and John Blackburn at the suit of the State of Maryland in an action of Debt brought by the State against the said Susannah Eakin and John Blackburn in the General Court of the Eastern Shore; They acknowledge themselves to be content therewith this 23d day of March 1787.

To the worshipful Judges of the General Court. Saml. Miller

Patrick Ewing

We do hereby constitute and appoint Aquila Hall our attorney to appear for us and defend the above suit.— Wm. Allen

and thereupon the said State of Maryland by Luther Martin Attorney General of the said State, and Archibald Job the Sheriff of the County affiloth its Declaration in the plea aforesaid, against the said Susanna Eakin and John Blackburn, the Tenor whereof ensueth in the following words, towit: Maryland Cecil County, towit, Susanna Eakin and John Blackburn 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 eighty three pounds fifteen shillings current money, which from the said State they unjustly detain, and so forth: And whereupon the said State of Maryland by Luther Martin Attorney of the said State, saith, that whereas the aforesaid Susanna and John on the twentieth 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 in the aforesaid sum of One hundred and eighty three pounds fifteen shillings current money, to be paid to the said State of Maryland when afterwards they should be thereunto required: Nevertheless the aforesaid Susanna and John (although often thereunto required) the aforesaid sum of One hundred and eighty three pounds fifteen shillings current money, to the said State of Maryland have not rendered or paid, but the same to the said State, hitherto to

(render)

render or pay they have altogether refused, and still do refuse, whereforo 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 Susanna and John 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 pro John Doe & Richd. Roe

And the said State of Maryland by her Attorney aforesaid prayeth that the said Susanna Eakin and John Blackburn 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 Susanna Eakin and John Blackburn 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 Susanna Eakin and John Blackburn that if they should not answer unto the Declaration afo: 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 day of this present month; cometh as the said State of Maryland by her Attorney aforesaid, and the aforesaid Susanna Eakin and John Blackburn by their Attorney aforesaid, defends the force and injury when and so forth: and saith that they cannot deny the action aforesaid of the aforesaid State of Maryland so as aforesaid against them brought, nor but that they owe to the said State of Maryland the sum of One hundred and eighty three pounds fifteen shillings current money in manner and form as the aforesaid State of Maryland above against them have declared: Therefore it is considered by the Court here that the said State of Maryland do recover against the said Susanna Eakin and John Blackburn the debt aforesaid in form aforesaid acknowledged: as also the quantity of six hundred and eighty five pounds of Tobacco, as well for her damages which she hath sustained by Occasion of the detention of that debt, as for her costs and charges by them about their

(suit)