

jail of Baltimore county, and so detained there until the 17th of July, 1821; that during his imprisonment his sufferings were various and extreme; because one *Kugle* had detained a trunk of his clothes, until he should be satisfied a small sum due to him, which he was unable to pay; because his wife refused to send him his clothes which she had in possession, and because he was utterly destitute and penniless; but that, at length, *Merkle*, being convinced by the statements made to him by this defendant, that his wife had deceived him, offered to release this defendant on his giving his promissory note for the principal and interest of the debt then due, with the fees, amounting to about \$100 30, which he gave, and was accordingly discharged from jail. That, having heard of the threats of his wife and her confederates; and that she intended again to have him imprisoned, he went, on the 14th of November, 1822, to Pennsylvania, and after some months returned to get his papers and clothes, and to meet and repel the defamatory reports put in circulation by his wife, that he had left her in poverty, to take up with a lewd woman; that he then made propositions to her of peace and conjugal association, which were rejected; that having again heard of the plans and threats of his wife and her confederates, to cause him to be again imprisoned, and being again urged to release all his rights in her property, and to leave the country, he did, without any intention to relinquish his claim, yield to the coercion of the circumstances with which he conceived himself environed, and on the 29th of August, 1823, signed a certain release or articles of separation, not, however, without his having some difficulty in finding a magistrate who could be persuaded by him to take the acknowledgment of such a writing, they believing it to be illegal and void; that the copy of this instrument set forth in the bill is spurious, the true copy being the one left in the hands of *Edward P. Roberts*; that after executing this writing, he obtained some, not all, of his papers and property from his wife, and left Baltimore for New York, where he now resides; that soon after reaching the city of New York he was again, by the instigation of his wife, arrested at the suit of *Merkle*, and held to bail; that the threats and conduct of his wife have been and are such, that he is afraid to return to Baltimore; that he has always treated her kindly, and is willing to continue to do so; that so late as November, 1827, he proposed to her peace, harmony, and re-union which she positively rejected; that the supplemental bill was filed by her with a hope and expectation