

Cause a certain bill of Indictment did falsely and maliciously cause to be written against the said Ruth contained in this false and scandalous matter following viz^t Somerset County for The Jurors for the right Honourable the Lord Proprietary that now is for the County of Somerset County as^o upon their Oath doe present that Ruth Willett wife of Ambrose Willet late of all hallowes parish in the said County of Somerset planter the fifteenth day of November in the year of our Lord God Seventeen hundred and forty with force and Arms &c at the parish as^o in the County as^o within the Jurisdiction of this Court in and upon a certain Shadrach Claywell in the peace of God and the said Lord Proprietary that now is then and there being an Assault did make and him the said Shadrach then and there did beat wound and Evilly treat so that of his life it was greatly despaired and other harms to the same Shadrach then and there did to the grievous damage of him the said Shadrach and Contrary to the peace of the right Hon^{ble} the Lord Proprietary that now is his good rule and Government &c Rob^t Jenkins Henry and the as^o bill of Indictment in form as^o written afterwards to wit the day and year as^o at the County as^o to the said Justices did cause to be delivered which bill of Indictment the said Justices of the said Peter and Shadrach did receive and the same thereupon to the Jurors of the Grand Inquest for the said County of Somerset on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God then and there charged and sworn then and there did deliver to enquire and the truth concerning the matter in the said bill contained to present whereupon the as^o Peter and Shadrach afterwards to wit on the day and year as^o at the County as^o at the Court and before the Justices as^o then and there to the Jurors as^o of the said Grand Inquest on their Oath severally in Evidence did give that the said false and scandalous matter in the said bill contained was true whereas in truth the matter in the said bill contained was false feigned and scandalous as to the Jurors as^o then fully appeared and for that reason the Jurors as^o after the Evidence as^o to them given then and there did give their Answer of and concerning the bill as^o that the same Jurors of the matter as^o in the said bill of Indictment specified and contained were ignorant by pretext of which premises the said Ruth is not only hurt in her good name but also the said Ambrose and Ruth sundry Sums of money and tobacco for the Justification of the said Ruth by means of the premises were forced to expend whereupon the said Ambrose and Ruth say they are dammified ten pounds Curr^t money of Maryland and thereof they bring Suit &c

And the as^o Peter and Shadrach Claywell by William Arbuckle their Attorney come and defend the force and Injury when &c and prayeth leave thereof to Imparle here untill next Court to be held at dividing Creek the third Tuesday of August then next following and they hairet and the same day is given to the as^o Ambrose and Ruth here also &c

Att which day here came again as well the as^o Ambrose Willett and Ruth his wife as the as^o Peter and Shadrach Claywells