

LAWS OF MARYLAND.

moned and failing to appear, and the action shall proceed in the same manner as if the party had appeared in person.

Proceedings.

18 D. In all cases wherever a party is returned summoned to a return day or to a term, the same proceedings shall be had as are now had in said court, subject to such rules as the said court may prescribe as to pleading and practice, and the case shall be entered in their order on the trial docket for the succeeding term.

When suit to stand for trial.

18 E. Every suit in which any defendant shall be returned summoned, except suit on contract, as hereinafter provided, shall stand for trial or judgment at the next term succeeding the return day or term to which said defendant was returned summoned, as now provided by law, subject to such rules as the court may prescribe as aforesaid.

Pleadings in suits on contracts.

18 F. In suits where the cause of action is a contract, whether in writing or not, or whether expressed or implied, the plaintiff, if affidavit or affirmation be made, as hereinafter stated, shall be entitled to judgment, to be entered by the court or clerk thereof on the return day or the first day of the term next succeeding the return day, or the term to which the defendant shall have been returned summoned, although the defendant may have pleaded, unless such plea contains a good defence, and unless the defendant or some one in his behalf shall, under oath or affirmation, state that every plea pleaded by the defendant is true, and shall further state what amount of the plaintiff's demand, if any, is admitted to be due or owing, and what amount is disputed; and if the copartnership or incorporation of any of the parties to the suit shall be alleged in the declaration, affidavit or affirmation filed therewith as hereinafter provided, or if there shall be filed with the declaration in said causes or at time of bring the suit, any paper purporting to be signed by any defendant therein, the fact of such alleged copartnership or incorporation and the genuineness of such signature shall be deemed to be admitted for the purpose of said cause, unless the affidavit, or the defendant, or made in his behalf before provided, shall further state that the affiant knows or has good reason to believe such allegation of copartnership or incorporation to be untrue, or that such signature was not written by or by the authority of the person whose signature it purports to be; in case any part of the debt or damages claimed be admitted to be due, the plaintiff shall be entitled to an entry of judgment therefor with costs in full discharge of the action, provided