

At Thomas Fletcher et ux

Somerset County pt / Abraham Mannering late, of Somerset County planter and Comfort his wife were attached to answer unto Thomas

et ux: Abraham Mannering et ux

Fletcher and Sarah his wife of plea of trespass upon the case

And whereupon the said Thomas and Sarah, Francis Allen their attorney complains that whereas the said Sarah is a good true honest and faithfull liege Subject of our said Lord the King that now is a good true honest and faithfull liege Subject of our said Lord the King and his progenitors Kings and Queens of the Realm of great Brittain from the time of her nativity hitherto hath behaved and demeaned herself and from all kind of felony Robbery Larceny or any such wicked and base crime hath from the time of her nativity hitherto free clear unspotted and unallainted Remained by reason whereof she hath kept and preserved herself of good name fame estimation and repute amongst her neighbours and other faithfull liege Subjects of our said Lord the King and also all and singular her goods and Chattells in nowise Subject to the Rigour of the Law for such like offences made and provided but hath deservedly had and obtained the Love and good will of her neighbours and other faithfull liege Subjects of our said Lord the King by all the time aforesaid.

Nevertheless the said Comfort, being not ignorant of the premises but enquiring the happy estate and condition of the said Sarah Maliciously plotting and contriving the said Sarah not only in her good name fame estimation and repute aforesaid very much to hurt but also to cause her innocently to be brought in danger of suffering corporal punishment and the Dilatory and forfeiting four pounds as the Law in such cases directs the twenty ninth day of January Anno Domini seventeen hundred and thirty four at the County of Somerset aforesaid within the Jurisdiction of this Court false infamous scandalous malicious and opprobrious words following of her the said Sarah of her malice forethought in the presence and hearing of sundry faithfull liege Subjects of our said Lord the King having communication and speech concerning the said Sarah with an audible voice scandalously falsely and maliciously did a part rehearse publish pronounce and speak vizt she the said Sarah meaning did steal my Corn the Corn of him the said Abraham her husband meaning after it was measured and divided this sheaf of the Coppers made upon the plantation of the said Thomas after it was measured and divided between the said Thomas and the said Abraham meaning when as in truth the said Sarah no such wicked and base crime ever did commit or perpetrate by reason whereof the said Sarah in her good name fame credit and repute aforesaid is very much hurt and damaged but also the said Thomas sundry sums of money and tobacco for clearing and vindicating of the good name fame credit and Repute of the