slave called Tom of the value of five hundred pounds current money of Maryland as of his own proper slave And whereas the last aforesaid Negro slave being a run away and on supposition of being a runaway was Apprehended taken up and carried before Levin Machall Esquire one of the Justices of Calvert County aforesaid legally qualified and sworn to keep the peace and so forth in the County aforesaid, afterwards to wit, on the first day of March in the year one thousand seven hundred and Eighty four at the County aforesaid, and the said Levin Machall Esquire having examined into the premises then there found Good Reason and Ground to commit the said last mentioned Negro Tom as a run away and the said Levin Machall having authority aforesaid on the day and year aforesaid at the County aforesaid by his warrant signed by the said Levin Machall Esquire and directed to the Justices of Calvert County aforesaid did authorize and command the said Sheriff of Calvert County aforesaid to take the body of the said last mentioned Negro Tom, sent to the said Sheriff with the warrant aforesaid into his body and him safely keep until the said last mentioned Negro Tom was released according to law and delivered unto the said last mentioned slaves lawfully owner according to law, By Virtue of which said warrant the said last mentioned negro slave called Tom was afterwards to wit, on the day and year last aforesaid at the County aforesaid delivered to a certain Francis Williams then Sheriff deputy and Jaylor accepted Imployed reputed and known and the Negro slave Tom last aforesaid so received by the said Francis Williams as aforesaid was on the day and year aforesaid at the County aforesaid committed to the Jail of the County aforesaid and the said mentioned Negro slave apprehended committed and received and put into Jail as aforesaid was in the day and year aforesaid at the County aforesaid in the custody of the aforesaid Henry by himself as Sheriff of Calvert County and by the said Francis Williams as his deputy and Jaylor as aforesaid and the said John in fact saith that at the time when the said last mentioned Negro aforesaid was apprehended committed and received into Custody as aforesaid by the said Henry he the said Henry was then and there reputed, authorized accepted and known as the Sheriff of Calvert County, and the said John also in fact saith that at the time when the said last mentioned negro slave

Tom

Tom was in the custody of the said Henry as Sheriff aforesaid and the said Francis Williams as Deputy and Jailer for the said Henry he the said Francis then and there was the Jailer and deputy of the said Henry and as such employed accepted reputed and known and for the acts of whom the said Henry was then and there liable as aforesaid of all which the said Henry afterwards to wit on the day and year last aforesaid at the County aforesaid had Notice.

Nevertheless the aforesaid Henry well knowing the premises but not regarding the duty of his office aforesaid did afterwards to wit on the second day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Eighty four at Calvert County aforesaid permit the said Negro to go at large and escape to parts unknown so that the said Negro could not be again taken by reason whereof the said Negro slave of the value aforesaid totally lost to the damage of him the said John to the sum of one thousand pounds current money of Maryland and therefore he brings suit and so forth.

Michael J. Stone for the pltff } John Doe and Richard Roe
pledges and so forth

And now here at this day to wit, the third Tuesday in November being the tenth day of the same month Anno Domini 1785. comes the said John Somerville by his attorney aforesaid and offers himself against the said Henry Hurtt in the plea aforesaid and prays that he the said Henry Hurtt may answer.

And the said Henry Hurtt by John S. Thomas his attorney comes and defends the force and injury when and so forth, and prays that the said John Somerville may be adjudged to give security for costs in case he should happen to be nonsuit in the plea aforesaid. Thereupon a certain Michael Jenifer Stone one of the attorneys of this Court present here in Court in his proper person becomes security for the payment thereof.

Whereupon the said Henry Hurtt by his Attorney aforesaid pray leave to Imparle hereunto until the next County Court to be held at Prince Frederick Town in the County aforesaid the third Tuesday in March next and he hath it and the same day is given to the plaintiff also.

At which said Third Tuesday in March comes again as well the plaintiff as the defendant by their attorney aforesaid and the said defendant by his Attorney aforesaid, prays further leave to imparle until the next County Court to be held at the Town aforesaid the third Tuesday in August next, and he hath it

and