respondendum directed to the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County following to wit.

The State of Maryland &c. To the Sheriff of Ann Arundel County Greeting. We command you that you take Edward Hall and Mordecai Hall late of Anne Arundel County Merchants if they shall be found in your bailiwick and them safe keep so that you have their bodies before the Judges of our General Court to be held at the City of Annapolis on the second Tuesday of May next to answer unto Richard Ratien and Nicholas Honeche in a plea of Trespass upon the Case &c. so forth. Hereof fail not at your peril and have you then and there this Writ. Witness the honourable Robert Goldsborough Esquire Chief Judge of our said Court the twelfth day of December Anno Domini 1796.

Issued the 18th day of March 1797. J. W. McGuinn. Clk.

And the said Richard Ratien and Nicholas Honeche by their Attorney aforesaid on the day of the date of the aforegoing Writ filed in Court here their Declaration against the said Edward Hall and Mordecai Hall in the plea aforesaid Copies whereof were made and sent with the said Writ to the Sheriff of the County aforesaid in form following to wit.

Western Shore of Maryland Ann Arundel County S.t. Edward Hall and Mordecai Hall late of Ann Arundel County Merchants were attached to answer unto Richard Ratien and Nicholas Honeche in a plea of Trespass upon the case &c. so forth. And whereupon the said Ratien & Honeche by James Winchester their Attorney complain That whereas the said Edward & Mordecai on the first day of January in the year seventeen hundred and ninety seven to wit at the County aforesaid were indebted unto the said Ratien & Honeche in one hundred & Sixty pounds Current Money of Maryland for divers goods wares and Merchandizes by the said Ratien and Honeche before that time sold and delivered to the said Edward & Mordecai and at their special instance and request; and being so indebted they the said Edward & Mordecai in consideration thereof afterwards to wit on the same day and year aforesaid at the County aforesaid undertook and faithfully promised the said Ratien and Honeche to pay them the said sum of money when they the said Edward and Mordecai should be thereto afterwards requested. And whereas afterwards to wit on the day and year aforesaid at the County aforesaid in consideration that the said Ratien and Honeche at the like special instance and request of the said

(Edward)

Edward & Mordecai had before that time sold and delivered to the said Edward & Mordecai divers other goods wares and Merchandizes they the said Edward and Mordecai then and there undertook and faithfully promised the said Ratien and Honeche to pay them so much money as they therefore reasonably deserved to have for the same, when they the said Edward and Mordecai should be thereto afterwards requested; and the said Ratien and Honeche aver that they reasonably deserved to to have of the said Edward and Mordecai for the same, other one hundred and sixty pounds Current money of Maryland to wit at the County aforesaid whereof the said Edward and Mordecai afterwards to wit on the day and year aforesaid there had notice. Nevertheless the said Edward and Mordecai not regarding their said promises and undertakings but contriving and fraudulently intending craftily and subtilly to deceive and defraud the said Ratien and Honeche have not nor hath either of them as yet paid the aforesaid several sums of money or any part thereof to the said Ratien and Honeche (altho so to do the said Edward and Mordecai were requested by the said Ratien and Honeche afterwards to wit on the day and year aforesaid and often afterwards to wit at the County aforesaid) but to do this the said Edward and Mordecai have hitherto altogether refused and still refuse, so to do to the Damage of the said Ratien and Honeche five hundred pounds like current money and thereof they bring suit &c.

J. Winchester Pltff Atty.

At which said second Tuesday of May being the ninth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven and the day of the return of the aforegoing writ come into the General Court here the said Ratien and Honeche by their Attorney aforesaid, and the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County, to whom the said Writ was in form aforesaid directed, likewise comes and makes return thereof to the Court here thus endorsed to wit.

N.S. Rich.d Harwood Sheriff.

Whereupon afterwards to wit on the thirtieth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, the said Richard Ratien and Nicholas Honeche, by their Attorney aforesaid again sued out of the General Court here the Writ of the State of Maryland of Alias Capias ad respondendum directed to the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County in form following to wit.

(The)