (meaning in to Kent County in Maryland ap) in the Jurisdiction of this Court and that if the sd Thomas Jor of sd pt. meaning will prove it otherwise in truth the said pt. no theft Robbery Burglary felony or larceny or any such base and wicked Crime ever committed or perpetrated by reason of the speaking saying affirming publishing of the sd pt. scandalous malicious and Defamatory words the sd pt. is not only extremely hurt and damaged in his good name and Credit amongst his good Neighbours and divers other good people to whom the Innocency of the sd pt. in this part was unknown but also in danger of said Imprisonment (or) all punishment and the forfeiture of his goods & Chattels Whereupon the said pt. saith he is damaged and hath damage to the value of fifty pound Sterling money & thereupon he brings Sute &c.

Nowe followeth the Plea in Doe & De Jure

AND the sd Deft by Michael Howard his attly comes and defends the force and injury when &c. and prays leave to implead hereunto until next Court And he hath vid the same day is given the pt. also. . . At which said next Court viz. the 17th day of March Anno Dom 1718 comes againe as well the sd pt. by his attly ap as the said Deft by his attly ap And the same cause was continued until the then next Court . . . At which said next Court viz. the 19th day of June Anno Dom 1719 comes againe as well the said pt. by his attly ap as the said Deft by his attly ap And the said Deft by his said attly cometh & defendeth the force and injury when &c. and saith that he is no sort guilty of the premises above on him supposed as the said Thomas Jor against him hath declared and of his he puts himself upon the Country &c.

And the pt. in like manner

Thereupon Command is given to the Sheriff of Kent County that he immediately cause to come here twelve &c. By whom &c. who neither &c. to recognize &c. because as well &c. of which I precept the Sheriff of sd County now here lower this 19th day of June Anno Dom 1719 makes return that he hath here ready twelve &c. as by his precept he was commanded and now here afterwards to wit the day and Year last mentioned Comes againe as well the said pt. by his attly ap