Anno Domini, One thousand seven hundred and eighty seven, cometh the State of Maryland by Luther Martin Attorney General of the said State, and Archibald Job the Sheriff of the County aforesaid to the Court here maketh return that by virtue of the same writ to him directed, he had taken the bodies of the said Stephen Rich and David Patten and the same has ready according to the exigence of the same writ: and the said Stephen Rich and David Patten by Aquilla Hall their Attorney come here into Court: Thereupon the said Stephen Rich and David Patten at the prayer of the said State of Maryland, the said Stephen Rich and David Patten are ruled to give Special Bail in the plea aforesaid: Thereupon the said Stephen Rich and David Patten file here in Court the following Bail-Piece, towit:

State of Maryland against Stephen Rich and David Patten. . . . . } Now Isaac Reynolds and William Coale, do acknowledge yourselves Special Bail for the said Stephen Rich and David Patten at the Suit of the State of Maryland in an action brought by the said State against the said Stephen Rich and David Patten in the General Court for the Eastern Shore of the State of Maryland. They acknowledge themselves content therewith this 31st day of March 1787.

To the Honble the Judges of the General Court. Isaac Baker

Nat Ramsey

We do hereby constitute and appoint Aquila Hall our Attorney to appear for us and defend the above suit. Stephen Rich

And thereupon the said State of Maryland by Luther Martin Attorney General of the said State, affiloth its Declaration in the plea aforesaid against the said Stephen Rich and David Patten, the Tenor whereof ensues in the following words, towit: Maryland Cecil County, towit, Stephen Rich and David Patten, late of Cecil County were summoned to answer unto the State of Maryland of a plea that they render unto the said State of Maryland the sum of One hundred and ninety five pounds ten shillings current money which from the said State of Maryland they unjustly detain, and so forth:

(And)

And whereupon the said State of Maryland by Luther Martin Attorney General of the said State, saith that whereas the aforesaid Stephen and David on the sixteenth day of June in the year seventeen hundred and eighty five at the County aforesaid, by their certain writing obligatory acknowledged themselves to be held and firmly bound unto the said State of Maryland in the said State of Maryland in the aforesaid sum of One hundred and ninety five pounds ten shillings current money, to be paid to the said State of Maryland when afterwards they should be thereunto required: Nevertheless the aforesaid Stephen and David (although often thereunto required) the aforesaid sum of One hundred & ninety five pounds ten shillings current money to the said State of Maryland have not rendered or paid, but the same to the said State hitherto to render or pay they have altogether refused, and still do refuse, wherefore the said State saith it is the worse and hath damage to the value of fifty pounds like money aforesaid, and therefore the said State brings suit, and so forth: and brings here into Court the writing obligatory aforesaid: sealed with the seal of the aforesaid Stephen and David which the Debt aforesaid in form aforesaid, witnesseth, the date whereof is the day and year aforesaid, and so forth. L. Martin for the Plaintiff. Pledges &c. John Doe & Richd. Roe.— And the said State of Maryland by her Attorney aforesaid prayeth that the said Stephen Rich and David Patten to the Declaration of her the said State of Maryland may answer; whereupon it is ruled by the Court at the prayer of the said State of Maryland by her Attorney aforesaid that the said Stephen Rich and David Patten should answer to the Declaration aforesaid of the State of Maryland by Wednesday the twenty fifth of this present month and it is said to the said Stephen Rich and David Patten that if they should not answer unto the Declaration aforesaid by the time aforesaid Judgment should be rendered against them by default: the same time was given to the said State of Maryland there, and so forth: and now here at this time, towit, the twenty fifth of this present month; cometh as well the said State of Maryland by her Attorney aforesaid, and the aforesaid Stephen Rich and David Patten by their Attorney afs:

(defends)